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## Thousands marry on "Love You Forever Day"

6th January, 2013

[http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1301/130106-love\\_you\\_forever\\_day.html](http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1301/130106-love_you_forever_day.html)

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# THE ARTICLE

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1301/130106-love\\_you\\_forever\\_day.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1301/130106-love_you_forever_day.html)

Thousands of Chinese couples got married on Friday because the date 4th January 2013 sounds like "endless love until death" when spoken in the Chinese language Mandarin. The newlyweds hoped the day would prove to be an auspicious one on which to tie the knot. At least 10,000 couples walked down the aisle in Beijing alone. Even though registry offices were fully booked, hopeful brides and bridegrooms braved freezing weather in the hope the registrars could fit them in. The government had to lay on thousands of extra staff to accommodate the increased number of people wanting to take the plunge. In Hong Kong, the city's five marriage registries were fully booked by September 20 last year. The city saw 558 people become man and wife on Friday.

Dates that are numerically unique are very popular in China as people believe they are lucky. Matching days, months and years - like 12/12/12 and 11/11/11 - are considered to bring good fortune. The next such date will be January 1st in the year 2101. Newlywed Chen Foshan told the china.org website: "We promised to get married today a long time ago, if doomsday didn't come first." Marriage is becoming big business in China because the country's middle class is booming. People spend a lot of money on extravagant ceremonies and receptions. One of the biggest expenses is an elaborate wedding album. The happy couple is photographed at various locations wearing different costumes. Photos of the actual vows or exchanging of rings are not usually taken..

Sources: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-asia-20909518>  
[http://www.china.org.cn/video/2013-01/05/content\\_27586402.htm](http://www.china.org.cn/video/2013-01/05/content_27586402.htm)  
<http://news.sky.com/story/1033457/chinese-wedding-rush-on-love-you-forever-day>

# WARM-UPS

**1. WEDDINGS:** Walk around the class and talk to other students about Weddings. Change partners often and share your findings.

**2. CHAT:** In pairs / groups, decide which of these topics or words from the article are most interesting and which are most boring.

*couples / get married / endless love / newlyweds / auspicious / brides / fully booked / unique / good fortune / doomsday / big business / booming / elaborate / costumes*

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

**3. WEDDING DAY:** Are these good days to get married? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	Why it could be good	Why it could be bad
New Year's Day		
Valentine's Day		
April Fools' Day		
Halloween		
Christmas Day		
New Year's Eve		

**4. LUCKY DAYS:** Students A **strongly** believe the idea of lucky days is a superstition; Students B **strongly** believe it isn't. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

**5. WEDDING DAY:** What's best about it? Rank these and share your rankings with your partner. Put the best at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- the ceremony
- seeing two happy people in love
- wearing nice clothes
- the party after
- the vows
- the photos
- the food
- meeting new people

**6. ENDLESS LOVE:** Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the phrase 'endless love'. Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

# BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1301/130106-love\\_you\\_forever\\_day.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1301/130106-love_you_forever_day.html)

**1. TRUE / FALSE:** Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

- |   |       |
|---|-------|
| a. "Love You Forever Day" is always around January 4 in China.          | T / F |
| b. Over 10,000 couples got married in Beijing on January 4.             | T / F |
| c. Couples tried to get married even though it was freezing cold.       | T / F |
| d. Hong Kong was one city that could accept many more bookings.         | T / F |
| e. The next date with matching days months and years is next century.   | T / F |
| f. A couple said they would marry on January 4 if doomsday didn't come. | T / F |
| g. Wedding albums are fairly cheap when getting married in China.       | T / F |
| h. Photos of couples exchanging vows are common at Chinese weddings.    | T / F |

**2. SYNONYM MATCH:** Match the following synonyms from the article.

- |                          |                  |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| 1. endless               | a. fancy         |
| 2. auspicious            | b. totally       |
| 3. tie the knot          | c. promises      |
| 4. walked down the aisle | d. favourable    |
| 5. fully                 | e. distinctive   |
| 6. unique                | f. infinite      |
| 7. matching              | g. thriving      |
| 8. booming               | h. get married   |
| 9. elaborate             | i. got married   |
| 10. vows                 | j. corresponding |

**3. PHRASE MATCH:** (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- |   |                            |
|---|----------------------------|
| 1. the day would prove to                 | a. of extra staff          |
| 2. At least 10,000 couples walked         | b. couple                  |
| 3. The government had to lay on thousands | c. become man and wife     |
| 4. people wanting to take                 | d. unique are very popular |
| 5. The city saw 558 people                | e. be an auspicious one    |
| 6. Dates that are numerically             | f. the plunge              |
| 7. considered to bring                    | g. exchanging of rings     |
| 8. extravagant                            | h. good fortune            |
| 9. The happy                              | i. down the aisle          |
| 10. the actual vows or                    | j. ceremonies              |

# GAP FILL

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1301/130106-love\\_you\\_forever\\_day.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1301/130106-love_you_forever_day.html)

Thousands of Chinese couples got married on Friday because the date 4th January 2013 sounds like "(1) \_\_\_\_\_ love until death" when spoken in the Chinese language Mandarin. The (2) \_\_\_\_\_ hoped the day would prove to be an (3) \_\_\_\_\_ one on which to tie the knot. At least 10,000 couples walked down the (4) \_\_\_\_\_ in Beijing alone. Even though registry offices were fully booked, hopeful brides and bridegrooms (5) \_\_\_\_\_ freezing weather in the hope the registrars could fit them in. The government had to lay on thousands of extra staff to (6) \_\_\_\_\_ the increased number of people wanting to take the (7) \_\_\_\_\_. In Hong Kong, the city's five marriage registries were fully (8) \_\_\_\_\_ by September 20 last year. The city saw 558 people become man and wife on Friday.

*accommodate*

*auspicious*

*plunge*

*braved*

*endless*

*newlyweds*

*booked*

*aisle*

Dates that are numerically (9) \_\_\_\_\_ are very popular in China as people believe they are lucky. Matching days, months and years - like 12/12/12 and 11/11/11 - are (10) \_\_\_\_\_ to bring good (11) \_\_\_\_\_. The next such date will be January 1st in the year 2101. Newlywed Chen Foshan told the china.org website: "We promised to get married today a long time ago, if (12) \_\_\_\_\_ didn't come first." Marriage is becoming big business in China because the country's middle class is (13) \_\_\_\_\_. People spend a lot of money on extravagant ceremonies and receptions. One of the biggest expenses is an (14) \_\_\_\_\_ wedding album. The happy couple is photographed at various (15) \_\_\_\_\_ wearing different costumes. Photos of the actual (16) \_\_\_\_\_ or exchanging of rings are not usually taken.

*doomsday*

*vows*

*considered*

*elaborate*

*unique*

*fortune*

*locations*

*booming*

# LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1301/130106-love\\_you\\_forever\\_day.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1301/130106-love_you_forever_day.html)

- 1) the date, 4th January 2013, sounds like "endless \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. love until death"
  - b. love and death"
  - c. love until dearth"
  - d. lovely until death"
- 2) the day would prove to be an auspicious one on \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. which to tie the knot
  - b. which to untie the knot
  - c. which to tie a knot
  - d. which to tie the not
- 3) At least 10,000 couples walked \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. up the I'll
  - b. down the hill
  - c. down the aisle
  - d. up the aisle
- 4) The government \_\_\_\_\_ thousands of extra staff
  - a. had to lay off
  - b. had to lay once
  - c. had to lay one
  - d. had to lay on
- 5) the city's five marriage registries \_\_\_\_\_ September 20
  - a. were fully booked by
  - b. were full of bookings by
  - c. were fully broke by
  - d. were fully booked on
- 6) Dates that are \_\_\_\_\_ very popular in China as people believe they are lucky.
  - a. numerically unique are
  - b. numerically unclear are
  - c. new, merry or clear unique are
  - d. numerical unique are
- 7) We promised to get married today a long time ago, \_\_\_\_\_ first.
  - a. if doomsday hadn't arrived
  - b. if doomsday didn't arrived
  - c. if doomsday hadn't come
  - d. if doomsday didn't come
- 8) People spend a lot of money \_\_\_\_\_ and receptions.
  - a. on extravagant ceremonies
  - b. on extravagance ceremonies
  - c. on extravagantly ceremonies
  - d. on extra vagrant ceremonies
- 9) The happy couple is photographed \_\_\_\_\_ wearing different costumes.
  - a. at a variety of locations
  - b. at varied locations
  - c. at various locations
  - d. at vicarious locations
- 10) Photos \_\_\_\_\_ exchanging of rings are not usually taken..
  - a. of an actual vows or
  - b. of the actual bows or
  - c. of the actually vows or
  - d. of the actual vows or

# LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1301/130106-love\\_you\\_forever\\_day.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1301/130106-love_you_forever_day.html)

Thousands of Chinese couples got married on Friday because the date 4th January 2013 sounds like "(1) \_\_\_\_\_" when spoken in the Chinese language Mandarin. The newlyweds hoped the day would prove to be an auspicious one on (2) \_\_\_\_\_. At least 10,000 couples walked down the aisle in Beijing alone. Even though registry offices were fully booked, hopeful brides and (3) \_\_\_\_\_ weather in the hope the registrars could fit them in. The government had to (4) \_\_\_\_\_ staff to accommodate the increased number of people wanting (5) \_\_\_\_\_. In Hong Kong, the city's five marriage (6) \_\_\_\_\_ by September 20 last year. The city saw 558 people become man and wife on Friday.

Dates that are (7) \_\_\_\_\_ very popular in China as people believe they are lucky. Matching days, months and years - like 12/12/12 and 11/11/11 - are (8) \_\_\_\_\_ fortune. The next such date will be January 1st in the year 2101. Newlywed Chen Foshan told the china.org website: "We promised to get married today a long time ago, (9) \_\_\_\_\_ first." Marriage is becoming big business in China because the country's (10) \_\_\_\_\_. People spend a lot of money on extravagant ceremonies and receptions. One of the biggest expenses is an (11) \_\_\_\_\_. The happy couple is photographed at various locations wearing different costumes. Photos (12) \_\_\_\_\_ exchanging of rings are not usually taken.

# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1301/130106-love\\_you\\_forever\\_day.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1301/130106-love_you_forever_day.html)

1. On what date did thousands of couples get married?

---

2. What kind of day did the couples hope it would prove to be?

---

3. How many couples got married in Beijing?

---

4. What did the government have to do?

---

5. How many people got married in Hong Kong?

---

6. What kind of dates do Chinese people think are lucky?

---

7. When is the next combination of matching day, month and year?

---

8. What is becoming big business in China?

---

9. What is one of the biggest expenses at Chinese weddings?

---

10. What things are not photographed at Chinese weddings?

---



# MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1301/130106-love\\_you\\_forever\\_day.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1301/130106-love_you_forever_day.html)

1. What does 4th January 2013 sound like in Mandarin?
  - a) You are the sunshine of my life
  - b) endless love until death
  - c) Love You Forever Day
  - d) Will you marry me?
2. What did newlyweds tie?
  - a) their tongues
  - b) the bride's veil
  - c) a tie
  - d) the knot
3. How many couples got married in Beijing?
  - a) over 10,000
  - b) less than 10,000
  - c) exactly 10,000
  - d) around 10,000
4. How full were registry offices?
  - a) almost empty
  - b) almost full
  - c) fully booked
  - d) double booked
5. How many couples got married in Hong Kong?
  - a) 558
  - b) 279
  - c) none
  - d) 20
6. What dates do Chinese people believe are lucky?
  - a) ones that are numerically unique
  - b) ones with 12 in them
  - c) ones that add up to 12
  - d) ones that are uniquely numerical
7. When is the next day with matching days, months and years?
  - a) 2031
  - b) 2099
  - c) 2101
  - d) 2222
8. Why is marriage becoming big business in China?
  - a) the middle class is booming
  - b) the government is giving money to newlyweds
  - c) love is in the air
  - d) Chinese people buy a lot of gold
9. What is one of the biggest wedding expenses?
  - a) an album
  - b) a gold symbol of the zodiac
  - c) food
  - d) the wedding dress
10. What is not usually photographed?
  - a) the marriage certificate
  - b) the bride's mother
  - c) the wedding cake
  - d) vows or exchanging of rings

# WEDDING PLANS

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1301/130106-love\\_you\\_forever\\_day.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1301/130106-love_you_forever_day.html)

## Plan your perfect wedding

	<b>Answer</b>	<b>Why?</b>
Number of guests?		
Where?		
What to wear?		
Honeymoon?		
Gifts for guests?		
Date?		
Clothes?		
Food?		

# AFTER READING / LISTENING

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1301/130106-love\\_you\\_forever\\_day.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1301/130106-love_you_forever_day.html)

**1. WORD SEARCH:** Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'tie' and 'knot'.

<b>tie</b>	<b>knot</b>
------------	-------------

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

**2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS:** Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

**3. GAP FILL:** In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

**4. VOCABULARY:** Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

**5. TEST EACH OTHER:** Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• date</li><li>• prove</li><li>• tie</li><li>• weather</li><li>• lay</li><li>• saw</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• unique</li><li>• good</li><li>• 2101</li><li>• first</li><li>• middle</li><li>• rings</li></ul>
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# WEDDINGS SURVEY

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1301/130106-love\\_you\\_forever\\_day.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1301/130106-love_you_forever_day.html)

Write five GOOD questions about Weddings in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

# WEDDINGS DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

- a) What did you think when you read the headline?
- b) What springs to mind when you hear the word 'wedding'?
- c) What is your idea of a perfect wedding?
- d) What do you think of "Love You Forever Day"?
- e) Is it important to get married on a lucky day?
- f) How important is one's wedding day?
- g) Where is the best place to get married?
- h) Why do many people not like weddings?
- i) Do you think it's easy or difficult to plan a wedding?
- j) What's the best and worst wedding you've ever been to?

*Thousands marry on "Love You Forever Day" – 6th January, 2013*  
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# WEDDINGS DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

- a) Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
- b) Would you feel your wedding was off to a good start if it was on 12/12/12 or a similar date?
- c) Should people spend a lot of money on weddings?
- d) What should be the biggest wedding expense?
- e) What is the best part of a wedding: the ceremony or the reception?
- f) Do you think that one day, weddings will become a thing of the past?
- g) Do you think your wedding is the happiest day of your life?
- h) Which celebrity wedding would you really like to go to?
- i) What do you think of royal weddings?
- j) What questions would you like to ask one of the Chinese newlyweds?

## **DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)**

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

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## **DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)**

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

# MULTIPLE CHOICE - LANGUAGE

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1301/130106-love\\_you\\_forever\\_day.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1301/130106-love_you_forever_day.html)

Thousands of Chinese couples got married on Friday because the date 4th January 2013 sounds like "(1) \_\_\_\_ love until death" when spoken in the Chinese language Mandarin. The (2) \_\_\_\_ hoped the day would prove to be an auspicious one on which to tie the knot. At least 10,000 couples walked down the (3) \_\_\_\_ in Beijing alone. Even though registry offices were fully (4) \_\_\_\_, hopeful brides and bridegrooms braved freezing weather in the hope the registrars could fit them in. The government had to (5) \_\_\_\_ on thousands of extra staff to accommodate the increased number of people wanting to take the plunge. In Hong Kong, the city's five marriage registries were fully booked by September 20 last year. The city saw 558 people become man and (6) \_\_\_\_ on Friday.

Dates that are numerically (7) \_\_\_\_ are very popular in China as people believe they are lucky. Matching days, months and years - like 12/12/12 and 11/11/11 - are (8) \_\_\_\_ to bring good fortune. The next such date will be January 1st in the year 2101. Newlywed Chen Foshan told the china.org website: "We promised to get married today a long time ago, if doomsday didn't come first." Marriage is becoming big business in China because the country's middle class is (9) \_\_\_\_ . People spend a lot of money on (10) \_\_\_\_ ceremonies and receptions. One of the biggest expenses is an (11) \_\_\_\_ wedding album. The happy couple is photographed at various locations wearing different costumes. Photos of the actual vows or (12) \_\_\_\_ of rings are not usually taken.

## Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- |     |                      |                     |                 |                 |
|-----|----------------------|---------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1.  | (a) endured          | (b) ending          | (c) ended       | (d) endless     |
| 2.  | (a) newsmakers       | (b) new bloods      | (c) newborns    | (d) newlyweds   |
| 3.  | (a) corridor         | (b) aisle           | (c) path        | (d) memory lane |
| 4.  | (a) booking          | (b) books           | (c) booked      | (d) bookable    |
| 5.  | (a) lie              | (b) play            | (c) lay         | (d) lieu        |
| 6.  | (a) wife             | (b) woman           | (c) spouse      | (d) men         |
| 7.  | (a) unclear          | (b) unique          | (c) uncool      | (d) unadorned   |
| 8.  | (a) considered       | (b) considers       | (c) considering | (d) consider    |
| 9.  | (a) beaming          | (b) booming         | (c) boozing     | (d) blaming     |
| 10. | (a) extraterrestrial | (b) extracurricular | (c) extravagant | (d) extravert   |
| 11. | (a) reprobate        | (b) ameliorate      | (c) elaborate   | (d) deteriorate |
| 12. | (a) extinguishing    | (b) extinguished    | (c) exchanged   | (d) exchanging  |

# SPELLING

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1301/130106-love\\_you\\_forever\\_day.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1301/130106-love_you_forever_day.html)

## Paragraph 1

1. prove to be an psiausociu one
2. tie the ktno
3. walked down the eaisl
4. amecmtoacod the increased number of people
5. take the ugnlpe
6. the city's five marriage rgitisrese

## Paragraph 2

7. numerically nueiqu
8. edwneywl Chen Foshan
9. a lot of money on antarxtvage ceremonies
10. an rteboelaa wedding album
11. photographed at sorvuia locations
12. svow or exchanging of rings



# PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1301/130106-love\\_you\\_forever\\_day.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1301/130106-love_you_forever_day.html)

**Number these lines in the correct order.**

- ( ) five marriage registries were fully booked by September 20 last year. The city saw 558 people become man and wife on Friday.
- ( ) staff to accommodate the increased number of people wanting to take the plunge. In Hong Kong, the city's
- ( ) bridegrooms braved freezing weather in the hope the registrars could fit them in. The government had to lay on thousands of extra
- ( ) class is booming. People spend a lot of money on extravagant ceremonies and receptions. One of the biggest
- ( **1** ) Thousands of Chinese couples got married on Friday because the date, 4th January 2013, sounds
- ( ) like "endless love until death" when spoken in the Chinese language Mandarin. The newlyweds hoped the day would
- ( ) ago, if doomsday didn't come first." Marriage is becoming big business in China because the country's middle
- ( ) months and years - like 12/12/12 and 11/11/11 - are considered to bring good fortune. The next such date will be January 1st in the
- ( ) year 2101. Newlywed Chen Foshan told the china.org website: "We promised to get married today a long time
- ( ) aisle in Beijing alone. Even though registry offices were fully booked, hopeful brides and
- ( ) wearing different costumes. Photos of the actual vows or exchanging of rings are not usually taken.
- ( ) Dates that are numerically unique are very popular in China as people believe they are lucky. Matching days,
- ( ) expenses is an elaborate wedding album. The happy couple is photographed at various locations
- ( ) prove to be an auspicious one on which to tie the knot. At least 10,000 couples walked down the

# PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1301/130106-love\\_you\\_forever\\_day.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1301/130106-love_you_forever_day.html)

1. to auspicious The prove an would be one day .

---

2. 10,000 couples walked down the aisle At least .

---

3. weather freezing braved bridegrooms and brides Hopeful.

---

4. had to lay on thousands of extra staff The government.

---

5. man become people 558 saw city The Friday on wife and.

---

6. are that very are popular numerically unique Dates.

---

7. will next 2101 in be such the January date The year 1st.

---

8. get married today a long time ago We promised to.

---

9. of extravagant People lot on a money ceremonies spend.

---

10. or rings of vows of Photos actual exchanging the.

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# CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1301/130106-love\\_you\\_forever\\_day.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1301/130106-love_you_forever_day.html)

Thousands of Chinese *couples / couple* got married on Friday because the date 4th January 2013 *sounds / sound* like "endless love until death" when spoken *at / in* the Chinese language Mandarin. The newlyweds hoped the day would *prove / proven* to be an auspicious one on which to tie the *string / knot*. At least 10,000 couples walked down the aisle in Beijing *lonely / alone*. Even though registry offices were fully *bookings / booked*, hopeful brides and bridegrooms braved freezing weather in the hope the registrars could fit them in. The government had to *lie / lay* on thousands of extra staff to accommodate the increased number of people wanting to *take / have* the plunge. In Hong Kong, the city's five marriage registries were fully booked by September 20 last year. The city saw 558 people become man and *wife / woman* on Friday.

Dates that are *numerically / numeral* unique are very popular in China as people believe they are lucky. *Matching / Matches* days, months and years - like 12/12/12 and 11/11/11 - are *considering / considered* to bring good fortune. The next *such / so* date will be January 1st in the year 2101. Newlywed Chen Foshan told the china.org website: "We promised to get married today a long time ago, if doomsday didn't come first." Marriage is becoming *big / large* business in China because the country's middle class is *booming / boomed*. People spend a lot of money on *extravagant / extravagance* ceremonies and receptions. One of the biggest expenses is an *evaporate / elaborate* wedding album. The happy couple is photographed at *various / variety* locations wearing different costumes. Photos of the actual *vows / bows* or exchanging of rings are not usually taken.

**Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct.**

# INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1301/130106-love\\_you\\_forever\\_day.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1301/130106-love_you_forever_day.html)

Th\_s\_nds \_f Ch\_n\_s\_ c\_\_pl\_s g\_t m\_rr\_\_d \_n Fr\_d\_y  
b\_c\_\_s\_ th\_ d\_t\_ 4th J\_n\_\_ry 2013 s\_\_nds l\_k\_  
"\_ndl\_ss l\_v\_ \_nt\_l d\_\_th" wh\_n sp\_k\_n \_n th\_  
Ch\_n\_s\_ l\_ng\_\_g\_ M\_nd\_r\_n. Th\_n\_wlyw\_ds h\_p\_d th\_  
d\_y w\_\_ld pr\_v\_t\_ b\_\_n\_\_sp\_c\_\_s\_n\_\_n wh\_ch\_t\_  
t\_\_th\_kn\_t. \_t l\_\_st 10,000 c\_\_pl\_s w\_lk\_d d\_wn th\_  
\_\_sl\_\_n B\_\_j\_ng\_l\_n\_. \_v\_n th\_\_gh r\_g\_stry \_ff\_c\_s  
w\_r\_ f\_lly b\_\_k\_d, h\_p\_f\_l br\_d\_s \_nd br\_d\_gr\_\_ms  
br\_v\_d fr\_\_z\_ng w\_\_th\_r \_n th\_ h\_p\_ th\_r\_g\_str\_rs  
c\_\_ld f\_t th\_m \_n. Th\_g\_v\_rnm\_nt h\_d t\_l\_y \_n  
th\_s\_nds \_f \_xtr\_ st\_ff t\_\_cc\_mm\_d\_t\_ th\_  
\_ncr\_\_s\_d n\_mb\_r \_f p\_\_pl\_ w\_ntng t\_t\_k\_ th\_  
pl\_ng\_. \_n H\_ng K\_ng, th\_c\_ty's f\_v\_ m\_rr\_\_g\_  
r\_g\_str\_\_s w\_r\_ f\_lly b\_\_k\_d by S\_pt\_mb\_r 20 l\_st  
y\_\_r. Th\_c\_ty s\_w 558 p\_\_pl\_ b\_c\_m\_ m\_n \_nd w\_f\_  
\_n Fr\_d\_y.

D\_t\_s th\_t \_r\_n\_m\_r\_c\_lly \_n\_q\_\_ \_r\_v\_ry p\_p\_l\_r  
\_n Ch\_n\_\_s p\_\_pl\_ b\_l\_v\_ th\_y\_r\_l\_cky. M\_tchng  
d\_ys, m\_nths \_nd y\_\_rs - l\_k\_ 12/12/12 \_nd 11/11/11 -  
\_r\_c\_ns\_d\_r\_d t\_brng g\_\_d f\_rtn\_. Th\_nxt s\_ch  
d\_t\_w\_ll b\_ J\_n\_\_ry 1st \_n th\_y\_\_r 2101. N\_wlyw\_d  
Ch\_n F\_sh\_n t\_ld th\_ch\_n.\_rg w\_bs\_t\_: "W\_  
pr\_m\_s\_d t\_g\_t m\_rr\_\_d t\_d\_y \_l\_ng t\_m\_\_g\_, \_f  
d\_\_msd\_y d\_dn't c\_m\_f\_rst." M\_rr\_\_g\_\_s b\_c\_m\_ng  
b\_g\_b\_s\_n\_ss \_n Ch\_n\_b\_c\_\_s\_ th\_c\_\_ntry's m\_ddl\_  
cl\_ss \_s b\_\_m\_ng. P\_\_pl\_ sp\_nd \_l\_t \_f m\_n\_y \_n  
\_xtr\_v\_g\_nt c\_r\_m\_n\_\_s \_nd r\_c\_pt\_\_ns. \_n \_f th\_  
b\_gg\_st\_xp\_ns\_s\_s \_n l\_b\_r\_t\_w\_ddng\_l\_b\_m. Th\_  
h\_ppy c\_\_pl\_\_s ph\_t\_gr\_ph\_d\_t\_v\_r\_\_s l\_c\_t\_\_ns  
w\_\_rng d\_ff\_r\_nt c\_st\_m\_s. Ph\_t\_s \_f th\_\_ct\_\_l v\_ws  
\_r\_xch\_ng\_ng \_f r\_ngs \_r\_n\_t\_s\_\_lly t\_k\_n.

# PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1301/130106-love\\_you\\_forever\\_day.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1301/130106-love_you_forever_day.html)

thousands of chinese couples got married on friday because the date 4th january 2013 sounds like "endless love until death" when spoken in the chinese language mandarin the newlyweds hoped the day would prove to be an auspicious one on which to tie the knot at least 10000 couples walked down the aisle in beijing alone even though registry offices were fully booked hopeful brides and bridegrooms braved freezing weather in the hope the registrars could fit them in the government had to lay on thousands of extra staff to accommodate the increased number of people wanting to take the plunge in hong kong the city's five marriage registries were fully booked by september 20 last year the city saw 558 people become man and wife on friday

dates that are numerically unique are very popular in china as people believe they are lucky matching days months and years - like 12/12/12 and 11/11/11 - are considered to bring good fortune the next such date will be january 1st in the year 2101 newlywed chen foshan told the chinaorg website "we promised to get married today a long time ago if doomsday didn't come first" marriage is becoming big business in china because the country's middle class is booming people spend a lot of money on extravagant ceremonies and receptions one of the biggest expenses is an elaborate wedding album the happy couple is photographed at various locations wearing different costumes photos of the actual vows or exchanging of rings are not usually taken

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1301/130106-love\\_you\\_forever\\_day.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1301/130106-love_you_forever_day.html)

Thousands of Chinese couples got married on Friday because the date 4th January 2013 sounds like "endless love until death" when spoken in the Chinese language Mandarin. The newlywed shoped the day would prove to be an auspicious one on which to tie the knot. At least 10,000 couples walked down the aisle in Beijing alone. Even though registry offices were fully booked, hopeful brides and bridegrooms braved freezing weather in the hope the registrars could fit them in. The government had to lay on thousands of extra staff to accommodate the increased number of people wanting to take the plunge. In Hong Kong, the city's five marriage registries were fully booked by September 20 last year. The city saw 558 people become a man and wife on Friday. Dates that are numerically unique are very popular in China as people believe they are lucky. Matching days, months and years - like 12/12/12 and 11/11/11 - are considered to bring good fortune. The next such date will be January 1st in the year 2101. Newlywed Chen Foshan told the china.org website: "We promised to get married today a long time ago, if doomsday didn't come first." Marriage is becoming big business in China because the country's middle class is booming. People spend a lot of money on extravagant ceremonies and receptions. One of the biggest expenses is an elaborate wedding album. The happy couple is photographed at various locations wearing different costumes. Photos of the actual vows or exchanging of rings are not usually taken.

# FREE WRITING

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1301/130106-love\\_you\\_forever\\_day.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1301/130106-love_you_forever_day.html)

Write about **weddings** for 10 minutes. Comment on your partner’s paper.

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# HOMework

**1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION:** Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

**2. INTERNET:** Search the Internet and find out more about weddings around the world. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

**3. WEDDINGS:** Make a poster about weddings. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

**4. LOVE YOU FOREVER DAY:** Write a magazine article about this day. Include imaginary interviews with people who got married on it.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

**5. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?** Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

**6. LETTER:** Write a letter to a wedding expert. Ask him/her three questions about Love You Forever Day. Give him/her three of your opinions on it. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

# ANSWERS

## TRUE / FALSE (p.4)

a F    b T    c T    d F    e T    f T    g F    h F

## SYNONYM MATCH (p.4)

- |                          |                  |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| 1. endless               | a. fancy         |
| 2. auspicious            | b. totally       |
| 3. tie the knot          | c. promises      |
| 4. walked down the aisle | d. favourable    |
| 5. fully                 | e. distinctive   |
| 6. unique                | f. infinite      |
| 7. matching              | g. thriving      |
| 8. booming               | h. get married   |
| 9. elaborate             | i. got married   |
| 10. vows                 | j. corresponding |

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.8)

1. Friday 4th January, 2013
2. An auspicious one
3. More than 10,000
4. Lay on extra staff
5. 558
6. Numerically unique ones
7. January 1st, 2101
8. Marriage
9. Wedding albums
10. Vows or exchanging of rings

## MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.9)

1. b    2. d    3. a    4. c    5. b    6. a    7. c    8. a    9. a    10. d

## ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.  
(It's good for your English ;-)