

## Till Next Year Us Do Part 定期婚姻

英语学习点: *Marriage and Relationships* 婚姻与情侣关系

The traditional marriage vows made by couples on their wedding day contain a promise to stay together "until death us do part." But a proposed change in the law in Mexico could make that a slightly less binding 'two years' time'. The idea is to cut the divorce rate by creating renewable marriage contracts so lovers can try living with their other half before making a lifetime commitment.



*How long will it last?*

Newlyweds would take a minimum of two years before deciding whether to cement their relationship or split up, under plans to alter the city's civil code.

If it becomes law, the contracts would make clear in advance the responsibility for marital duties, such as childcare, schooling and household budgeting.

Half of all marriages in Mexico City currently end in a break-up. The author of the proposal hopes that being able to renew or dissolve the marital link after a fixed period of time will lead to more harmonious relationships and keep more couples out of the divorce courts.

The custody of dependents in cases where couples decide not to stay together beyond their initial term would also be set out at the beginning.

It's hoped that this would avoid the usual wrangling and emotional turmoil experienced by families going through a divorce.

But not everyone thinks it's a good idea. Family campaigners say it would contribute to a "throwaway culture" which would create more rather than less anguish for the children involved.

词汇表请参看答案与词汇部分



## Quiz 测验

阅读短文并回答问题。

1. Have they changed the law in Mexico to allow fixed-term marriages?
2. Do they hope to cut the marriage rate?
3. Would the contract make clear who is responsible for duties such as looking after children and finances?
4. Do most marriages in Mexico City end in divorce?
5. Is divorce often upsetting for families?

## Exercise 练习

请你在不参考课文的情况下完成下列练习。从每个表格中选择一个意思合适的单词填入句子的空格处。

1. After 25 years together, my parents decided to \_\_\_\_\_.

split over	split up	split away	split down
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2. My house is full of flowers. My other \_\_\_\_\_ is a florist.

part	wife	woman	half
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3. I need to go to the library to \_\_\_\_\_ my books or I'll have to pay a fine.

renew	review	revive	reveal
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4. He's got three sons and two daughters, so a total of five \_\_\_\_\_.

dependers	depends	dependent	dependents
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5. The death of a family member can cause \_\_\_\_\_ turmoil.

emotions	emotional	emotionally	emotion
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## Answers and Glossary 答案与词汇

### Quiz 小测验

1. Have they changed the law in Mexico to allow fixed-term marriages? No. It is a proposed change.
2. Do they hope to cut the marriage rate? No. The idea is to cut the divorce rate.
3. Would the contract make clear who is responsible for duties such as looking after children and finances? Yes. The contracts would make clear in advance the responsibility for marital duties, such as childcare, schooling and household budgeting.
4. Do most marriages in Mexico City end in divorce? No. Half of all marriages in Mexico City currently end in a break up.
5. Is divorce often upsetting for families? Yes. It creates emotional turmoil.

### Exercise 练习

1. After 25 years together, my parents decided to split up.
2. My house is full of flowers. My other half is a florist.
3. I need to go to the library to renew my books or I'll have to pay a fine.
4. He's got three sons and two daughters, so a total of five dependents.
5. The death of a family member can cause emotional turmoil.

### Glossary 词汇表

marriage vows 结婚誓言	until death us do part (直到死为止) 永不分离
divorce rate 离婚率	other half (另一半) 配偶
a lifetime commitment 终生承诺	newlyweds 新婚夫妇
to cement their relationship 加固他们之间的关系	split up 分手
marital duties 婚姻的责任	household budgeting 家庭开销
a break up 分手	renew 续约
dissolve 解散	harmonious relationships 和谐的关系
divorce courts 离婚法庭	custody 监护
dependents 被抚养者	wrangling 争吵
emotional turmoil 感情波动	anguish 苦恼

