

The Uniqueness of National Customs Related to Wedding Ceremonies in English Culture

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Abstract:

It is no secret that intercultural relations are of great importance in all-round developing countries. In our opinion, it is not enough to simply say “no” to the scale of such reforms today. This makes it clear that today, knowing a foreign language is not enough to enter into dialogue with any state or individual of this nation. Because today, diplomatic and social relations in the world of politics are taking on a special character. After all, since every person exists in society today with the aim of living freely and independently, in order to achieve significant results in social and political dialogue, he is required to master the culture, history, mentality, and character of a particular people at the level of a phenomenon. Only if a person in a society approaches any diplomatic relations in this way, then he can achieve high results. Being able to live in this way is the highest duty of a modern person. To tell the truth, today it is impossible to surprise people with knowledge of two or three languages. Because it is becoming commonplace for a person of today to know two or more languages. From this it can be concluded that new reforms are required in all social and political spheres, including the education system and scientific research. It is permissible to seriously teach the culture of the peoples whose language is being studied in higher education, and when teaching, it is better to do it on the basis of in-depth analysis, that is, based on the analysis of a work of art. In addition, it is time to make serious demands on scientific research based on comparative linguistic methods. Today, in most such studies, intercultural analysis does not fully justify its expression. All that is required is analysis, that is, it does not go beyond dry comparison. In our opinion, linguistic and cultural analysis based on linguistic methods should be able to vividly introduce the scientific reader, the astute reader, and the researcher with independent thinking to the ethnos of another nation. It is not surprising that the work we are investigating can also be part of the above-mentioned efforts.

Keywords: wedding ceremony, The Flower girl, Wedding Reception Customs

Introduction. A wedding ceremony is a family tradition that belongs to every language and culture, and it includes many cultural and spiritual rituals and customs. Such household processes were studied mainly by the science of cultural studies until the 60s of the 20th century. Because a wedding ceremony is actually a cultural event, even according to its entertaining features. Also, a wedding is a social event that takes place with the activities of the majority, an entire neighborhood, society. After the emergence of linguoculturology, that is, a new direction in linguistics, researchers began to study such cultural issues on the basis of the science of linguoculturology.

II. Literature review. In general, the wedding ceremony was defined differently in different periods. Y.M. According to Sokolov, *“A wedding is an act of adding a new member to the family and continuing its lineage.”* Or, according to M. Alavia, *“A wedding is a day when two young people decide to live together, love and respect each other forever.”* If we approach the concept of a wedding from a linguistic perspective, scientists describe its social significance as a purely cultural, linguistic, psychological, and, in its place, social phenomenon. Firstly, a wedding is a verbal and non-verbal embodiment of the most important positive values of society. Secondly, the wedding ceremony itself plays a key role in the formation of an important linguistic and cultural concept.

Information from historical sources is crucial in determining the origin, content, and essence of English wedding rituals. One of the main distinctive features of the English family is strict adherence to traditional wedding rituals.

First, we think it is appropriate to familiarize ourselves with the interpretation of the word wedding, or rather, the concept of wedding, in authoritative literature. In the English linguocultural dictionary, the concept (concept) of “wedding” has the following etymological meanings: “Wedding” is a French word, its original form was “weddian”, later the suffix “-ing” was formed. (In Sh. Rahmatullaev's etymological dictionary, the word toy is considered an ancient Turkic word, with the initial form "to'q", which later became "toy" due to assimilation, meaning "wedding". The source also mentions that it means "satisfying hunger" and "occupying a free space".)

According to the Merriam-Webster English explanatory dictionary, "toy" - Wedding has the following meanings:

- 1. a marriage ceremony, usually an event accompanied by solemn celebrations;**
- 2. an action or process aimed at establishing close relationships.**

There are also a number of lexemes related to English wedding ceremonies, such as: Best man/closest friend - can be a close male relative or friend who helps the groom on the wedding day. A close friend holds the ring securely, directs the ushers, is the groom's best man at the wedding and gives a speech, The Flower girl - walks down the aisle and scatters flower petals in front of the bride, Father of the bride - symbolically "gives away" the bride. If her father is deceased or otherwise unavailable, another male relative, often an uncle or brother, brings the bride to the groom. In particular, scholars such as D.D.Manukyan, Y.A.Sorokin, D.A.Gilfanova conducted research on wedding ceremonies and analyzed their cultural and linguocultural aspects, and according to them, there are similar wedding lexemes in the Uzbek wedding system, such as: sovchilik, unaştirish, uy korar (kiz korar), kelin/kuyov sushtirish, etc. These lexemes are the same in English and Uzbek, but they are linguoculturally different.

III. Analysis. In English-speaking cultures, especially in countries such as England, the United States of America, Canada and Australia, wedding ceremonies are different and are formed depending on history, religion and culture. Below we present an analysis and comments on wedding ceremonies in these regions. Traditional elements of English weddings include:

1. **Religious and civil ceremonies:** Most traditional English weddings are based on Christian traditions, including a church ceremony performed by a priest. Civil ceremonies held in non-religious settings are also popular, reflecting secular customs.
2. **The wedding vows:** One of the most important moments is the exchange of vows. Christian weddings often use vows found in the Book of Common Prayer (for example, "to have and to keep from this day forward"). Sometimes the couple writes their own vows, especially in modern or non-religious weddings.
3. **Specific features of the ceremony:** The main ceremonies include a wedding march, an exchange of rings, and the announcement of the marriage. Some weddings include religious prayers, hymns, or cultural traditions.
4. **Wedding Reception Customs:** Post-ceremony celebrations often include food, speeches or toasts, and dancing. These include the cutting of the wedding cake, the couple's first dance, and the tradition of throwing the bouquet. British weddings are known for their blend of tradition, elegance, and modern personalization. Below, we take a closer look at the key elements of the attire, venues, and ceremonies that are common at weddings in the UK.

In particular, the most famous of these unique customs are the symbolic exchange of vows and wedding rings. The exchange of vows and the exchange of rings are two of the most important parts of wedding ceremonies in the UK. These traditions are steeped in history, symbolism, and cultural significance.

The Exchange of Vows is the heart of the wedding ceremony, where the couple publicly declare their love, commitment, and intentions for marriage, and make promises to each other that have long since become a tradition:

Traditional vows are rooted in Christian ceremonies, especially in the Church of England, and often follow the language of the Book of Common Prayer, and include:

- *"I, [Name], take you, [Name], to be my husband/wife, to have and to cherish, for better or for worse, for richer or for poorer, in sickness and in health, until death do us part, according to God's holy will."* These vows emphasize the permanence and sanctity of marriage.

The symbol of the wedding rings. Another ancient wedding ceremony that follows the exchange of vows is the exchange of rings. tradition, symbolizing eternal love and devotion. Looking back at its historical roots, the wearing of rings as a symbol of marriage originated in ancient Egypt, where they represented eternal life and love. That is, the round shape of the ring, which has no beginning and no end, symbolized eternity. This tradition was adopted by early Christians and became a staple of European weddings, including those in the UK. In a ceremony in the UK, the priest often says a blessing before the exchange of rings, asking for divine guidance in the couple's marriage. The groom wears the ring on the fourth finger of the bride's left hand. Historically, it was believed that the "vein of love" was located on the ring finger of the left hand, which is directly connected to the heart. After this, the couple usually says the following phrases:

➤ *"With this ring I crown you, I honor you with all my being, and I share with you all the blessings of the world."*

Both young people wear rings, which reflects the equality of modern relationships. Rings are often decorated with diamonds or other precious stones and can be engraved with important dates, initials or phrases, or rings that symbolize the continuation of the family can be passed down from generation to generation. Some cultures exchange additional rings or jewelry as a symbol of wealth and prosperity. While it is customary in the UK to wear wedding rings on the left hand, some cultures wear them on the right hand.

So, in English culture, the wedding ceremony is also associated with the start of a new independent life for two young people and is a long-awaited evening of happiness. It also stands out from other national traditions in that it is a day that will be remembered for a lifetime for all the guests gathered at the wedding.

Language not only transmits cultural heritage from generation to generation, but it is also a means of influencing the mentality, culture, and worldview of the people. As we have noted above, the study of wedding traditions from a linguo-culturological perspective helps to develop intercultural dialogue, provides the language learner with theoretical and practical material, and also contributes to the further rapprochement and development of political, social, and other relations between countries speaking these two native languages. A comparative approach to wedding traditions, first of all, allows for the further study of other types of customs by creating a basis for scientific, cultural, and linguistic materials.

Conclusion. In the field of linguistics, the separate study of the lexical-semantic features of wedding ceremonies and various traditions associated with them has long been an object of research. However, their comparative study within the framework of other systematic languages and their linguocultural aspects have not been widely studied. This is certainly due to the relevance of the work.

Wedding ceremonies, which are closely related to human life, occupy a special place in the cultural and spiritual life of society. In particular, their harmonization on the basis of intercultural dialogue on the basis of values, and the harmonization of speech activities carried out between representatives of different nationalities and cultures with modern innovations through communicative, sociolinguistic, pragmatic, cognitive linguocultural approaches are of great importance.

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