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Level 5 – 23rd April, 2019

New York allows online lockdown weddings

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2004/200423-online-wedding-5.html>

Contents

The Reading	2
Phrase Matching	3
Listening Gap Fill	4
No Spaces	5
Survey	6
Writing and Speaking	7
Writing	8

Please try Levels 4 and 6. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2004/200423-online-wedding-5.html>

New York has decided that people can still get married despite the city being under lockdown. The governor signed a special order letting people get married online. All weddings had been stopped because of the pandemic. Special measures are now in place to allow couples to tie the knot. People getting married under lockdown must now apply for a marriage license online. Clerks will conduct the ceremony virtually. The new online weddings are legally binding. A city official said: "The executive order will temporarily suspend a provision of law that requires in-person visits."

The new order means couples can marry via video conferencing. This was previously not legally recognised. The governor joked that: "There is now no excuse when the question comes up for marriage. You can do it by Zoom." The video conferencing website Zoom and similar platforms allow guests to attend online. Stay-at-home measures have been extended in New York. They will last until at least the 15th of May. Social distancing measures could be around for months. This means events like weddings may continue to be held online.

Sources: https://www.huffpost.com/entry/wedding-new-york-zoom-legal_n_5e9d08b4c5b6ea335d5df1d9
<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-52346437>
<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/04/zoom-yorkers-wed-online-200419165225473.html>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2004/200423-online-wedding-5.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. get married despite the city | a. binding |
| 2. special measures are now in | b. of law |
| 3. apply for a marriage | c. being under lockdown |
| 4. Clerks will conduct the ceremony | d. person visits |
| 5. online weddings are legally | e. license online |
| 6. executive | f. virtually |
| 7. temporarily suspend a provision | g. place |
| 8. requires in- | h. order |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. couples can marry | a. weddings |
| 2. This was previously not legally | b. online |
| 3. There is now no | c. held online |
| 4. when the question comes | d. recognised |
| 5. allow guests to attend | e. measures |
| 6. Social distancing | f. excuse |
| 7. events like | g. via video conferencing |
| 8. continue to be | h. up for marriage |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2004/200423-online-wedding-5.html>

New York has decided that people can still get married (1) _____ being under lockdown. The governor signed a (2) _____ people get married online. All weddings had been stopped because of the pandemic. Special measures are now in place to allow couples to (3) _____. People getting married under lockdown must now apply for a (4) _____. Clerks will conduct (5) _____. The new online weddings are legally binding. A city official said: "The executive order will temporarily suspend a provision of (6) _____ in-person visits."

The new order means couples can marry (7) _____. This was previously not legally recognised. The governor joked that: "There is now no excuse when the (8) _____ for marriage. You can do it by Zoom." The video conferencing website Zoom and (9) _____ guests to attend online. Stay-at-home measures have (10) _____ New York. They will last until at least the 15th of May. Social distancing (11) _____ around for months. This means events like weddings (12) _____ be held online.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2004/200423-online-wedding-5.html>

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ONLINE WEDDINGS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2004/200423-online-wedding-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about online 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.

WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

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WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

