

ENGLISH 12

Unit 2

READING

The passage:

CULTURAL DIVERSITY

Traditionally, Americans and Asians have very different ideas about love and marriage. Americans believe in “romantic” marriage - a boy and a girl are attracted to each other, fall in love, and decide to marry each other. Asians, on the other hand, believe in “contractual” marriage - the parents of the bride and the groom decide on the marriage; and love - if it ever develops - is supposed to follow marriage, not precede it.

To show the differences, a survey was conducted among American, Chinese and Indian students to determine their attitudes toward love and marriage. Below is a summary of each group’s response to the four key values.

Physical attractiveness: The Americans are much more concerned than the Indians and the Chinese with physical attractiveness when choosing a wife or a husband. They also agree that a wife should maintain her beauty and appearance after marriage.

Confiding: Few Asian students agree with the American students’ view that wives and husbands share all thoughts. In fact, a majority of Indians and Chinese think it is better and wiser for a couple not to share certain thoughts. A large number of Indian men agree that it is unwise to confide in their wives.

Partnership of equals: The majority of Asian students reject the American view that marriage is a partnership of equals. Many Indian students agree that a woman has to sacrifice more in a marriage than a man.

Trust built on love: Significantly, more Asian students than American students agree that a husband is obliged to tell his wife where he has been if he comes home late. The Asian wife can demand a record of her husband’s activities. The American wife, however, trusts her husband to do the right thing because he loves her not because he has to.

The comparison of the four values suggests that young Asians are not as romantic as their American counterparts.

VOCABULARY

- diversity /daɪ'vɜːsə.ti/ (n): sự đa dạng
 - diverse /daɪ'vɜːs/ (adj): đa dạng
- romantic /rəʊ'mæn.tɪk/ (adj): lãng mạn; tỏ ra tình cảm
- on the other hand (adv): mặt khác; trái lại
- contractual /kən'trækt.tʃu.əl/ (adj): theo hợp đồng
- bride /braɪd/ (n): cô dâu
- groom /gru:m/ (n): chú rể
- suppose /sə'pəʊz/ (v): cho là, tin rằng, nghĩ rằng

- precede /pri'si:d/ (v): happen or exist before
- survey ʤ'sɜ:.veɪ/ (n): cuộc khảo sát
 - survey /sə'veɪ/ (v): khảo sát
- conduct ʤkən'dʌkt/ (v) = carry out: thực hiện, tiến hành
- determine /di'tɜ:.mɪn/ (v): xác định = discover the facts about St
- summary ʤ'sʌm.ər.i/ (n): bảng tóm tắt
- response (to SO/St) ʤri'spɒns/ (n): câu trả lời, phản ứng
- physical /'fɪz.ɪ.kəl/ (adj): thuộc về cơ thể
- attractive /ə'træk.tɪv/ (adj): hấp dẫn, quyến rũ
- attractiveness /ə'træk.tɪv.nəs/ (n): sự quyến rũ, sự hấp dẫn
- maintain /meɪn'teɪn/ (v): duy trì, giữ gìn
- confiding /kən'faɪ.dɪŋ/ (n/gerund): việc đủ tin tưởng để có thể giải bày tâm sự
 - confide (v) in SO: tell SO about St very private or secret: giải bày, thổ lộ điều gì
- majority ʤmə'dʒɔr.ə.ti/ (n): đa số
 - minority /maɪ'nɔr.ə.ti/ (n): thiểu số
- wise ʤwaɪz/ (adj): khôn ngoan
 - unwise /ʌn'waɪz/ (adj): không khôn ngoan
- partnership /'pɑ:t.nə.ʃɪp/ (n): mối quan hệ = relationship
- reject ʤri'dʒekt/ (v): bác bỏ
- sacrifice /'sæk.rɪ.faɪs/ (v,n): give up St important or valuable (so that you can have St else): hy sinh; sự hy sinh
- trust /trʌst/ (v,n): tin cậy, lòng tin cậy
- significantly /sɪg'nɪf.ɪ.kənt.li/ (adv): quan trọng, có ý nghĩa đặc biệt
- oblige /ə'blaɪdʒ/ (v): bắt buộc
- demand ʤdi'mɑ:nd/ /di'mænd/ (v): yêu cầu, đòi hỏi
- comparison /kəm'pær.ɪ.sən/ (n): sự so sánh
- counterpart /'kaʊn.tə.pɑ:t/ (n): đối tác, người đồng sự

READING EXERCISES AND KEY

Reading exercises:

Exercise 1: Choose A, B, C, or D to indicate the correct answer to each of the following questions.

1. London is home to people of many _____ cultures
A/ diverse B/ diversity C/ diversify D/ diversification
2. Some researchers have just _____ a survey of young people's points of view on contractual marriage.
A/ sent B/ directed C/ managed D/ conducted
3. Many Vietnamese people _____ their lives for the revolutionary cause of the nation.
A/ sacrifice B/ sacrificed C/ sacrificial D/ sacrificially
4. A recent survey has shown that supporters of equal partnership in marriage are still in the _____.
A/ crowd B/ particular C/ majority D/ obligation
5. They decided to divorce and Mary is _____ to get the right to raise the child.
A/ equal B/ determined C/ obliged D/ active

Exercise 2: Choose the answer that is **opposite** in meaning to the underlined word or phrase.

1. The majority of American students agree that marriage is a partnership of equals.
A. Most B. Some C. The minority D. Many
2. Physical attractiveness is one of the four key values that they asked the students in the survey.
A. Chemical B. Talented C. Financial D. Metal
3. This is a summary of the students' responses to the survey questions.
A. paragraph B. detail C. conclusion D. report
4. Verbs usually precede objects in English.
A. follow B. run after C. chase D. go ahead
5. Although they live in different cities, they still maintain a close relationship.
A. preserve B. save C. spoil D. protect

Exercise 3: Decide whether the following statements are true (T) or false (F).

1. Asians believe in "romantic" marriage.
2. In a "contractual" marriage love is supposed to precede marriage.
3. The American are much more concerned than the Chinese with physical attractiveness when choosing a wife or a husband.
4. Asian students think that wives and husbands should share all thoughts.
5. Young Americans are more romantic than young Asians.
6. The purpose of the survey is to find out the opinions of the American and Asian students about love and marriage.

KEY TO READING EXERCISES

Exercise 1

1A	2D	3B	4C	5B
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Exercise 2

1C	2D	3B	4A	5C
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Exercise 3

1F	2F	3T	4F	5T	6T
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