



Pre-Reading Activities

A: Discussion

Today's article is about a marriage proposal. A **marriage proposal** is when you ask someone to marry you. In groups discuss the questions below.

In your country / culture...

1. Who usually **proposes** marriage, the man, the woman or somebody else?
2. How does the person usually propose? (What do they say? What do they do?)
3. What do you think is the most romantic way of proposing marriage?

B: Vocabulary

Match the words with their meanings.

banner cook warship patrol

1. A ship that has guns and is used for fighting in wars.
2. When soldiers, guards or police move around in an area so that there is no trouble.
3. A long piece of cloth with a message on it.
4. A person who cooks for a job.

Reading Activities

A: Reading for Overall Understanding

Read today's article quickly without using your dictionaries. Choose the best summary below.

Today's article is about...

- a. a Canadian warship.
- b. a 15 foot banner.
- c. a man proposing marriage in a strange way.

Warship Carries Message of Love

TORONTO Tue Feb 12 (Reuters) - When the Canadian warship HMCS Halifax returned to Halifax, Nova Scotia, on Monday after six months patrolling the Arabian Sea, it was carrying a 15-foot banner from its cook, Rick Petrie, on the side of the ship.

"Sharmon Fougere, will you be mine forever and marry me?" said the banner. Hundreds of people welcoming the ship's 234 crew members home, as well as Defense Minister Art Eggleton, could clearly see it.

CBC television reported Fougere said yes.

Petrie and Fougere already have a baby son together. He was just six weeks old when the ship sailed in August.

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Post-Reading Activities

You may do one or more of these.

A: Language

In today's article there were these words: ...*will you be mine forever and marry me?*

We can use **will** when we are asking someone to accept something or offering an invitation. So, in today's article, Rick is asking Sharmon to accept his proposal of marriage. We usually answer '*Yes, I will*' or '*No, I won't*'.

'**Will**' is a fairly informal way of asking someone to accept something and is often used with people we know. For example: '*Will you stay for dinner?*'

Look at the sentences below and rewrite them using **will** and **you**.

Example: Stay for dinner? *Will you stay for dinner?*

1. ...have a coffee?
3. ...help me with this problem?
4. ...fix my car?
5. ...come with me?
6. ...cook dinner?

B: Vocabulary

Work in groups and discuss the questions below.

1. Does your country have many **warships**?
2. If yes, which parts of the world do they **patrol**?
3. Who is your **Defense Minister**?
4. Do you think being a **Defense Minister** is an interesting job?
5. Do you think the marriage **proposal** in today's article is very romantic?
6. Do you know of any other interesting marriage **proposals**?

C: Conversation

Work in pairs and read this **imaginary** telephone conversation between Sharmon and her mother.

A: Mom?

B: Sharmon? How are you, honey?

A: Fine thanks! Mom, I called to tell you that Rick and I are getting married.

B: Oh, that's wonderful! When did he ask you?

A: Today! It was very romantic. We were all standing there waiting for the ship. It came in and then I saw it!

B: What?

A: A banner.

B: Where?

A: On the side of the ship there was a banner.

B: On the side of the ship?

A: Yes, and it said, "Sharmon Fougere, will you be mine forever and marry me?"

B: Oh!

A: Yes, and all the people waiting were laughing. I was laughing and crying at the same time.

B: Oh, that's very romantic.

A: Yes, and Art Eggleton was there.

B: The Defense Minister?

A: Yes. He saw it too.

B: Well, darling, that's very romantic. And I think it's wonderful news. Congratulations!

A: Oh, thanks. Oops, the baby is crying. I have to go! Bye!



TEACHERS' NOTES AND ANSWER KEY

Pre-Reading Activities

B: Vocabulary - Answers

1. warship
2. patrol
3. banner
4. cook

Reading Activities

A: Reading for Overall Understanding - Answers

The best answer is: c

(The main point of the article is that it is about an unusual marriage proposal. The banner and the warship are both important details which help make the proposal unusual.)

B: Reading for Detail - Answers

1. c, 2. b, 3. a, 4. b, 5. a

C: Ordering of Events - Answers

1. f, 2. c, 3. d, 4. a, 5. e, 6. b

D: Gap Fill - Answers

1. warship
2. patrolling
3. banner
4. cook
5. banner
6. Defense Minister
7. yes
8. warship

E: Questions - Notes

1. Students may look back at the article to get some help with understanding the purpose of the questions.

E: Questions - Answers

1. a. Where was the warship patrolling?
b. How long was it patrolling there for?
c. What was the warship carrying when it returned to Nova Scotia?
d. Who could clearly see the banner?
e. What did Fougere say?
2. a. The Arabian Sea
b. 6 months
c. A 15 foot banner
d. Hundreds of people as well as the Defense Minister
e. Yes

Post-Reading Activities

A: Language - Answers

1. Will you have coffee?
2. Will you help me with this problem?
3. Will you fix my car?
4. Will you come with me?
5. Will you cook dinner?

C: Conversation - Notes

You may like to model this conversation before students do it. You could tape it before class (with someone else playing the B role) and then play it to the students.

