



Key Vocabulary

marriage	Marriage is a union between individual people. It is a legally and socially sanctioned union.
rites	A religious or other solemn ceremony or act.
rituals	Is a set of actions people do. In a ritual, the actions are important because every action stands for something. Each ritual of a type is done in a certain way.
promises	When a person agrees to do something or to not do something, that person is making a promise. A promise can be made verbally or it can be written down as a contract.
vow	A vow is a special promise. It is mostly used in a religious sense or in ceremonies such as marriages when the couple who are being married make their "marriage vows", promising to be faithful to one another.
commitment	To fully dedicate yourself to something.

Key Learning

Jewish Wedding Traditions

Ketubah is the marriage contract traditionally signed by two witnesses.

Chuppah is the wedding canopy which the bride and groom stand under during the ceremony. It symbolises their future home together.

Exchange of rings which symbolises the unbroken circle and union of the married couple.

Breaking of glass symbolises the destruction of the Jewish temple in Jerusalem, reminding the couple that sorrow exists even during personal joy.



Islamic Wedding Traditions

Nikkah is the legal contract signed by the bride and groom.

Walima is the second part of the wedding (after the Nikkah) where performances, speeches and the feasting happen.

Clothing is traditionally brightly coloured



Hindu Wedding Traditions

Hindu weddings are extremely colourful and can last for a few days.

Kanyadaan is the part of the ceremony where the father gives his daughter away to the groom (this can sometimes be a very emotional time for the family).

Panigrahana is a ritual taken place near fire, where the groom takes the bride's hands to represent their union.

Saptapadi means 'seven steps' and is the most important part of the wedding traditions. The bride and groom take seven steps around the holy fire (the divine witness to their marriage) as they say their vows in Sanskrit.

