

# NEWS ENGLISH LESSONS.com

## Ex-husband's wedding dress revenge

**MANY FLASH AND ONLINE ACTIVITIES FOR THIS LESSON, PLUS A LISTENING, AT:**

[http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1005/100526-wedding\\_dress.html](http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1005/100526-wedding_dress.html)

### IN THIS LESSON:

The Reading / Tapescript	2
Phrase Match	3
Listening Gap Fill	4
Multiple Choice	5
Spelling	6
Put the Text Back Together	7
Scrambled Sentences	8
Discussion	9
Writing	10
Homework	11

**ALL ANSWERS ARE IN THE TEXT ON PAGE 2.**

**26th May, 2010**

# THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

From: [http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1005/100526-wedding\\_dress.html](http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1005/100526-wedding_dress.html)

A man has become famous for writing a blog about 101 uses for his ex-wife's wedding dress. Kevin Cotter of Tucson, Arizona, was broken-hearted after his marriage of 12 years ended. He and his wife were high school sweethearts and got married in 1997. She suddenly walked out on him one day and took everything she owned with her, except her lace and pearl wedding dress. Mr Cotter asked his wife what she wanted to do with the gown. Her reply was that he could do whatever he wanted with it. She no longer wanted it.

Mr Cotter thought about what he could do with the dress and found 101 uses. He started a blog called My Ex-Wife's Wedding Dress about ways to recycle an unwanted wedding gown. So far he has listed 23 different ideas but he plans to add another 78. He says people can turn an old wedding gown into a camera lens cleaner, a fire escape rope, a gym towel, a dog bed or a pasta strainer. Cotter said the blog has helped him deal with the pain of his marriage break-up. His former wife is not so happy. She wants him to stop blogging.

# PHRASE MATCH

From: [http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1005/100526-wedding\\_dress.html](http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1005/100526-wedding_dress.html)

**Match the following phrases from the article.**

## Paragraph 1

- |   |                   |
|---|-------------------|
| 1. famous for                           | a. sweethearts    |
| 2. broken-hearted after his marriage of | b. owned          |
| 3. high school                          | c. 12 years ended |
| 4. She suddenly walked                  | d. he wanted      |
| 5. everything she                       | e. writing a blog |
| 6. he could do whatever                 | f. out on him     |

## Paragraph 2

- |                              |                  |
|------------------------------|------------------|
| 1. Cotter thought about what | a. another 78    |
| 2. he plans to add           | b. strainer      |
| 3. turn an old wedding gown  | c. wife          |
| 4. a pasta                   | d. he could do   |
| 5. helped him deal           | e. into a camera |
| 6. His former                | f. with the pain |

# LISTENING GAP FILL

From: [http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1005/100526-wedding\\_dress.html](http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1005/100526-wedding_dress.html)

A man has become \_\_\_\_\_ a blog about 101 uses for his ex-wife's wedding dress. Kevin Cotter of Tucson, Arizona, was \_\_\_\_\_ his marriage of 12 years ended. He and his wife were \_\_\_\_\_ and got married in 1997. She \_\_\_\_\_ on him one day and took everything she \_\_\_\_\_, except her lace and pearl wedding dress. Mr Cotter asked his wife what she wanted to do with the gown. \_\_\_\_\_ he could do whatever he wanted with it. She no longer wanted it.

Mr Cotter \_\_\_\_\_ he could do with the dress and found 101 uses. He started a blog called My Ex-Wife's Wedding Dress about \_\_\_\_\_ an unwanted wedding gown. So \_\_\_\_\_ 23 different ideas but he plans to add another 78. He says people \_\_\_\_\_ wedding gown into a camera lens cleaner, a fire escape rope, a gym towel, a dog bed or a pasta strainer. Cotter said the blog has helped him \_\_\_\_\_ of his marriage break-up. His former wife is not so happy. She \_\_\_\_\_ blogging.

# MULTIPLE CHOICE

From: [http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1005/100526-wedding\\_dress.html](http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1005/100526-wedding_dress.html)

A man has become famous (1) \_\_\_\_\_ writing a blog about 101 uses for his ex-wife's wedding dress. Kevin Cotter of Tucson, Arizona, was (2) \_\_\_\_\_-hearted after his marriage of 12 years ended. He and his wife were high school sweethearts and got married in 1997. She suddenly walked (3) \_\_\_\_\_ on him one day and took everything she owned with her, (4) \_\_\_\_\_ her lace and pearl wedding dress. Mr Cotter asked his wife what she wanted to do with the gown. Her (5) \_\_\_\_\_ was that he could do whatever he wanted with it. She no longer wanted it.

Mr Cotter thought about what he could do with the dress and found 101 (6) \_\_\_\_\_. He started a blog called My Ex-Wife's Wedding Dress about ways to recycle an unwanted wedding gown. So (7) \_\_\_\_\_ he has listed 23 different ideas but he plans to add another 78. He says people can (8) \_\_\_\_\_ an old wedding gown into a camera lens cleaner, a fire escape rope, a gym towel, a dog bed or a pasta strainer. Cotter said the blog has helped him deal (9) \_\_\_\_\_ the pain of his marriage break-up. His former wife is not so happy. She wants him to stop (10) \_\_\_\_\_.

## Put the correct words from this table into the article.

- |     |              |             |            |
|-----|--------------|-------------|------------|
| 1.  | (a) for      | (b) with    | (c) to     |
| 2.  | (a) breaking | (b) breaks  | (c) broken |
| 3.  | (a) out      | (b) in      | (c) up     |
| 4.  | (a) accept   | (b) except  | (c) expect |
| 5.  | (a) replay   | (b) play    | (c) reply  |
| 6.  | (a) uses     | (b) using   | (c) used   |
| 7.  | (a) fear     | (b) far     | (c) for    |
| 8.  | (a) spin     | (b) twirl   | (c) turn   |
| 9.  | (a) without  | (b) with    | (c) within |
| 10. | (a) blogging | (b) blogger | (c) blog   |

# SPELLING

From: [http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1005/100526-wedding\\_dress.html](http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1005/100526-wedding_dress.html)

**Spell the jumbled words (from the text) correctly.**

## Paragraph 1

1. fmuoas for writing
2. nokreb-hearted
3. high school ehtteeswras
4. She syundled walked out
5. everything she doenw
6. do raveehtw he wanted

## Paragraph 2

7. 101 sseu
8. ways to ceycrel
9. different sadie
10. fire peceas
11. irraeamg break-up
12. His reofmr wife

# PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From: [http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1005/100526-wedding\\_dress.html](http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1005/100526-wedding_dress.html)

## Number these lines in the correct order.

- ( ) ideas but he plans to add another 78. He says people can turn an old wedding gown into a camera lens
- ( ) Tucson, Arizona, was broken-hearted after his marriage of 12 years ended. He and his wife were high school
- ( ) cleaner, a fire escape rope, a gym towel, a dog bed or a pasta strainer. Cotter said the blog has helped him deal
- ( ) owned with her, except her lace and pearl wedding dress. Mr Cotter asked his wife what she wanted to
- ( ) Mr Cotter thought about what he could do with the dress and found 101 uses. He started a blog called My Ex-
- ( ) do with the gown. Her reply was that he could do whatever he wanted with it. She no longer wanted it.
- ( ) sweethearts and got married in 1997. She suddenly walked out on him one day and took everything she
- ( ) Wife's Wedding Dress about ways to recycle an unwanted wedding gown. So far he has listed 23 different
- ( ) with the pain of his marriage break-up. His former wife is not so happy. She wants him to stop blogging.
- ( **1** ) A man has become famous for writing a blog about 101 uses for his ex-wife's wedding dress. Kevin Cotter of

# THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

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**With a partner, put the words back into the correct order.**

1. a A become writing has for blog man famous.

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2. 12 ended His of years marriage.

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3. were He high and school his sweethearts wife.

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4. out on She him suddenly one walked day.

---

5. could whatever wanted He do he.

---

6. to Ways gown wedding unwanted an recycle.

---

7. plans add 78 He to another.

---

8. gown into a camera lens cleaner Turn an old wedding.

---

9. him the The helped with has deal pain blog.

---

10. wants to blogging She him stop.

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

# WRITING

From: [http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1005/100526-wedding\\_dress.html](http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1005/100526-wedding_dress.html)

Write about wedding dresses for 10 minutes. Show your partner your paper. Correct each other's work.

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# 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. THE BLOG:** Search the Internet and find more information about Kevin Cotter's blog. Talk about what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

**3. MAGAZINE ARTICLE:** Write a magazine article about weddings dresses. Include imaginary an interview with a bride and groom. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

**4. 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.

**5. LETTER:** Write a letter to Kevin. Ask it three questions about the wedding dress. Give him three of your opinions on his blog. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Your partner will answer the questions you asked.