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### MARRIAGE CUSTOMS



Today's typical wedding ceremony is somewhat different from what it was in old times: first a Western-style ceremony is usually held at a wedding hall or a church with white dress and tuxedo, then later in the day comes the traditional ceremony in a different room, in colorful traditional costume.

In ancient Korea, males and females were kept apart from the age of seven. Marriages were usually arranged by the parents through a matchmaker, and the couple usually did not meet until the wedding ceremony.

Nowadays there are two ways leading to marriage: love match *yeonae*, involves meeting, courting and falling in love. Arranged match *joongmae* involves the arranged meeting of two people through a matchmaker and, upon agreement of the two parties, marriage.

#### Pairs: Role Play

- **Student A**: Explain to a foreigner about Korean marriages.
- **Student B**: You are a foreigner, visiting Korea.
- **Students A and B**: Do you know how your parents met and got married? Ask your partner about his/her parents.