

reproducible

## Compliments and Flattery

If you **pay** somebody a **compliment**, you say something nice to that person, usually about the way they look or about something they have done. When you pay somebody a compliment you do so because you truly believe what you're saying and want to be friendly:

- 👑 *I love your new haircut – it really suits you.*
- 👑 *Your stories are so interesting – you have a beautiful style of writing.*
- 👑 *Did you paint this picture? You're so talented!*

If you **flatter** somebody, you say nice things to that person, usually about the way they look, their intelligence or something they have done, *because you want something from that person*. In this case, **flattery** has a negative meaning because a flatterer usually does not mean what he or she says and only wants personal gain.

The verb **flatter** is not always negative – it depends on the way you use it. You can use **flatter** when you're talking about clothing or make-up, to say that they make that person look good or bad:

- 👑 *That outfit really flatters you.*
- 👑 *Wearing a skirt over a pair of jeans is not flattering to anybody's figure.*

You can also use **flatter** when you are talking about your happy reaction to receiving another person's compliment:

- 👑 *I was flattered when Miffy said I had a beautiful singing voice.*

## Responding to Compliments

- 👑 Thank you so much.
- 👑 You are too kind.
- 👑 That's really flattering – thank you!
- 👑 You flatter me!
- 👑 I appreciate your kind words.
- 👑 You've made my day!
- 👑 \_\_\_\_\_

## Worksheet 2.4

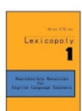
reproducible

# You Flatter Me!



<p><b>Mrs Middleton</b> You don't like the outfit you have bought for your daughter's wedding. Tell her why you need to return it and arrange a time to go shopping for a new one. Don't listen to any flattery! This outfit is not for you!</p> <p>1</p>	<p><b>Kate Middleton</b> Your mother has already changed her mind 8 times over which outfit she is going to wear to your wedding. The latest outfit she has chosen is really beautiful. Tell her how great she looks!</p> <p>1</p>
<p><b>Prince Charles</b> You and your wife, Camilla, have found your seats in Westminster Abbey for the wedding – and you are sitting behind a pillar! Tell Camilla how generous, beautiful and kind she is so that she will swap seats with you.</p> <p>2</p>	<p><b>Camilla</b> You and your husband, Charles, have found your seats for the wedding – and they're great! Charles' might be a bit close to a pillar but your seat is absolutely fantastic! Don't swap seats! Tell Charles how lucky he is to be sitting where he is.</p> <p>2</p>
<p><b>The Queen</b> You have bought a new digital camera to take photos at your grandson's wedding. You're waiting outside to get a shot of the bride. Your husband, Prince Philip, keeps asking to borrow the camera to take photos of silly things. Don't listen to any flattery! You need your camera now!</p> <p>3</p>	<p><b>Prince Philip</b> Your wife, the Queen, has bought a new digital camera to take photos at your grandson's wedding. You have just seen a pigeon with one leg and want to take a photo of it. Tell the Queen how kind and generous is so that she will lend you her camera.</p> <p>3</p>
<p><b>The Archbishop of Canterbury</b> You need a coffee before you officiate at William and Kate's wedding. A member of the public wants to get into Westminster Abbey to use the toilets before the wedding begins. Give them £3 to go to the kiosk and get you a drink – and praise them for being such a kind, considerate person. Remember – don't let them into the Abbey!</p> <p>4</p>	<p><b>Protester</b> You are angry about Cruelty to Gorillas so you plan to get into the Westminster Abbey toilets, dress up as a gorilla and run in front of the TV cameras during William and Kate's wedding. Ask the Archbishop of Canterbury to let you in to use the bathrooms – let him know how much you admire him and how generous he is!</p> <p>4</p>
<p><b>Lady Louise Windsor</b> It is the morning of William and Kate's wedding and you have decided to wear your Fairy Princess outfit instead of your bridesmaid's dress. Your Daddy is being fussy about this so tell him how lovely and kind he is so that he will change his mind!</p> <p>5</p>	<p><b>Prince Edward</b> You are in a rush to go out to William and Kate's wedding and your daughter, Louise, is refusing to put on her bridesmaid's dress! Tell her how beautiful her bridesmaid's dress is, how pretty she looks in it, and what a good girl she is!</p> <p>5</p>

Worksheet 2.5



Lexicopoly 1

a reproducible resource book for English Language teachers

[www.poorlittlenell.com](http://www.poorlittlenell.com)

Find "What's Your Excuse?" role-play cards in Unit Four: Jobs

© Helen O'Brien, 2011 | Lexicopoly Extra: The Royal Wedding of Prince William and Catherine Middleton | [www.poorlittlenell.com](http://www.poorlittlenell.com)