Before reading
Introduction

1 Put the sentences in the right order (1–8).
Check your answers by reading the first paragraph of the Introduction.

It's a summer Saturday morning, and Charles is asleep. He should be …

a □ But when he does meet a beautiful woman called Carrie, he wants to
b □ weddings, never his own. He has had plenty of girlfriends, but he is
c □ and she marries another man.
d □ one of his old girlfriends, thinks that he has a big problem with women.
e □ on his way to Angus and Laura's wedding already! Charles is always late,
f □ be with her very much. The trouble is, he can't decide quickly enough,
g □ worried that he will never find the right woman to marry. Henrietta,
h □ and he is always going to weddings. But they are always other people's

While reading
Chapter 1, pages 1–7

2 Choose the correct name.

a Who shares a flat with Charles? ….
b Who forgets to bring the wedding ring to the ceremony? ….
c Who likes to joke and is often quite rude? ….
d Who is elegant and rich? ….
e Who arrives at the church in a large black hat? ….
f Who finds a ring for Charles to use? ….
g Who is a happy man who is not so clever? ….
h Who is deaf and communicates with sign language? ….

1) Gareth
2) Scarlett
3) Carrie
4) Tom
5) Fiona
6) Charles
7) David
8) Matthew

Chapter 1, pages 7–14

3 Choose the correct ending to each of these sentences. Write 1–7.

a The bride and groom and their families are standing in a line because …
b Charles gets two glasses of wine because …
c Charles hits his head against a tree because …
d Charles uses his hands when talking to David because …
e Charles makes a speech at the reception because …
f Matthew talks to Charles about Carrie because …
g Bernard talks to Lydia because …

1) David is deaf and can't hear.
2) she seems very depressed.
3) everybody needs to shake their hands.
4) he is mad that he said the wrong thing.
5) he can see that Charles likes her.
6) he is the best man.
7) he wants to offer Carrie a drink.

Chapter 1, pages 14–21

4 Read the questions and circle YES or NO.

a Does Scarlett catch the flowers when Laura throws them? YES NO
b Were Tom and Fiona planning to stay at the pub? YES NO
c Does Tom invite Charles and the others to stay at his family's castle? YES NO
d Is Carrie happy to see Charles at the pub? YES NO
e Is George married? YES NO

Chapter 2

5 Who said these words? Choose the name from below (1–7).

a … ‘Some people think weddings are about true love.’
b … ‘You don't give people a chance. Whenever you have a new girlfriend, you think, “I mustn't fall in love. I mustn't get married.”’
c … ‘I, Bernard Delaney, do take you, Lydia Jane Hibbott, to be my awful wedded wife.’
d … ‘I have met the right person, you see. But he's not in love with me.’
Chapter 3

6 Fill in the missing words from this summary.

decision cinema free present dress conversation expensive invitation

Charles and Scarlett feel happy about having a (a) ___________ Saturday. Then Charles gets an (b) ___________ for Carrie's wedding. He decides to look for a (c) ___________ in a shop. Everything in the shop is (d) ___________ and the shop assistant is rude to Charles. After that Charles meets Carrie who says she needs help making a (e) ___________. She has to choose a wedding (f) ___________. Then Charles and Carrie have a (g) ___________ in a café. Charles is late meeting David at the (h) ___________.

Chapter 4

7 Choose the right name from the box.

Fiona Tom Gareth Henrietta Scarlett Carrie

a ___________ says he would like to go to the wedding of someone he really loves.
b ___________ says he's asked everyone he knows to marry him.
c ___________ meets someone she says is lovely.
d ___________ says she has got a new boyfriend.
e ___________ is in love with a man who doesn't return her love.
f ___________ says that she is in love and is obviously happy.

Chapter 5

8 Choose the best answer to complete the sentence (1 or 2).

a Everybody at Gareth's funeral is ......
   1) very quiet.
   2) dressed in bright clothes.
b Matthew says that strangers might describe Gareth as ......
   1) rude and fat.
   2) loving and kind.
c Carrie tells Charles that she is ......
   1) sorry she missed her honeymoon.
   2) glad he told her he loved her.

Chapter 6

9 Below are the first lines of the six parts of this chapter. Put them in the right order (1–6).

a Back in Charles's kitchen later that afternoon, everyone is still shocked. ......
b John is one of the first guests to arrive. ......
c He tries not to look at Carrie as he walks to the front of the church and sits down. ......
d They've got plenty of time now, so they get some coffee and drink it outside on the grass. ......
e But Charles is no longer in the right mood for his wedding. ......
f It's Charles's wedding day, but even now he's not awake. ......

Then match the first lines of each part with the correct last line. Write a–f at the end of each line above.

a The wedding is certainly not going to happen today!
b If they hadn't played this joke, Charles would have been late for his own wedding.
c ‘Of course,’ says Matthew, who thinks that Charles wants to go to the toilet.
d They kiss – and above, in the storm skies of London, there is thunder and lightning for Charles too.
e Today, perhaps for the first time ever, Charles won't be late.
f ‘Yes,’ says Charles. ‘Excellent.’
Chapter 1, pages 1–7
1 Fill in the missing words.
aisle bride best man ring bridegroom motorway bridesmaids
Charles is the (a) ………………… at his friend’s wedding, but he is late! Charles drives Scarlett’s car along the (b) …………………. Charles and Scarlett arrive at the church at the same time as the (c) ………………… . Angus, the (d) …………………, is waiting for Charles at the front of the church. Angus asks Charles about Laura’s wedding (e) ………………… . Oh no! Charles forgot to bring it! Just then, the bride and her three (f) ………………… come up the (g) ………………… of the church. The priest begins the wedding service.

Chapter 1, pages 7–14
2 Choose the correct word in italics.
   a The wedding reception is held outside / inside the house.
   b Charles offers Carrie a drink / flower.
   c John tells Charles he is married / not married.
   d Fiona meets a man named Gerald who plans to get married / become a priest.

Chapter 1, pages 14–21
3 Put the events in the right order (1–7).
   a ❑ Charles has a drink with George.
   b ❑ Carrie says she is going to America.
   c ❑ Carrie hides from George at the pub.
   d ❑ Carrie tells Charles she is staying at the pub.
   e ❑ Carrie invites Charles to her room.
   f ❑ Charles decides to stay at the pub.
   ❑ Tom invites Charles to spend the night at his family’s castle.

Chapter 2
4 Complete these sentences using numbers.
   a The second wedding is …… months after the first wedding.
   b There are …… bridesmaids in the wedding.
   c Hamish is about …… years old.
   d There are …… old girlfriends of Charles at his table at the wedding reception.
   e There are …… old girlfriends of Charles at the wedding (not including Carrie).
   f There are …… people under the table at the reception.

Chapter 3
5 Choose the correct ending to each of these sentences. Write 1–6.
   a Scarlett has a free Saturday and ……
   b Charles feels upset at breakfast because ……
   c Charles looks for a gift in a store but ……
   d Carrie wants Charles's help because ……
   e David is angry because ……
   f Charles runs out of the cinema because ……
   1) his brother is late again.
   2) she think she’ll look for a job.
   3) he wants to tell Carrie that he loves her.
   4) he gets an invitation to Carrie's wedding.
   5) she needs to choose a wedding dress.
   6) everything is too expensive.

Chapter 4
6 Are these sentences true (T) or false (F)?
   a Carrie and Hamish get married inside a castle. ❑
   b None of Charles's group of friends is married. ❑
   c Tom is sad that Scarlett will not marry him. ❑
   d Scarlett meets an interesting Scottish man. ❑

Chapter 5
7 Complete the paragraph with the correct words from the box.
priest kiss river funeral emotional coffin
The car with Gareth’s (a) …………………. arrives at the church. Everybody at Gareth’s (b) …………………. feels very sad. Before the start of the service, the (c) …………………. asks Matthew to come forward and talk about Gareth. Matthew gives an (d) …………………. speech about the feelings he had for Gareth. Carrie talks to Charles and gives him a (e) …………………. on the cheek. Tom and Charles take a walk to the (f) ………………….

Chapter 6
8 Underline a mistake in each sentence and make it right.
   a Charles arrives at his wedding at ten to nine. He is almost late.
   b Before the wedding, Charles and his friends get together for coffee inside the church.
   c Fiona says she will stop wearing bright colours.
   d Tom feels love at first sight when he sees a classmate that he met 25 years ago.
   e Charles feels happy when he hears that Carrie and Hamish are not together.