

# Talk a Lot

## Places in the UK

### Multi-Purpose Text

#### Wedding Planning (Original Text)

Line

1 Maggie was staying at her friend Sophie's in Derby for a few days. They were getting  
2 ready to go out for a night on the town, and discussing Sophie's impending wedding  
3 to her fiancé Tony. Maggie was looking forward to being a bridesmaid.  
4 "Tony wants to invite his whole bloomin' family," said Sophie, "And he's got a  
5 big family, that's for sure! They're scattered about everywhere! I mean, there's his  
6 dad in Scotland for starters..." "Is his dad Scottish?" asked Maggie, applying her  
7 blusher. "No, but his partner is. His dad's got five brothers and a half-sister, so Tony's  
8 got cousins coming out of his ears." Sophie paused. "There's his cousin John – the  
9 Welsh one – who lives in Cardiff. There's Jackie... and Manda in London; and then  
10 there's his Grandma and her new boyfriend in Belfast, and..." "How many people can  
11 you invite?" interrupted Maggie, lacing up her boots. "About forty-five," replied Sophie.  
12 "We might be able to fit in a few more, if they don't have the sit-down meal. Thank  
13 goodness my family's just my parents and my brother!" "Don't forget *my* family,"  
14 said Maggie, checking her outfit in the full-length mirror. "Dennis will definitely go,  
15 although I doubt he'll sit through the whole sermon in the church. He'll probably  
16 wander outside and text his mates." "Yeah, and that reminds me – I should invite my  
17 godmother in Manchester," said Sophie. They left the house and walked briskly to  
18 the bus stop. "She'll want me to invite her whole flippin' brood. Like, she's got two  
19 kids in Cardiff – Lee and Sam, you know – and sisters in Liverpool, Birmingham..."  
20 "The more the merrier!" laughed Maggie, adjusting her earrings, "It'll be OK."  
(284 words)



#### Wedding Planning (Text with 20 Differences)

Maggie was **1. saying (staying)** at her friend Sophie's in Derby for a few days. They were getting ready to go out for a night on the town, and discussing **2. her (Sophie's)** impending wedding to her fiancé Tony. Maggie was looking forward to **3. seeing (being)** a bridesmaid. "Tony **4. one (wants)** to invite his whole bloomin' family," said Sophie, "And he's got a big family, that's for sure! They're scattered **5. around (about)** everywhere! I mean, there's his dad in Scotland for **6. a start (starters)**..." "Is his dad Scottish?" asked Maggie, applying her blusher. "No, but his partner is. His dad's got **7. nine (five)** brothers and a half-sister, so Tony's got **8. brothers (cousins)** coming out of his ears." Sophie paused. "There's his cousin John – the Welsh one – who lives in **9. Wales (Cardiff)**. There's Jackie... and Manda in **10. Liverpool (London)**; and then there's his Grandma and her new boyfriend in **11. Bath (Belfast)**, and..." "How many people can you invite?" interrupted Maggie, lacing up her **12. shoes (boots)**. "About forty-five," replied Sophie. "We might be able to fit in a few more, if they don't have the sit-down **13. tea (meal)**. Thank goodness my family's just my parents and my brother!" "Don't forget *my* family," said **14. dad (Maggie)**, checking her outfit in the full-length mirror. "Dennis will definitely go, although I doubt **15. eel (he'll)** sit through the whole sermon in the church. He'll probably wander outside and text his mates." "Yeah, and **16. than (that)** reminds me – I should invite my godmother in **17. York (Manchester)**," said Sophie. They left the house and walked briskly to the bus stop. "She'll want me to **18. ask (invite)** her whole flippin' brood. Like, she's got two kids in **19. Oxford (Cardiff)** – Lee and Sam, you know – and sisters in Liverpool, Birmingham..." "The more the merrier!" laughed Maggie, adjusting her earrings, "It'll be **20. great (OK)**."

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## Places in the UK

### Multi-Purpose Text

#### Wedding Planning (Gap-Fill – Function Words)

Maggie was staying at 1. \_\_\_\_\_ friend Sophie's in Derby for a few days. They were getting ready to go out for a night 2. \_\_\_\_\_ the town, and discussing Sophie's impending wedding to her fiancé Tony. Maggie was looking forward 3. \_\_\_\_\_ being a bridesmaid.

"Tony wants to invite his whole bloomin' family," said Sophie, "And he's got 4. \_\_\_\_\_ big family, that's for sure! 5. \_\_\_\_\_ scattered about everywhere! 6. \_\_\_\_\_ mean, there's his dad in Scotland for starters..." "Is his dad Scottish?" asked Maggie, applying her blusher. "No, 7. \_\_\_\_\_ his partner is. His dad's got five brothers and a half-sister, so Tony's got cousins coming out of his ears." Sophie paused. "There's his cousin John – the Welsh one – 8. \_\_\_\_\_ lives in Cardiff. There's Jackie... and Manda in London; and then there's his Grandma and her new boyfriend 9. \_\_\_\_\_ Belfast, and..." "How many people 10. \_\_\_\_\_ you invite?" interrupted Maggie, lacing up her boots. "About forty-five," replied Sophie. "We might be able to fit in a few more, if 11. \_\_\_\_\_ don't have the sit-down meal. Thank goodness my family's just my parents and my brother!" "Don't forget *my* family," said Maggie, checking her outfit in the full-length mirror. "Dennis will definitely go, 12. \_\_\_\_\_ I doubt he'll sit through the whole sermon in the church. He'll probably wander outside and text his mates." "Yeah, and 13. \_\_\_\_\_ reminds me – I should invite my godmother in Manchester," said Sophie. They left the house and walked briskly 14. \_\_\_\_\_ the bus stop. "She'll want me to invite her whole flippin' brood. Like, she's got two kids in Cardiff – Lee and Sam, you know – and sisters in Liverpool, Birmingham..." "The more the merrier!" laughed Maggie, adjusting her earrings, "It'll 15. \_\_\_\_\_ OK."



#### Wedding Planning (Multiple Choice – Use of English)

Maggie was staying at her 1. **a) friend's, b) friend, c) friends** Sophie's in Derby for a few days. They were getting ready to go out for a night on the town, and discussing Sophie's impending wedding to 2. **a) his, b) their, c) her** fiancé Tony. Maggie was looking forward to being a bridesmaid. "Tony wants to invite his whole bloomin' 3. **a) family, b) families, c) friend**," said Sophie, "And he's got a big family, that's for sure! They're scattered about 4. **a) somewhere, b) everywhere, c) nowhere!** I mean, there's his dad in Scotland for starters..." "5. **a) Will, b) Was, c) Is** his dad Scottish?" asked Maggie, applying her blusher. "6. **a) Yes, b) No, c) Maybe**, but his partner is. His dad's got five 7. **a) brothers, b) brother, c) sisters** and a half-sister, so Tony's got cousins coming out of his ears." Sophie 8. **a) pause, b) pauses, c) paused**. "There's his cousin John – the Welsh 9. **a) brother, b) one, c) cousin** – who lives in Cardiff. There's Jackie... 10. **a) but, b) because, c) and** Manda in London; and then there's his Grandma and her new boyfriend in Belfast, and..." "How many people can you invite?" interrupted Maggie, lacing 11. **a) in, b) out, c) up** her boots. "About forty-five," replied Sophie. "We might be able to fit in a few more, if they don't have the sit-down meal. Thank goodness my family's 12. **a) still, b) just, c) be** my parents and my brother!" "Don't forget *my* family," said Maggie, checking her outfit in the full-length mirror. "Dennis will definitely 13. **a) going, b) goes, c) go**, although I doubt he'll sit through the whole sermon in the church. He'll probably wander outside and text his mates." "Yeah, and that reminds me – I should invite my godmother in Manchester," said Sophie. They 14. **a) leave, b) left, c) leaf** the house and walked briskly to the bus stop. "She'll want me to invite her whole flippin' brood. Like, she's got two kids in Cardiff – Lee and Sam, you know – and sisters in Liverpool, Birmingham..." "The 15. **a) more, b) few, c) least** the merrier!" laughed Maggie, adjusting her earrings, "It'll be OK."

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## Places in the UK

### Multi-Purpose Text

#### Wedding Planning (Comprehension Questions)

1. How many guests can Sophie and Tony have at the wedding?
2. Did Maggie lace up her boots before she put on her blusher?
3. Where does Manda live?
4. Which city was Maggie staying in?
5. What does Tony want to do?
6. Where was Maggie staying?
7. How long was Maggie staying at Sophie's?
8. Is Tony Maggie's fiancé?
9. How many children does Sophie's godmother have?
10. Where were Maggie and Sophie going?
11. How many different places are mentioned in the text?
12. Will Dennis attend the wedding?
13. Who has got one brother?
14. Did Maggie check her outfit in the mirror before she adjusted her earrings?
15. Who lives in Wales?
16. Who has got a godmother in Manchester?
17. How is Maggie involved in the wedding?
18. Who has got a Grandma in Belfast?
19. How many brothers has Tony's dad got?
20. Whose boyfriend will Sophie invite?
21. What is the name of Sophie's fiancé?
22. What form of transport were they planning to use?
23. What does Maggie think Dennis will do during the sermon?
24. Whose son is called Lee?
25. What was Maggie looking forward to?
26. Who is Scottish?
27. Where does Tony's dad live?
28. Who has got a lot of cousins?
29. Has Sophie got a large family?
30. Who lives in Belfast?

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#### Wedding Planning (True, False, or Unknown?)

1. Maggie is Sophie's friend.
2. Tony's dad's partner is from Scotland.
3. Maggie wasn't wearing earrings.
4. Maggie's parents will be invited to the wedding.
5. Sophie hasn't seen her godmother for ages.
6. Maggie put on her shoes.
7. Sophie's godmother's three kids live in Cardiff.
8. Tony has got eleven cousins.
9. Maggie was staying in Derby.
10. Sophie and Maggie went out for the evening.
11. Tony is going to get married to Sophie.
12. Maggie would prefer a small wedding.
13. Sophie's godmother's sisters all live in Liverpool.
14. Maggie stayed at Sophie's for two nights.
15. Sophie is really looking forward to the wedding.
16. Tony's cousin John is an electrician.
17. Sophie doesn't like Tony's family.
18. Maggie hopes that the wedding will be cancelled.
19. Dennis doesn't know how to send a text.
20. Sophie has got a very big family.
21. Tony's grandma recently started dating somebody.
22. Sophie and Tony can invite about forty-five people to the wedding.
23. Dennis isn't keen on church sermons.
24. Tony's aunts are called Jackie and Manda.
25. Sophie's future father-in-law is Scottish.
26. Sophie's got long dark hair.
27. Dennis and Tony have never met.
28. Tony's family don't all live in the same town.
29. Tony's grandma lives in Bristol.
30. Maggie was wearing expensive earrings.

# Talk a Lot

## Places in the UK

### Multi-Purpose Text

#### Glossary of New Words

Here are some words and phrases from the text that may be new to students. You could either pre-teach them, or encourage your students to find translations in a bilingual dictionary and write them in the gaps below. Stressed syllables are underlined.

1. **to go out for a night on the town** (*idiom*: go clubbing) \_\_\_\_\_
2. **impending** (*adjective*: forthcoming) \_\_\_\_\_
3. **bloomin'** (*intensifier, slang*: a mild swear word; implies annoyance with the noun that follows) \_\_\_\_\_
4. **for starters** (*idiom*: to start with) \_\_\_\_\_
5. **coming out of his ears** (*idiom*: he has a lot of sthg.) \_\_\_\_\_
6. **to lace up** (*phrasal verb*: do up with laces) \_\_\_\_\_
7. **sit-down meal** (*noun phrase*: a formal dinner) \_\_\_\_\_
8. **Thank goodness!** (*exclamation*: you feel relief about sthg.) \_\_\_\_\_
9. **sermon** (*noun*: a talk given in church by a vicar) \_\_\_\_\_
10. **to wander** (*verb*: walk slowly and without purpose) \_\_\_\_\_
11. **godmother** (*noun*: in Christianity, the person who promises at a child's baptism to provide spiritual guidance) \_\_\_\_\_
12. **flippin'** (*intensifier, slang*: as "bloomin'", above) \_\_\_\_\_
13. **brood** (*noun, slang*: family) \_\_\_\_\_
14. **The more the merrier!** (*saying*: literally, if more people come, we'll have a better time) \_\_\_\_\_
15. **to adjust** (*verb*: alter the position of sthg.) \_\_\_\_\_

*Note: in the text Sophie uses several **discourse markers** when she speaks. Discourse markers are words or phrases that have no meaning on their own, but which help the speaker to organise what they're saying. The function of "I mean..." (line 5) and "Like..." (line 18) is to draw attention to what follows. The function of "you know..." (line 19) is to give the speaker a short pause – thinking time – before they continue.*

#### Answers

#### Wedding Planning (Gap-Fill – Function Words)

- |            |         |              |
|------------|---------|--------------|
| 1. her     | 6. I    | 11. they     |
| 2. on      | 7. but  | 12. although |
| 3. to      | 8. who  | 13. that     |
| 4. a       | 9. in   | 14. to       |
| 5. They're | 10. can | 15. be       |

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#### Wedding Planning (Multiple Choice – Use of English)

- |       |        |        |
|-------|--------|--------|
| 1. b) | 6. b)  | 11. c) |
| 2. c) | 7. a)  | 12. b) |
| 3. a) | 8. c)  | 13. c) |
| 4. b) | 9. b)  | 14. b) |
| 5. c) | 10. c) | 15. a) |

#### Wedding Planning (Comprehension Questions)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. About forty-five.   | 16. Sophie.                                 |
| 2. No.   | 17. She's going to be a bridesmaid.         |
| 3. In London.  | 18. Tony.                                   |
| 4. Derby.  | 19. Five.                                   |
| 5. Invite his whole family to the wedding.   | 20. Tony's grandma's boyfriend.             |
| 6. At her friend Sophie's in Derby.  | 21. Tony.                                   |
| 7. For a few days.   | 22. Bus.                                    |
| 8. No.   | 23. Wander outside and text his mates.      |
| 9. Two.  | 24. Sophie's godmother's son.               |
| 10. Out for a night on the town.   | 25. Being a bridesmaid at Sophie's wedding. |
| 11. Eight. [In order:] Derby, Scotland, Cardiff, London, Belfast, Manchester, Liverpool, and Birmingham. | 26. Tony's dad's partner.                   |
| 12. Yes.   | 27. In Scotland.                            |
| 13. Sophie.  | 28. Tony.                                   |
| 14. Yes.   | 29. No.                                     |
| 15. Tony's cousin John, and Sophie's godmother's kids, Lee and Sam.                                      | 30. Tony's Grandma and her new boyfriend.   |

#### Wedding Planning (True, False, or Unknown?)

*(T = True, F = False, U = Unknown)*

- |       |       |       |
|-------|-------|-------|
| 1. T  | 11. T | 21. T |
| 2. T  | 12. F | 22. T |
| 3. F  | 13. F | 23. T |
| 4. U  | 14. U | 24. F |
| 5. U  | 15. U | 25. F |
| 6. F  | 16. U | 26. U |
| 7. F  | 17. U | 27. U |
| 8. U  | 18. F | 28. T |
| 9. T  | 19. F | 29. F |
| 10. T | 20. F | 30. U |

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