

Prince William to marry Kate Middleton

London - Prince William is to marry Kate Middleton. The couple announced their engagement on Tuesday 16th November. The prince said, "The timing is right now. We are both very, very happy and I am glad that I have done it." He has given Kate his mother's ring. He said, "It's very special to me." He added "Kate's very special to me now, it was right to put the two together." Prince William said giving Kate his mother Diana's dazzling blue 18 carat sapphire and diamond engagement ring was "my way of making sure my mother didn't miss out on today and the excitement". Kate said that joining the Royal Family was a 'daunting prospect' but added, "Hopefully I'll take it in my stride and William's a great teacher so hopefully he'll be able to help me along the way". The couple, both 28, got engaged in October whilst on holiday in Kenya. The couple met while they were students at St Andrews University in Fife, Scotland. Miss Middleton added: "We have been going out a long time. We had spoken about our future and it just seemed the natural step for both of us."

Prime Minister David Cameron said he had received the news in a call from Buckingham Palace during a cabinet meeting at Number 10. The news was greeted with "a great cheer" and a "banging on the table" from fellow ministers. The Queen is said to be absolutely delighted her grandson is finally to be married. Miss Middleton is the eldest child of businessman Michael Middleton and his wife Carol. She was raised in a modern five-bedroom detached house in the Berkshire village of Bucklebury and her family, who are self-made millionaires, run a mail order toy and party goods company. William followed tradition and asked his girlfriend's father for her hand. The royal wedding is planned for either the spring or summer of 2011 though the ceremony could be on August 13th. The couple will live in North Wales once they are husband and wife. Prince William's father Prince Charles joked: "They have been practising long enough". The bride's parents were said to be "absolutely delighted". The future princess known as 'Waity Katy', who did not have a proper job, has had to wait eight years for her prince. She has now abandoned her nickname of Kate and will now be known as Catherine. Prince William said he was "Massively excited" about the engagement. It was a splendid day for the British monarchy.

Category: Britain / Royal family / Royal engagement

Level: Intermediate / Upper intermediate

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EXERCISES

1. **Prince William to marry Kate Middleton:** Briefly, what three things do you know about the recent British royal engagement between Prince William and Kate Middleton. Go round the room swapping details.

2. **Geography: Kenya, North Wales, Scotland and Berkshire:** Where is Kenya? What is its capital? What countries surround it? What sea lies off it? Where is Wales? What is its capital? What country is next to it? What sea lies off it? Where is Scotland? What is its capital? What seas lie off it? Where in England is the county of Berkshire? Draw a map on the board then **look on Google maps** to help you.

3. **Dictation:** The teacher will read four to six lines of the article slowly and clearly. Students will write down what they hear. The teacher will repeat the passage slowly again. Self-correct your work from page one - filling in spaces and correcting mistakes. Be honest with yourself on the number of errors. Advise the teacher of your total number of errors. Less than five is very good. Ten is acceptable. Any more is room for improvement! More than twenty - you need to do some work!

4. **Reading:** The students should now read the article aloud, swapping readers every paragraph.

5. **Vocabulary:** Students should now look through the article and underline any vocabulary they do not know. Look in dictionaries. Discuss and help each other out. The teacher will go through and explain any unknown words or phrases.

6. **The article:** Students should look through the article with the teacher.

- a) What is the article about?
- b) What do you think about the article?
- c) **What's the latest on this story?**

7. **Let's think!** Think of five things about Prince William. Then add five things you know about Kate Middleton. Write them below. Explain to your partner why you chose these.

Five things about Prince William	Five things about Kate Middleton
1	1
2	2
3	3
4	4
5	5

The teacher will choose some pairs to discuss their findings in front of the class.

8. **Let's think!** In pairs. On the board write as many words as you can to do with the '**The Royal Engagement**'. *One-two minutes*. Compare with other teams. Using your words compile a short dialogue together.

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9. **Let's think!** In pairs, think of five members of the British royal family. Then add five things you know about the royal wedding. Write them below then discuss.

Five members of the Royal Family	Five things about the royal wedding
1	1
2	2
3	3
4	4
5	5

The teacher will choose some pairs to discuss their findings in front of the class.

10. **Let's talk! BBC World Service:** *In pairs/groups.* You are in the BBC World Service radio studio. One of you is the presenter; the other student(s) is/are one of the people below. The interview is about the engagement of Prince William to Kate Middleton. Try to get a balanced interview. *5 minutes.* !

1	A tourist in London	2	A journalist
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The teacher will choose some pairs to tell their stories in front of the class.

11. **Let's do 'The Article Quiz':** Have the students quiz each other in pairs. They score a point for each correct answer and half a point each time they have to look at the article for help. See who can get the highest score!

Student A

- 1) Name the royal couple.
- 2) Who banged on the tables?
- 3) Name the university.
- 4) How old is Prince William and Kate?
- 5) Name the Prime Minister.

Student B

- 1) Where will the couple live?
- 2) What did Prince Charles say?
- 3) Where did the couple meet?
- 4) What will the princess now be known as?
- 5) Where does the princess come from?

12. **Let's write an e-mail:** Write and send a 200 word e-mail to your teacher about: **The Royal Engagement.** Your e-mail can be read out in class.

13. **Presentation:** In pairs, groups or individually: Prepare in class or at home a 2-minute presentation on: **The Royal Engagement.** Stand at the front of the class to give your presentation to the class. The class can vote on the best presentation. Class – After the presentations go through the good and weak points on each presentation. Learn from the results.

14. **Sentence starters:** Finish these sentence starters. Correct your mistakes. Compare what other people have written.

- a) The royal couple _____
- b) The prince _____
- c) The princess _____

DISCUSSION

Student A's questions

- 1) Did the headline make you want to read the article?
- 2) Are you captivated by the engagement? Why? Why not?
- 3) Will you be watching the royal wedding?
- 4) What do you think about the engagement ring?
- 5) What were you doing when Prince Charles married Princess Diana?
- 6) What three bits of advice would you give the new princess?
- 7) What three bits of advice would you give the prince?
- 8) How has the news been received in your country?
- 9) How will you celebrate the royal wedding?
- 10) How will Kate Middleton's life change?

Student B's questions

- 1) What do you think about what you read?
- 2) What three things do you know about Kate Middleton?
- 3) Will you be buying a new hat for the wedding?
- 4) Will you be going to London to see the Royal Wedding?
- 5) What three things do you know about Prince William?
- 6) How does Kate Middleton compare to Princess Diana?
- 7) Will you be buying a royal souvenir of the wedding e.g. like a mug or T-shirt?
- 8) Name three other British royal weddings.
- 9) Think of three things you know about Prince William's grandmother.
- 10) Did you like this discussion?

SPEAKING

Let's discuss! The Royal Wedding

Allow 10-15 minutes – As a class / small groups / pairs / 1 to 1

The Royal Wedding – preparations – place – people – latest gossip – news – your views

The teacher can moderate the session.

GAP FILL: READING:

Put the words into the gaps in the text.

Prince William to marry Kate Middleton

Prince William is to (1)_____ Kate Middleton. The couple announced their (2)_____ on Tuesday 16th November. The prince said, "The timing is right now. We are both very, very happy and I am glad that I have done it." He has given Kate his mother's (3)_____. He said, "It's very special to me." He added "Kate's very special to me now, it was right to put the two together." Prince William said giving Kate his mother Diana's dazzling blue 18 carat (4)_____ and diamond engagement ring was "my way of making sure my mother didn't miss out on today and the excitement". Kate said that joining the (5)_____ Family was a '(6)_____ prospect' but added, "Hopefully I'll take it in my (7)_____ and William's a great teacher so hopefully he'll be able to help me along the way". The couple, both 28, got (8)_____ in October whilst on holiday in Kenya. The couple met while they were students at St Andrews University in Fife, Scotland. Miss Middleton added: "We have been going out a long time. We had spoken about our future and it just seemed the natural step for both of us."

Prime Minister David Cameron said he had received the news in a call from Buckingham Palace during a cabinet meeting at Number 10. The news was greeted with "a great (1)_____" and a "banging on the table" from fellow ministers. The Queen is said to be absolutely delighted her (2)_____ is finally to be (3)_____. Miss Middleton is the eldest child of businessman Michael Middleton and his wife Carol. She was raised in a modern five-bedroom detached house in the Berkshire village of Bucklebury and her family, who are self-made millionaires, run a mail order toy and party goods company. William followed (4)_____ and asked his girlfriend's father for her hand. The royal (5)_____ is planned for either the spring or summer of 2011 though the (6)_____ could be on August 13th. The couple will live in North Wales once they are husband and wife. Prince William's father Prince Charles joked: "They have been practising long enough". The (7)_____ 's parents were said to be "(8)_____ delighted".

stride

sapphire

marry

Royal

engaged

ring

engagement

daunting

wedding

absolutely

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tradition

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married

ceremony

GAP FILL: LISTENING

Listen and fill in the spaces.

Prince William to marry Kate Middleton

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Prime Minister David Cameron said he had received _____ from Buckingham Palace during a cabinet meeting at Number 10. The news was greeted with "a great cheer" and a "_____" from fellow ministers. The Queen is said to be absolutely delighted her grandson is finally to be married. Miss Middleton is _____ businessman Michael Middleton and his wife Carol. She was raised in a modern five-bedroom detached house in the Berkshire village of Bucklebury and her family, who are self-made millionaires, run a mail order toy and party goods company. William followed tradition and asked his girlfriend's _____. The royal wedding is planned for either the spring or summer of 2011 though the ceremony could be on August 13th. The couple will live in North Wales once they are husband and wife. Prince William's father Prince Charles joked: "They have been _____". The bride's parents were said to be "_____".

GRAMMAR

Put the words into the gaps in the text.

Prince William to marry Kate Middleton

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SPELLING TEST

The teacher will ask the class individually to spell the following words that are in the article. Afterwards, check your answers with your teacher, using the following ratings: **Pass = 12, Good = 15, Very good = 18, Excellent = 20**

1	engagement	11	monarchy
2	excitement	12	massively
3	sapphire	13	nickname
4	diamond	14	tradition
5	daunting	15	millionaires
6	prospect	16	ceremony
7	university	17	princess
8	fellow	18	though
9	splendid	19	businessman
10	announced	20	absolutely

LINKS

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1330215/Prince-William-gives-Kate-Middleton-mother-Princess-Dianas-engagement-ring.html>

<http://edition.cnn.com/2010/WORLD/europe/11/16/uk.prince.william.engaged/index.html>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-11770033>

http://news.sky.com/skynews/Home/UK-News/Royal-Wedding-Prince-William-Says-Kate-Middleton-Under-No-Pressure-To-Follow-His-Mothers-Footsteps/Article/201011315810564?lpos=UK_News_Carousel_Region_0&lid=ARTICLE_15810564_Royal_Wedding%3A_Prince_William_Says_Kate_Middleton_Under_No_Pressure_To_Follow_His_Mothers_Footsteps

ANSWERS

GAP FILL: Prince William to marry Kate Middleton: Prince William is to **marry** Kate Middleton. The couple announced their **engagement** on Tuesday 16th November. The prince said, "The timing is right now. We are both very, very happy and I am glad that I have done it." He has given Kate his mother's **ring**. He said, "It's very special to me." He added "Kate's very special to me now, it was right to put the two together." Prince William said giving Kate his mother Diana's dazzling blue 18 carat **sapphire** and diamond engagement ring was "my way of making sure my mother didn't miss out on today and the excitement". Kate said that joining the **Royal** Family was a '**daunting** prospect' but added, "Hopefully I'll take it in my **stride** and William's a great teacher so hopefully he'll be able to help me along the way". The couple, both 28, got **engaged** in October whilst on holiday in Kenya. The couple met while they were students at St Andrews University in Fife, Scotland. Miss Middleton added: "We have been going out a long time. We had spoken about our future and it just seemed the natural step for both of us." Prime Minister David Cameron said he had received the news in a call from Buckingham Palace during a cabinet meeting at Number 10. The news was greeted with "a great **cheer**" and a "banging on the table" from fellow ministers. The Queen is said to be absolutely delighted her **grandson** is finally to be **married**. Miss Middleton is the eldest child of businessman Michael Middleton and his wife Carol. She was raised in a modern five-bedroom detached house in the Berkshire village of Bucklebury and her family, who are self-made millionaires, run a mail order toy and party goods company. William followed **tradition** and asked his girlfriend's father for her hand. The royal **wedding** is planned for either the spring or summer of 2011 though the **ceremony** could be on August 13th. The couple will live in North Wales once they are husband and wife. Prince William's father Prince Charles joked: "They have been practising long enough". The **bride's** parents were said to be "**absolutely** delighted". (V1)

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