

1. Quick Reading

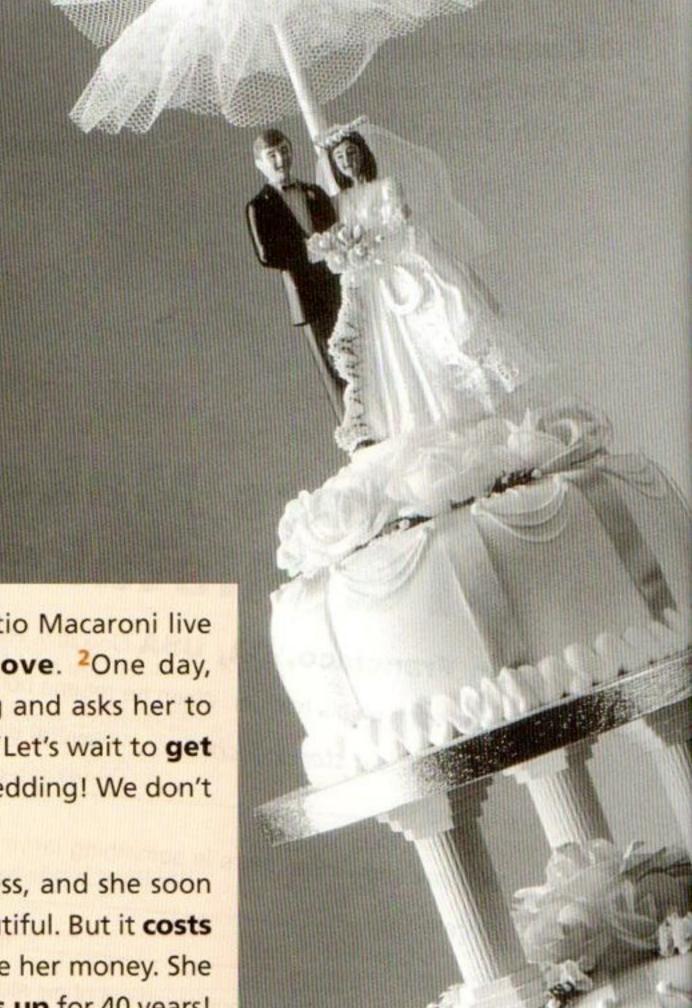
Look at the pictures on page 7. What is the story about?

Now read quickly to get the main idea.

ANTILLO, ITALY ¹Vittoria Celemi and Sebastio Macaroni live in a small village in Sicily. They are in love. ²One day, Sebastio gives Vittoria an engagement ring and asks her to marry him. ³Vittoria accepts, but she adds, "Let's wait to get married until we can afford the perfect wedding! We don't have enough money now."

⁴Vittoria begins to shop for a wedding dress, and she soon finds the perfect one. It's long, lacy, and beautiful. But it **costs** an arm and a leg! ⁵So Vittoria starts to save her money. She makes a small payment every year. She **saves up** for 40 years!

6At long last, after a 40-year engagement, Vittoria can buy the wedding dress. She and Sebastio decide to tie the knot.
7At the wedding, Vittoria looks beautiful in her dress. The newlyweds are in seventh heaven. They dance, drink champagne, and eat caviar. 8Afterward, they ride off in a horse-drawn carriage. Their friends watch them and think, "It's about time!"



New idioms and expressions

lt's about time!

be in love (with someone)

get married (to someone)

can afford something

cost an arm and a leg

save up*

at long last

tie the knot

be very expensive

save up*

after a very long time; finally

tie the knot

be very happy

lt's later than expected!

love (someone) strongly in a romantic way

marry (someone)

have enough money to buy something

be very expensive

keep money so one can use it later

after a very long time; finally

marry

be in seventh heaven

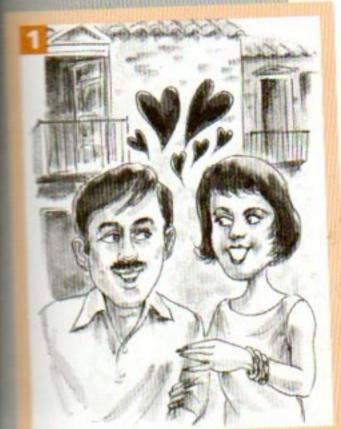
be very happy

*phrasal verb (see Lexicon and Appendix D)

6 Can You Believe It?

2. Listen

Cover the story and look only at these pictures. Listen to the story two or three times.

















Read the Story

Now read the story carefully. Pay special attention to the idioms so that you're ready for Exercise 4.

4. Listen and Complete

Close your book. Listen to the story again. When the tape or your teacher pauses, try to complete the idiom.

5. Tell the Story

Cover the story and look at the pictures above. Tell the story using as many idioms as you can.

- a. First, work with the whole class to retell the story.
- b. Then tell the story to a partner or small group.

About the story	
a. What does Vittoria say to Sebastio when he asl	ks her to marry him?
b. What do you think of Vittoria's decision?	
c. How long does it take for the couple to tie the	knot?
d. How do the newlyweds feel?	4000
e. Are you patient? Can you imagine waiting 40 y	
f. Take a survey of your classmates. How many a married? Find out their reasons.	re single? How many want to get
g. Is it important to be in love when you get mar	ried? Explain your ideas.
h. In your country, when a man wants to marry a permission from her parents? Does he give sor Does the woman give something to the man or	nething to the woman or her family?
i. Vittoria's wedding dress cost an arm and a leg. that cost an arm and a leg? If so, what?	Have you ever bought something
Complete the sentences writing something true	about vouvealf
Complete the sentences, writing something true a. I'm in seventh heaven when	about yoursen.
a. I'm in seventh heaven when b. Recently, I bought	
a. I'm in seventh heaven when	, and it/they cost an
a. I'm in seventh heaven when b. Recently, I bought arm and a leg. c. I'm saving up to buy afford it/them now.	, and it/they cost an
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10. Complete the Dialogue

a. Two friends, Eva and Stephanie, are talking. Fill in the blanks with idioms from the box.

- I'm in seventh heaven
- can afford
- cost an arm and a leg
- get married
- tie the knot
- it's about time



Eva, hi! What's new?

Oh, hi, Stephanie. **Guess what!*** Mario and I are going to (1) <u>get married</u> in June!





Congratulations, (2) _____! You've been engaged for five years! I wasn't sure you were ever going to (3) _____.

Yeah. I had cold feet.





But now you're ready?

Yeah, I know Mario's the one for me.

(4)_____!





Are you going to have a big wedding?

We don't know yet. I hope so. If we (5)______ it, I'd like about 300 guests, a dance band, champagne...



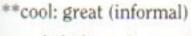


Cool.** I know a great band—the Hot Peppers.

And they don't (6)______.

*Guess what!: a way of starting a conversation (informal)

Oh, really? I want to get the details, but I should go now. I'll call you soon.



recycled idiom: have cold feet

b. Work with a partner. Role-play the dialogue together.

