

# English Champions | Business English | Autumn 2019 – 3

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## Elvis night

*Las Vegas, Nevada, is a very popular place to get married. Some of the weddings are done with an Elvis theme. Elvis Presley was a popular American singer.*

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uot\\_6EOxJKQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uot_6EOxJKQ)

### **Background: Henrietta Tufty and Arthur Hiran**

As you know, the French Management Team has been working diligently on the marriage preparations for the wedding of Henrietta, Mr Tufty's daughter and Arthur Hiran. Arthur is the son of one of Mr Tufty's arch business rivals. His father, Charles Hiran, is the owner of *Hiran Ceramica*, one of *Tufty Carpets'* main competitors.

Henrietta and Arthur's whirlwind romance resulted in the couple buying *Honeysuckle Cottage* in *Squirrel's Wood* in anticipation of their marriage. When they took ownership of the property Henrietta discovered a very valuable painting in the attic of their new home. You may remember that Arthur's mother, Amenpreet, was initially opposed to the match as she had plans for an arranged marriage, however she subsequently warmed to the idea and has become rather enamored with Henrietta. For his part Mr Tufty was initially very uncomfortable with idea of having to perform a traditional Indian wedding dance (the Hirans come from India), but as he got to know Arthur he became less concerned.

Arrangements for the wedding have been progressing at a good pace. The French Management team have organized a wedding ceremony at the Sikh temple in Wolverhampton and also at the village church in *Squirrel's Wood*. The reception has been organized and involves erecting a large marquee in Mr Tufty's garden. The plans are complete and the champagne has been ordered.

In the meantime Henrietta Tufty has traveled to Las Vegas, Nevada in the United States with several of her friends for her 'hen party.'

### **Sunday Afternoon at Mr Tufty's house**

Mr Tufty and his wife were enjoying afternoon tea in the living room of their comfortable home. A log fire was burning in the fireplace and Mr Tufty's dog, Falmouth, was asleep near the hearth. Helen, the housekeeper, was serving warm, freshly baked scones accompanied by jam and clotted cream.

Mr and Mrs Tufty were talking about the strange events of the last few days. With Earl-Lea Riser suddenly moving back to the states, a member of the French management team being propelled to major motion picture stardom and the forthcoming marriage of Henrietta and Arthur Hiran, it had been a tumultuous few days.

Mrs Tufty started to read a novel and Mr Tufty glanced at his copy of the monthly periodical, *Field & Stream*. A grandfather clock could be heard ticking in the hall and apart from that, the house was very quiet.

All of a sudden Mrs Tufty's new smart phone started to vibrate and began playing Elvis Presley's rendition of '*Hound Dog*.' She noticed that someone had sent her a video....

### **The video**

Welcome to this special wedding ceremony.

The Groom asked me to read the following to his bride:

"When I first saw you I had a Burning Love. I was All Shook up and now. I Can't Help Falling in Love. I

knew it was Now or Never. Honey, can we have A Little Less Conversation and can I be Your Teddy Bear?"

And the bride asked me to read the following:

"Before I met you I lived in Heartbreak Hotel. My friends asked me if I was Lonesome Tonight. Then I met you and you were Always on My Mind. Lets do this My Way and you can Love me Tender forever more."

Thank you, thank you, very, very much!

Viva Las Vegas!!

By the powers vested in me in the state of Nevada I now pronounce you husband and wife.

Sir, you may kiss your beautiful bride

Ladies and Gentlemen, may I present to you Earl-Lea Riser and his beautiful bride Henrietta Tufty!

Thank you, thank you, very, very much! You've been a great audience.

### **A visitor**

A few minutes later Arthur Hiran knocked on the Tufty's door. Tears were streaming down his face.

### **Useful expressions and vocabulary:**

**Hen party:** A party for a woman who is going to get married soon, to which only her female friends are invited

**Heartbreak:** Feelings of great sadness or disappointment

**Periodical:** A magazine that is published regularly

**Whirlwind romance:** A love affair that develops quickly

### **Discussion**

1. Explain what you think just happened.
2. How would you describe an 'Elvis' wedding?
3. What should Mr and Mrs Tufty say to the distraught Arthur Hiran?
4. What should Mr Tufty say to Earl Lea and Henrietta when he speaks to them?
5. What practical things must the French Management Team do to cancel the wedding?

### **Course dates**

|       | septembre | octobre | novembre  | décembre |
|-------|-----------|---------|-----------|----------|
| mardi | 24        | 1, 8    | 5, 12, 19 | 3, 10    |