10 Marriage

Outline for Taking Notes Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. When a couple approaches a serious commitment, such as marriage, they must think with

their \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, as well as their \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. They must consider issues and differences on topics such as roles of friends and family, religion, careers, finances, leisure time, children and parenting, housekeeping standards, and the roles each will assume.

2. An \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_is a promise to marry… a public statement or announcement of a couple’s intentions to wed.

A \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. It is the period of time between a ‘proposal of marriage’, and the actual marriage.

The future bride-to-be is called the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_; the future husband-to-be is called the

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(French).

3. The American custom is for a man to propose marriage to a woman by offering her a gift of a

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, most often a diamond. Diamonds are judged by the four C’s: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. The rule of thumb is that an engagement ring should not exceed a man’s \_\_\_\_-month salary.

4. Although ‘breach of promise’ lawsuits are no longer recognized, a jilted bride can still file a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ suit to recover any costs she may have already incurred (such as venue deposits, dresses, etc). The engagement ring, unless it was a family heirloom, is hers to keep.

5. By dictionary definition, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is a legally recognized relationship, established by a civil or religious ceremony, between two people who intend to live together as sexual and domestic partners.

Each partner is known as the ‘\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_’ of the other.

6. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is the custom or condition of having only one mate. The word "monogamy" comes from the Greek word *monos*, which means one or alone, and *gamos*, which means marriage or union.The term monogamy, however, may also be applied to a couple who are not formally married, but maintain an exclusive sexual relationship.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_is a term that refers to multiple marriages, such as multiple women married to one man or multiple men married to one woman.

7. To be defined as a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ marriage within the states that allow it, the two people must: agree that they are married, live together (sometimes for a minimal amount of time, such as 7 years), and present themselves as husband and wife. Nebraska does not recognize common law marriage except for the legal division of property after a separation/divorce.

8. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is the decision by couples to live together without the legal contract of marriage to bind them. These couples must deal with the same issues of commitment as married couples: fidelity and permanence. Research/statistics show that:

A. Cohabitating couples are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_likely than married people to have \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ outside the relationship.

B. Only about \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_of co-habitating couples actually marry, although most plan to.

C. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is more likely for couples who lived together prior to marriage.

9. The number of people deciding to never marry is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Disadvantage: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Reasons for staying single: Unable to find a suitable partner, Can enjoy intimate relationships without the constraints of marriage, Do not want to be ‘trapped’ by a mate who stands in the way of personal or career development or independent financial decisions, Do not want to have children

10. The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_at which adults are marrying is increasing.

11. There are legal and financial advantages and protections to those who marry: According to

the federal government's General Accounting Office (GAO), more than \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ rights and protections are conferred to U.S. citizens upon marriage. Areas affected include Social Security benefits, veterans' benefits, health insurance, Medicaid, hospital visitation, estate taxes, retirement savings, pensions, family leave, and immigration law.

12. A \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ marriage may be inter-faith, inter-racial, inter-nationality, or even two people from different social or economic backgrounds.

Marriage usually requires some compromise, but mixed marriages may require even more

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Some issues may seem insignificant; others may be overwhelmingly difficult.

13. In 1996, the Defense of Marriage Act (\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_) became federal law, defining marriage as the legal union of one man and one woman for federal and inter-state recognition purposes in the United States. DOMA allows each state to choose whether or not to recognize a same-sex union that is recognized in another state. DOMA is under-going many court challenges. Nebraska State law limits marriage to relationships between a man and a woman. Nebraska currently gives no spousal rights to any gay or lesbian domestic partnerships or civil unions.

14. A couple whose groom is enlisted in the Armed Forces may have a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ wedding in which the groom wears his uniform. A military wedding is considered a formal wedding and guests should dress formally. Guests in the military wear their uniforms, as well. If the ushers are active duty servicemen, they may traditionally form an "arch of steel" with their swords or sabers, for the married couple to pass through at the conclusion of the ceremony.

15. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ weddings allow the couple to completely design their wedding ceremony to fit a location, usually far from home. Options for destinations are limitless: a beach, Las Vegas, New York City, nature parks, aquariums, baseball stadiums, golf courses, zoos, theme parks, on a boat, in a mansion or castle, historical monuments, a winery, or museum. They can be very expensive, especially for the guests who might be expected to pay their own lodging and transportation, but may be less expensive than weddings at home due to smaller numbers of people invited.

16. A \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ wedding is when a couple chooses to be married at the courthouse or other location by a judge. This is not a religious ceremony.

17. A \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ wedding unites two couples in a joint ceremony. One or two officiates may preside over the weddings. Two sisters or best friends marrying at the same time might choose this.

18. The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ wedding has the familiar ceremony, which may be held in a church, garden, banquet hall, hotel lobby, etc. Traditional wedding vows are recited in front of bridesmaids, groomsmen, family, and friends. Common practices include sending out invitations, flowers, designer dresses, tuxedos, and limousines. The traditional wedding is followed by a reception, which may vary from a cake and punch reception to a sit-down dinner. Dancing and socializing follow.

19. Some couples choose an \_\_\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ wedding, especially if their home is large or if they have beautiful landscaping or indoor features and décor. The at-home wedding is often quite small, unless it is outdoors or large tents can be set up on the lawn.

20. An \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_is a term used for any marriage performed in haste or in private or without a public period of engagement. Some couples elope because they dislike or cannot afford an expensive wedding ceremony, they want to avoid attention, or wish to avoid objections from parents or friends.Some couples return after an elopement, to announce their marriage and/or have a belated wedding reception.

21. To obtain a Nebraska marriage license, the couple must both appear in person. You do not need to be a resident of Nebraska. There is no waiting period, once the license is issued. It is valid for one year.

Nebraska will not issue a marriage license for any applicant under the age of 17 years.

17 and 18 year olds are considered \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and must have the written consent of a legal guardian.

22. Every such person performing the marriage ceremony shall make a report of his or her proceedings, showing the bride and grooms signatures, and names and residences of at least two witnesses who were present at such marriage.

That report must be returned to the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ who issued the license within fifteen days after such marriage has been performed. The county clerk shall record the return or cause it to be recorded in the same book where the marriage license is recorded.

23. Wedding traditions:

A. The white wedding dress symbolizes \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. It is not appropriate for 2nd weddings.A bride who makes her own wedding dress will shed a tear for every stitch she sews.

B. A white wedding veil worn over the face symbolizes \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

C. It is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for the bride to wear or carry something old, something new, something borrowed, something blue.

D. According to English lore, it is good luck for the bride to find a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in her gown on her wedding day.

E. The Greek bride tucked a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in her glove, to foretell the sweetness of the union.

F. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_parties were first held by ancient Spartan soldiers, who kissed their bachelor days goodbye with a rowdy party.

G. It is tempting fate for the bride to write out or \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ her married name before her wedding day… the wedding will not take place.

H. The first member of the newlywed couple to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ a new item following the wedding will be the dominant force in the relationship.

I. The bride’s father put a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in the bride’s shoe to symbolize the last financial support he would provide for her, and it was also a wish for good fortune.

J. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ symbolize eternity and endlessness, because of their circular shape; a never-ending marriage. It is worn on the left 3rd finger, which was once believed to lead more directly to the heart. It is considered bad luck to ever remove the ring, drop it on the floor during the wedding ceremony, or purchase the rings on a Friday. A tight ring was an omen of jealousy or the stifling of one spouse by the other; a ring that is too loose foretold a parting of the ways through acts of forgetfulness (like forgetting an anniversary, etc.).

K. Traditionally, the bridesmaids also wore \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ dresses, to confuse the evil spirits so they wouldn’t know exactly who the bride was.

L. Since women were historically considered to be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, the bride’s father walked her down the aisle and ‘gave her away’. The bride’s father was actually transferring HIS property to the groom. Now she would love and obey her husband.

M. For the groom to name a ‘\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_’ dates back to a time when the groom actually had to CATCH his bride. He literally chose the ‘best man’ of the tribe to help him hunt for, chase, and catch her.

N. It is considered bad luck for the groom to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_the bride on their wedding day before she walks down the aisle. This originated from the days when marriages were arranged, and the bride and groom had literally not MET before the ceremony!

O. Flowers: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ represent purity, chastity, and fertility.

Roses signify \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Avoid peonies, as they symbolize shame, or any combination of red and white flowers which symbolize blood and bandages. (orange blossoms usually bloom in June, making that month the most traditional month for weddings)

P. The Romans wore garlands and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in addition to carrying a bouquet. It was also believed that evil spirits could not harm someone inside a circle.

Q. When the bride throws her bouquet, the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ maid who catches it will be the next to marry. It is NOT, however, a long-standing tradition for the groom to throw the wife’s garter.

R. An old wives' tale: If the younger of two sisters marries first, the older sister must

dance \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ at the wedding or risk never landing a husband.

S. In Victorian times, it was deemed unlucky if a woman married a man whose last name

began with the same \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ as hers. As was typical of the times, a little rhyme was created to help remember the rule:

*“To change the name and not the letter is to change for the worse and not the better.”*

T. Guests at the wedding used to shower the bride and groom with nuts and grains to insure a bountiful harvest, and many children to work the land.

Rice replaced that, and symbolized \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Birdseed replaced rice, because the birds ate it better, which made for an easy cleanup. (no, it did not kill the birds, like some have suggested). Balloons, bubbles, etc. have replaced that… due to lawsuits when people stepped on the slippery grains on the sidewalks.

U. It is considered bad luck for the bride to bake her own wedding cake. Cutting the cake

is the first act of the couple ‘\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_’. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ each other cake stands for caring and nurturance for each other.

To sleep with a few of the crumbs or small piece of wedding cake beneath your \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ will cause you to dream of your true love or the person you will marry.

V. If candles lit on the wedding day sputter and go out it means \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ are nearby, waiting to cause mischief.

W. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ on your wedding day is bad luck. The rain drops represent the many tears a bride will cry throughout her married life.

X. It was considered bad luck for the marriage if the bride tripped while stepping into their

first home together… thus the custom arose for the groom to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the bride over the threshold.

Y. Prior to the invention of metal bedsprings, you had to tie a network of knots to form a mesh to support a mattress.

The expression ‘\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_’ simply meant to ‘prepare the marriage bed’. It can also symbolize the marriage bond.

Z. The bride stands to the groom's \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ during a Christian ceremony, because in bygone days the groom needed his right hand free to fight off other suitors.

AA. Tying cans on back of wedding car makes a lot of noise, warding off \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_; a car that won’t start is bad luck.

BB. Marrying when the hands on the clock are on their way down means your marriage will always be going downhill. It`s considered far better to marry between the half hour and the

hour, when the hands are moving back \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

CC. The term \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ comes from ancient weddings, where the newly married couple would drink honey wine for thirty days after their wedding. Weddings were only held on a night where there was a full moon. They drank the honey wine for a month, thirty days, until the next full moon, hence the name "honey moon”.

DD. Princess Victoria established the tradition of playing Wagner's \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ during her wedding processional in 1858. It comes from the 1850 opera *Lohengrin,* by German composer Richard Wagner. Often known as “Here Comes the Bride”, it is banned from many religious services. Wagner wrote operas with pagan themes and in this opera, the song preceded murder and the wedding was a failure.

EE. Traditionally, the bride’s \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ pays for the ceremony, all attire, flowers, decorations, gifts for bridesmaids, reception venue, photography, invitations, food, etc. The groom and groom’s family pays for the rings, the bride’s bouquet, gifts for groomsmen, the pre-nuptial dinner, the music at the reception or dance, and the honeymoon. Today’s bridal couples have exceeded normal monetary limits, by asking all attendants to pay for their own clothing and accessories… but this can be a financial hardship on friends.

FF. A wedding \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ simply announces that a wedding has taken place.

An \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ requests that the guest attend the ceremony and/or just the reception.

The guest must always \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ when asked to reply whether or not they will be attending. Announcements and invitations, whether or not you attend, are correctly responded to by the sending of a gift.

GG. Many couples prefer weddings with \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ influences, rather than more traditional American customs.The Chinese bride may wear a red wedding dress, symbolizing love and joy. In some Hispanic weddings, a large rosary or white rope ("laso") is sometimes wound around the couple's shoulders in a figure-8 symbol of "infinity" during the wedding ceremony to symbolize their union as one. An Italian wedding custom is to present five sugar-coated almonds to the guests which represent health, wealth, long life, fertility, and happiness. Some Greek newlyweds wear a crown of flowers during the wedding ceremony, and walk around the altar three times symbolizing the Holy Trinity. In a Jewish wedding the Groom stomps on a wrapped wine glass, breaking it and reminding guests that love is fragile. The audience may shout Mazel Tov, and the Bride and Groom kiss.