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**Level 6 – 23rd April, 2020**

## **New York allows online lockdown weddings**

**FREE online quizzes, mp3 listening and more for this lesson here:**

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

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**Please try Levels 4 and 5 (they are easier).**

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# THE ARTICLE

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

New York Governor Andrew Cuomo has decided that people can still get married in New York despite the city being under lockdown. Governor Cuomo has signed a special executive order permitting people to get married online. All wedding ceremonies had been halted due to the COVID-19 pandemic, but special measures have been introduced to allow couples to tie the knot. The procedure for weddings under lockdown now entails applying for a marriage license online and having clerks conducting the ceremony virtually. Mr Cuomo said the new online weddings would be legally binding. A city official said: "The executive order will temporarily suspend a provision of law that requires in-person visits."

The new executive order means couples can get wed via video conferencing. This was previously not recognised as a legal way of getting married. Mr Cuomo joked to reporters that: "There is now no excuse when the question comes up for marriage. You can do it by Zoom." Mr Cuomo did not say whether Zoom was the only teleconferencing platform that people could use on their happy day. The platform does allow guests to attend online. Stay-at-home measures have been extended in New York until at least the 15th of May. It could be months after that before social distancing measures are lifted. This means gatherings for events such as weddings may continue to be held online.

Sources: [https://www.huffpost.com/entry/wedding-new-york-zoom-legal\\_n\\_5e9d08b4c5b6ea335d5df1d9](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>

# WARM-UPS

**1. ONLINE WEDDINGS:** Students walk around the class and talk to other students about online weddings. Change partners often and share your findings.

**2. CHAT:** In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

married / lockdown / special / executive / order / tie the knot / ceremony / online / couples / video conferencing / reporters / happy / guests / measures / gatherings

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

**3. VIRTUAL WEDDINGS:** Students A **strongly** believe virtual weddings should be legally recognised from now on; Students B **strongly** believe the opposite. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

**4. ONLINE:** What are the pros and cons of these things being done online? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	Pros	Cons
Weddings		
School		
Shopping		
Dining		
Banking		
Gaming		

**5. LOCKDOWN:** Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "lockdown". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

**6. EVENTS:** Rank these with your partner. Put the best events at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- weddings
- graduations
- birthdays
- New Year parties
- golden jubilees
- children's parties
- retirement parties
- national day

# VOCABULARY MATCHING

## Paragraph 1

- |                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| 1. permitting   | a. Suddenly stopped.   |
| 2. halted       | b. An action that is conducted in a certain order or way.                |
| 3. tie the knot | c. Of an agreement or promise involving a promise that cannot be broken. |
| 4. procedure    | d. Get married.  |
| 5. entails      | e. Temporarily prevent from continuing or being in force or effect.      |
| 6. suspend      | f. Allowing someone to do something.                                     |
| 7. binding      | g. Involves something as a necessary part.                               |

## Paragraph 2

- |                |  |
|----------------|--|
| 8. executive   | h. Enter into a formal agreement to marry.   |
| 9. wed         | i. Acknowledges the existence, validity, or legality of something.                                 |
| 10. recognised | j. A meeting of people, especially for a social or happy event or one held for a specific purpose. |
| 11. platform   | k. A plan or course of action taken to achieve a particular purpose.                               |
| 12. measure    | l. A kind of software or operating system used on a computer or mobile phone.                      |
| 13. extended   | m. Having the power to put plans, actions, or laws into effect.                                    |
| 14. gathering  | n. Made larger.  |

# BEFORE READING / LISTENING

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

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

- a. The president of New York decided to allow people to marry online. **T / F**
- b. Only half of weddings are taking place in New York's churches. **T / F**
- c. New Yorkers must now apply for a marriage license online. **T / F**
- d. The online weddings in New York will be legally binding. **T / F**
- e. Couples can get married via video conferencing platforms. **T / F**
- f. New York's governor says New Yorkers have no excuse not to marry. **T / F**
- g. There is a limit to the number of guests allowed at online weddings. **T / F**
- h. A New York official said online weddings will end in two months. **T / F**

## 2. SYNONYM MATCH:

Match the following synonyms. The words in **bold** are from the news article.

- |                       |                       |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>1. despite</b>     | a. stopped            |
| <b>2. permitting</b>  | b. acknowledged       |
| <b>3. halted</b>      | c. method             |
| <b>4. procedure</b>   | d. get-togethers      |
| <b>5. temporarily</b> | e. letting            |
| <b>6. previously</b>  | f. be present at      |
| <b>7. recognised</b>  | g. formerly           |
| <b>8. attend</b>      | h. widened            |
| <b>9. extended</b>    | i. in spite of        |
| <b>10. gatherings</b> | j. for the time being |

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

- |                                     |                         |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. despite the city                 | a. extended             |
| 2. Cuomo has signed a special       | b. the knot             |
| 3. All wedding ceremonies had       | c. binding              |
| 4. allow couples to tie             | d. of getting married   |
| 5. online weddings would be legally | e. executive order      |
| 6. couples can get                  | f. excuse               |
| 7. a legal way                      | g. wed                  |
| 8. There is now no                  | h. being under lockdown |
| 9. Stay-at-home measures have been  | i. measures             |
| 10. social distancing               | j. been halted          |

# GAP FILL

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

New York Governor Andrew Cuomo has decided that people can still get married in New York (1) \_\_\_\_\_ the city being under lockdown. Governor Cuomo has (2) \_\_\_\_\_ a special executive order permitting people to get married online. All wedding ceremonies had been halted (3) \_\_\_\_\_ to the COVID-19 pandemic, but special measures have been introduced to allow (4) \_\_\_\_\_ to tie the knot. The procedure for weddings under lockdown now entails applying for a marriage (5) \_\_\_\_\_ online and having clerks conducting the ceremony (6) \_\_\_\_\_. Mr Cuomo said the new online weddings would be legally binding. A city (7) \_\_\_\_\_ said: "The executive order will temporarily suspend a provision of (8) \_\_\_\_\_ that requires in-person visits."

*license*  
*signed*  
*law*  
*despite*  
*couples*  
*official*  
*due*  
*virtually*

The new executive order means couples can get (9) \_\_\_\_\_ via video conferencing. This was previously not recognised as a (10) \_\_\_\_\_ way of getting married. Mr Cuomo joked to reporters that: "There is now no (11) \_\_\_\_\_ when the question comes up for marriage. You can do it by Zoom." Mr Cuomo did not say (12) \_\_\_\_\_ Zoom was the only tele-conferencing platform that people could use on their happy day. The platform does allow (13) \_\_\_\_\_ to attend online. Stay-at-home measures have been extended in New York until at (14) \_\_\_\_\_ the 15th of May. It could be months after that before social distancing (15) \_\_\_\_\_ are lifted. This means gatherings for events such as weddings may continue to be (16) \_\_\_\_\_ online.

*excuse*  
*measures*  
*least*  
*whether*  
*held*  
*legal*  
*wed*  
*guests*

# LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

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

- 1) All wedding ceremonies \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. had been hated
  - b. had been vaulted
  - c. had been bolted
  - d. had been halted
- 2) but special measures have been introduced to allow couples to \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. tie the not
  - b. tie the knot
  - c. tide the knot
  - d. tie a knot
- 3) entails applying for a marriage license online and having \_\_\_\_\_ ceremony
  - a. clerks conducting the
  - b. clerks conduct in the
  - c. clacks conducting the
  - d. clots conduct in the
- 4) Mr Cuomo said the new online weddings would \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. been legally binding
  - b. being legally binding
  - c. be legally binding
  - d. begin legally binding
- 5) The executive order will temporarily suspend a provision of law that \_\_\_\_\_ visits
  - a. requires on-person
  - b. require imp-person
  - c. requires imp-person
  - d. requires in-person
- 6) The new executive order means couples can get \_\_\_\_\_ conferencing
  - a. led via video
  - b. bed via video
  - c. fed via video
  - d. wed via video
- 7) This was previously not recognised as \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. a legally way
  - b. a legal way
  - c. a illegal way
  - d. a league all way
- 8) There is now no excuse when the question comes \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. up for marriage
  - b. down for marriage
  - c. over for marriage
  - d. across for marriage
- 9) Zoom was the only tele-conferencing platform that people could use on \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. there happy day
  - b. their happily day
  - c. their hap pea day
  - d. their happy day
- 10) It could be months after that before social distancing \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. measure are lift it
  - b. measures be lifted
  - c. measures are lift it
  - d. measures are lifted

# LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

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

New York Governor Andrew Cuomo (1) \_\_\_\_\_ people can still get married in New York (2) \_\_\_\_\_ being under lockdown. Governor Cuomo has signed a special executive order permitting people to get married online. All wedding ceremonies had (3) \_\_\_\_\_ to the COVID-19 pandemic, but special measures have been introduced to allow couples to (4) \_\_\_\_\_. The procedure for weddings under lockdown now entails applying for a marriage license online and having clerks conducting (5) \_\_\_\_\_. Mr Cuomo said the new online weddings would be legally binding. A city official said: "The executive order will (6) \_\_\_\_\_ provision of law that requires in-person visits."

The new executive order means couples can (7) \_\_\_\_\_ video conferencing. This was previously not recognised as a (8) \_\_\_\_\_ getting married. Mr Cuomo joked to reporters that: "There is now no excuse when the question comes up for marriage. You can do it by Zoom." Mr Cuomo did (9) \_\_\_\_\_. Zoom was the only tele-conferencing platform that people could use on their happy day. The platform does (10) \_\_\_\_\_ attend online. Stay-at-home measures have been extended in New York until at least the 15th of May. It could be months after that before social distancing (11) \_\_\_\_\_. This means gatherings for events such as weddings may continue to (12) \_\_\_\_\_.

# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

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

1. What can New Yorkers still get married in spite of?
2. What special thing did New York's governor sign?
3. What did the article say couples could tie?
4. What must couples apply for online?
5. What did Mr Cuomo say about the legality of the online weddings?
6. What kind of websites can New Yorkers use to get married?
7. What website did Mr Cuomo say New Yorkers could use?
8. Who did the article say could attend weddings online?
9. What won't be lifted for months?
10. What might be held online for some time to come?

# MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

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

- 1) What can New Yorkers still get married in spite of?
  - a) a shortage of churches
  - b) divorce rates
  - c) a decline in religion
  - d) the lockdown
- 2) What special thing did New York's governor sign?
  - a) a greetings card
  - b) an executive order
  - c) a treaty
  - d) an online petition
- 3) What did the article say couples could tie?
  - a) string
  - b) loose ends
  - c) the knot
  - d) a ribbon
- 4) What must couples apply for online?
  - a) a marriage license
  - b) money
  - c) a wedding dress
  - d) wedding clerks
- 5) What did Mr Cuomo say about the legality of the online weddings?
  - a) their legality is pending
  - b) they are semi-legal
  - c) they are legally binding
  - d) he's not sure
- 6) What kind of websites can New Yorkers use to get married?
  - a) marriage websites
  - b) video conferencing
  - c) church websites
  - d) government websites
- 7) What website did Mr Cuomo say New Yorkers could use?
  - a) Whizz
  - b) Buzz
  - c) Pizzazz
  - d) Zoom
- 8) Who did the article say could attend weddings online?
  - a) guests
  - b) New York's governor
  - c) anyone
  - d) children
- 9) What won't be lifted for months?
  - a) cakes
  - b) gatherings
  - c) social distancing measures
  - d) credit limits
- 10) What might be held online for some time to come?
  - a) auctions
  - b) events such as weddings
  - c) webinars
  - d) university classes

# ROLE PLAY

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

## **Role A – Weddings**

You think weddings are the best events. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their events aren't as good. Also, tell the others which is the least joyous of these (and why): birthdays, graduations or national day celebrations.

## **Role B – Birthdays**

You think birthdays are the best events. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their events aren't as good. Also, tell the others which is the least joyous of these (and why): weddings, graduations or national day celebrations.

## **Role C – Graduations**

You think graduations are the best events. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their events aren't as good. Also, tell the others which is the least joyous of these (and why): birthdays, weddings or national day celebrations.

## **Role D – National Day Celebrations**

You think national day celebrations are the best events. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their events aren't as good. Also, tell the others which is the least joyous of these (and why): birthdays, graduations or weddings.

# AFTER READING / LISTENING

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

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

online	wedding

- 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>• still</li><li>• permitting</li><li>• knot</li><li>• entails</li><li>• legally</li><li>• suspend</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• means</li><li>• way</li><li>• up</li><li>• happy</li><li>• least</li><li>• events</li></ul>
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# ONLINE WEDDINGS SURVEY

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

# ONLINE WEDDINGS DISCUSSION

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

1. What did you think when you read the headline?
2. What images are in your mind when you hear the word 'lockdown'?
3. What do you think a lockdown wedding would be like?
4. How sad is it people have to get married online?
5. Would you wait until after the lockdown has ended to get married?
6. Should any wedding be allowed online?
7. Do you think online weddings will be normal in the future?
8. What is the best way of tying the knot?
9. How could an online wedding be different from a traditional one?
10. What do you think of New York's decision?

*New York allows online lockdown weddings – 23rd April, 2020*  
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# ONLINE WEDDINGS DISCUSSION

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

11. Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
12. What do you think of when you hear the word 'wedding'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. What experiences do you have of video conferencing?
15. How would you feel about getting married on Zoom?
16. How can we help wedding businesses affected by the lockdown?
17. What other events could be held online?
18. What do you think of weddings?
19. What will you do after the lockdown ends?
20. What questions would you like to ask Governor Andrew Cuomo?

## 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. \_\_\_\_\_

# LANGUAGE - CLOZE

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

New York Governor Andrew Cuomo has decided (1) \_\_\_\_ people can still get married in New York despite the city being under lockdown. Governor Cuomo has signed a special executive order (2) \_\_\_\_ people to get married online. All wedding ceremonies had been halted due (3) \_\_\_\_ the COVID-19 pandemic, but special measures have been introduced to allow couples to tie the (4) \_\_\_\_\_. The procedure for weddings under lockdown now entails applying for a marriage license online and having clerks conducting the ceremony virtually. Mr Cuomo said the new online weddings would be legally (5) \_\_\_\_\_. A city official said: "The executive order will temporarily suspend a provision of law that (6) \_\_\_\_ in-person visits."

The new executive order means couples can get (7) \_\_\_\_ via video conferencing. This was previously not recognised as a legal way of getting married. Mr Cuomo joked to reporters that: "There is now no excuse when the question (8) \_\_\_\_ up for marriage. You can do it by Zoom." Mr Cuomo did not say whether Zoom was the only tele-conferencing platform that people could use (9) \_\_\_\_ their happy day. The platform does allow guests to attend online. Stay-at-home (10) \_\_\_\_ have been extended in New York until at least the 15th of May. It could be (11) \_\_\_\_ after that before social distancing measures are lifted. This means gatherings for events such as weddings may continue to be (12) \_\_\_\_ online.

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

- |     |                |               |                |              |
|-----|----------------|---------------|----------------|--------------|
| 1.  | (a) that       | (b) which     | (c) what       | (d) why      |
| 2.  | (a) pertaining | (b) promoting | (c) permitting | (d) plaiting |
| 3.  | (a) on         | (b) by        | (c) to         | (d) of       |
| 4.  | (a) string     | (b) rope      | (c) tassels    | (d) knot     |
| 5.  | (a) binding    | (b) bounding  | (c) banding    | (d) blending |
| 6.  | (a) acquires   | (b) requires  | (c) inquires   | (d) enquires |
| 7.  | (a) nuptial    | (b) vow       | (c) marriage   | (d) wed      |
| 8.  | (a) arrives    | (b) comes     | (c) delivers   | (d) goes     |
| 9.  | (a) of         | (b) that      | (c) on         | (d) to       |
| 10. | (a) policy     | (b) estimates | (c) gauges     | (d) measures |
| 11. | (a) monthly    | (b) month     | (c) monthlies  | (d) months   |
| 12. | (a) doing      | (b) held      | (c) celebrate  | (d) married  |

# SPELLING

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

## Paragraph 1

1. Cuomo has signed a special uceextvie order
2. The oedpercru for weddings under lockdown
3. conducting the ceremony avulilytr
4. would be legally nbingid
5. lorieprtmay suspend ...
6. a nsvprioio of law

## Paragraph 2

7. This was iolrvspyeu not recognised
8. There is now no ecseux
9. the only tele-conferencing mraolpft
10. allow guests to tdeatn online
11. Stay-at-home easmeusr
12. eihggranst for events

# PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

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

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

- ( ) of May. It could be months after that before social distancing measures are lifted. This means gatherings
- ( ) for events such as weddings may continue to be held online.
- ( ) binding. A city official said: "The executive order will temporarily suspend a provision of law that requires in-person visits."
- ( ) measures have been introduced to allow couples to tie the knot. The procedure for weddings under
- ( ) way of getting married. Mr Cuomo joked to reporters that: "There is now no excuse when the question comes
- ( **1** ) New York Governor Andrew Cuomo has decided that people can still get married in New York
- ( ) up for marriage. You can do it by Zoom." Mr Cuomo did not say whether Zoom was the only tele-conferencing
- ( ) lockdown now entails applying for a marriage license online and having clerks conducting
- ( ) the ceremony virtually. Mr Cuomo said the new online weddings would be legally
- ( ) people to get married online. All wedding ceremonies had been halted due to the COVID-19 pandemic, but special
- ( ) despite the city being under lockdown. Governor Cuomo has signed a special executive order permitting
- ( ) platform that people could use on their happy day. The platform does allow guests to attend
- ( ) The new executive order means couples can get wed via video conferencing. This was previously not recognised as a legal
- ( ) online. Stay-at-home measures have been extended in New York until at least the 15th

# PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

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

1. special A people permitting to marry . order executive
2. to knot . tie the couples Introduced allow to
3. for a license applying now Lockdown entails online .
4. be The weddings would binding . new online legally
5. in-person A of law provision requires visits . that
6. means executive The couples wed . new get order
7. married . as legal a getting Recognised of way
8. when No comes the question excuse up .
9. platform guests allow attend does The to online .
10. online . to held Weddings may continue be

# CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

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

New York Governor Andrew Cuomo has *decided / decision* that people can still get married in New York despite the city *been / being* under lockdown. Governor Cuomo has signed a *specially / special* executive order permitting people to get married online. All wedding ceremonies had been *halts / halted* due to the COVID-19 pandemic, but special measures have been introduced to allow couples to tie the *string / knot*. The procedure for weddings *over / under* lockdown now entails applying for a marriage license online and having *clerks / clicks* conducting the ceremony *virtual / virtually*. Mr Cuomo said the new online weddings would be legally *binding / bounding*. A city official said: "The executive order will *temporary / temporarily* suspend a provision of law that requires in-person visits."

The new executive order *mean / means* couples can get wed via video conferencing. This was previously not recognised as a *legal / legally* way of getting married. Mr Cuomo *joking / joked* to reporters that: "There is now no excuse when the question comes *down / up* for marriage. You can do it by Zoom." Mr Cuomo did not say *what / whether* Zoom was the only teleconferencing platform that people could use on their *happily / happy* day. The platform does allow guests to *attend / attention* online. Stay-at-home measures have been extended in New York until at *last / least* the 15th of May. It could be months after that before social distancing *measure / measures* are lifted. This means gatherings for events such as weddings may continue to be *held / hold* online.

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

N\_w Y\_r k G\_v\_r n\_r A n d r\_w C\_\_ m\_ h\_s d\_c\_d\_d  
t h\_t p\_\_ p l\_ c\_n s t\_l l g\_t m\_r r\_\_ d \_n N\_w  
Y\_r k d\_s p\_t\_ t h\_ c\_t y b\_\_ n g \_n d\_r l\_c k d\_w n .  
G\_v\_r n\_r C\_\_ m\_ h\_s s\_g n\_d \_ s p\_c\_\_ l \_x\_c\_t\_v\_  
\_r d\_r p\_r m\_t t\_n g p\_\_ p l\_ t\_ g\_t m\_r r\_\_ d \_n  
l\_n\_. A l l w\_d d\_n g c\_r\_m\_n\_\_ s h\_d b\_\_ n h\_l  
t\_d d\_\_ t\_ t h\_ C O V I D - 1 9 p\_n d\_m\_c , b\_t s  
p\_c\_\_ l m\_\_ s\_r\_s h\_v\_ b\_\_ n \_n t\_r\_d\_c\_d t\_ l\_l\_w  
c\_\_ p l\_s t\_ t\_\_ t h\_ k n\_t . T h\_ p\_r\_c\_d\_r\_f\_r  
w\_d d\_n g s \_n d\_r l\_c k d\_w n n\_w \_n t\_\_ l\_s \_p p l  
y\_n g f\_r \_ m\_r r\_\_ g\_ l\_c\_n s\_ \_n l\_n\_ \_n d h\_v\_n g  
c\_l\_r k\_s c\_n d\_c\_t\_n g t h\_ c\_r\_m\_n\_y v\_r t\_\_ l\_l\_y .  
M\_r C\_\_ m\_ s\_\_ d t h\_ n\_w \_n l\_n\_ w\_d d\_n g s w\_\_ l  
d b\_ l\_g\_l\_l\_y b\_n d\_n g . A c\_t\_y \_f f\_c\_\_ l s\_\_ d :  
" T h\_ \_x\_c\_t\_v\_ \_r d\_r w\_l l t\_m p\_r\_r\_l\_y s\_s p\_n d \_  
p\_r\_v\_s\_\_ n \_f l\_w t h\_t r\_q\_\_ r\_s \_n - p\_r\_s\_n v\_s\_t  
s . "

T h\_ n\_w \_x\_c\_t\_v\_ \_r d\_r m\_\_ n\_s c\_\_ p l\_s c\_n g\_t  
w\_d v\_\_ v\_d\_\_ c\_n f\_r\_n c\_n g . T h\_s w\_s p  
r\_v\_\_s\_l\_y n\_t r\_c\_g\_n\_s\_d \_s \_ l\_g\_l w\_y \_f g\_t  
t\_n g m\_r r\_\_ d . M\_r C\_\_ m\_ j\_k\_d t\_r\_p\_r\_t\_r\_s t  
h\_t : " T h\_r\_ \_s n\_w n\_ \_x\_c\_s\_ w h\_n t h\_ q\_\_ s  
t\_\_ n c\_m\_s \_p f\_r m\_r r\_\_ g\_ . Y\_\_ c\_n d\_ \_t b\_y  
Z\_\_ m . " M\_r C\_\_ m\_ d\_d n\_t s\_y w h\_t h\_r Z\_\_ m  
w\_s t h\_ \_n\_l\_y t\_l\_ - c\_n f\_r\_n c\_n g p\_l\_t\_f\_r\_m t h\_t  
p\_\_ p l\_ c\_\_ l\_d \_s\_ \_n t h\_\_ r h\_p\_p\_y d\_y . T h\_ p  
l\_t\_f\_r\_m d\_\_ s \_l\_l\_w g\_\_ s\_t\_s t\_ t\_t\_n\_d \_n l\_n\_ . S  
t\_y \_t\_ h\_m\_ m\_\_ s\_r\_s h\_v\_ b\_\_ n \_x\_t\_n\_d\_d \_n  
N\_w Y\_r k \_n t\_l\_ t l\_\_ s\_t t h\_ 15 t h \_f M\_y . I  
t c\_\_ l\_d b\_ m\_n t h\_s \_f t\_r t h\_t b\_f\_r\_ s\_c\_\_ l  
d\_s t\_n c\_n g m\_\_ s\_r\_s \_r\_ l\_f t\_d . T h\_s m\_\_ n\_s  
g\_t h\_r\_n\_g\_s f\_r \_v\_n\_t\_s s\_c\_h \_s w\_d d\_n g\_s m\_y  
c\_n t\_n\_\_ t\_ b\_ h\_l\_d \_n l\_n\_ .

# PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

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

new york governor andrew cuomo has decided that people can still get married in new york despite the city being under lockdown governor cuomo has signed a special executive order permitting people to get married online all wedding ceremonies had been halted due to the covid19 pandemic but special measures have been introduced to allow couples to tie the knot the procedure for weddings under lockdown now entails applying for a marriage license online and having clerks conducting the ceremony virtually mr cuomo said the new online weddings would be legally binding a city official said the executive order will temporarily suspend a provision of law that requires inperson visits

the new executive order means couples can get wed via video conferencing this was previously not recognised as a legal way of getting married mr cuomo joked to reporters that there is now no excuse when the question comes up for marriage you can do it by zoom mr cuomo did not say whether zoom was the only teleconferencing platform that people could use on their happy day the platform does allow guests to attend online stayathome measures have been extended in new york until at least the 15th of may it could be months after that before social distancing measures are lifted this means gatherings for events such as weddings may continue to be held online

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

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

New York Governor Andrew Cuomo has decided that people can still get married in New York despite the city being under lockdown. Governor Cuomo has assigned a special executive order permitting people to get married online. All wedding ceremonies had been halted due to the COVID-19 pandemic, but special measures have been introduced to allow couples to tie the knot. The procedure for weddings under lockdown now entails applying for a marriage license online and having clerks conducting the ceremony virtually. Mr Cuomo said the new online weddings would be legally binding. A city official said: "The executive order will temporarily suspend a provision of law that requires in-person visits." The new executive order means couples can get wed via video conferencing. This was previously not recognised as a legal way of getting married. Mr Cuomo joked to reporters that: "There is now no excuse when the question comes up for marriage. You can do it by Zoom." Mr Cuomo did not say whether Zoom was the only tele-conferencing platform that people could use on their happy day. The platform does allow guests to attend online. Stay-at-home measures have been extended in New York until at least the 15th of May. It could be months after that before social distancing measures are lifted. This means gatherings for events such as weddings may continue to be held online.





# 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 this news story. 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. ONLINE WEDDINGS:** Write a magazine article about online weddings. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against them.

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 an expert on online weddings. Ask him/her three questions about them. Give him/her three of your ideas on them. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

# ANSWERS

## VOCABULARY (p.4)

1. f    2. a    3. d    4. b    5. g    6. e    7. c  
8. m    9. h    10. i    11. l    12. k    13. n    14. j

## TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

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

## SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

1. i	2. e	3. a	4. c	5. j
6. g	7. b	8. f	9. h	10. d

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

1. The lockdown
2. An executive order
3. The knot
4. A marriage license
5. They are legally binding
6. Video conferencing
7. Zoom
8. Guests
9. Social distancing measures
10. Events such as weddings

## WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.20)

1. A special executive order permitting people to marry.
2. Introduced to allow couples to tie the knot.
3. Lockdown now entails applying for a license online.
4. The new online weddings would be legally binding.
5. A provision of law that requires in-person visits.
6. The new executive order means couples get wed.
7. Recognised as a legal way of getting married.
8. No excuse when the question comes up.
9. The platform does allow guests to attend online.
10. Weddings may continue to be held online.

## MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

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

## ALL OTHER EXERCISES

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