Marriage entries give much of the same information that christening entries do, but with a few differences. As a general rule, they are longer than christening entries. Below is a sample marriage entry. It is divided into the following parts:

Transcription
Simeon Ba
rajas y Sara
Ponce
En el Curato de Yrimbo a los doce días del mes de junio del año del Señor de mil ochocientos setenta y cinco, yo, el Presbítero José Doroteo Zamora, teniente de Curia, de este lugar y su partido; leidas las tres amonestaciones conciliares, instruidos en la Doctrina Cristiana, dispuestos sacramentalmente y manifestando el mutuo consentimiento de los contrayentes por palabras de presente que constituyen el verdadero legítimo Matrimonio: casé y velé a Simeon Barajas hijo legítimo de Pablo Barajas y de María Chavez con Sara Ponce hija legítima de Roman Ponce y de María de la Luz Espinoza. Fueron sus padres: Félix Barajas y Lucía Torres, y testigos presenciales de la celebración de este matrimonio: Agapito Sánchez y José Dolores Alanís, y para constancia lo firmé con el espresado Señor Curia.
José Doroteo Zamora

Translation
Simeon Ba
rajas and Sara
Ponce
In the parish of Yrimbo, on the twelfth day of the month of June of the year of the Lord one thousand eight hundred seventy-five, I, the priest José Doroteo Zamora, deputy of the parish priest of this place and its district; (having) read the three conciliar banns, instructed in Christian doctrine, sacramentally disposed and manifesting the mutual consent of the engaged parties, by these words, which constitute true and legitimate marriage; I married and veiled Simeon Barajas legitimate son of Pablo Barajas and of María Chavez with Sara Ponce legitimate daughter of Roman Ponce and of María de la Luz Espinoza. Their godparents were Félix Barajas and Lucía Torres, and the eyewitnesses to the celebration of this marriage (were) Agapito Sánchez and José Dolores Alanís; and in witness thereof I signed it with the said parish priest.
José Doroteo Zamora

NOTE: The sample marriage entry used above is also used in the following explanations of each part of an entry. As each part is explained, the corresponding phrase in the sample entry is emphasized with bold handwriting.
Marginal Notation

In the example, the marginal notation gives the names of the groom and bride:

Simeon Barajas y Sara Ponce
Simeon Barajas and Sara Ponce

\[\text{En el Curato de Yumbo a los doce días del mes de junio del año}\]
\[\text{del Señor de mil ochocientos setenta y cinco y p. el Padre}\]
\[\text{José Doreto Zamora, teniente de Curia, de este lugar y su partido;}\]
Place (or Parish) Phrase

Note that in the example entry the place comes first, followed by the date. The date could have come first, as in the sample christening entry. The position of the two phrases in the entry is interchangeable.

In the example, the place phrase reads:

**En el Curato de Yrimbo**
In the parish of Yrimbo

For alternative place phrases, see page 2-5.
In the example, the date phrase reads:

a los doce días del mes de junio del año del Señor de mil ochocientos setenta y cinco
on the twelfth day of the month of June of the year of the Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventy-five

For additional information on date phrases see chapter 6, section 2, "Variations in Dates."
Priest Phrase

In this example, the priest phrase reads:

yo, el Presbítero José Doroteo Zamora, teniente de Cura de este lugar y su partido
I, the priest Jose Doroteo Zamora, deputy of the parish priest of this place and its district

For alternative priest phrases, see page 2-6.
Ceremony Phrases

Although the Catholic marriage ceremony was simpler than the christening ceremony, the references to it in the entry are usually much longer. The ceremony portion of the entry frequently takes over half an entry and will refer to the following:

1. The three readings of banns (amonestaciones)
2. Confession and the wedding mass
3. The marriage ceremony and veiling

1. The Three Readings of Banns (Amonestaciones)
   Banns were public announcements of an intended marriage to give people a chance to disclose any reason why the couple should not be married. The reading of banns was required by the Council of Trent. The term conciliar(es) in the entries refers to the Council of Trent. In the example, the banns phrase reads leídas las tres amonestaciones conciliares, "(having) read the three conciliar banns."

The following phrases are some of the many that could also have been used:

**habiendo corrido todas las diligencias conciliares**
having taken care of all the conciliar measures

**habiendo presidido lo dispuesto por el santo concilio de Trento**
having presided over everything required by the holy Council of Trent

**habiendo presidido todo lo que manda el santo concilio de Trento**
having presided over everything required by the holy Council of Trent

**previas las disposiciones conciliares**
foregoing the conciliar arrangements

**conforme al concilio de Trento**
consistent with the Council of Trent

**según manda el concilio de Trento**
as ordered by the Council of Trent

amonésté en tres días festivos
I published (banns) on three holy days

habiéndose amonestado en tres días festivos
having published (banns) on three holy days

**inter missarum solemnia**
in solemn mass

**sin haber resultado ningún impedimento**
without any impediment (to marriage) resulting

**y no habiendo resultado impedimento alguno**
and no impediment (to marriage) having resulted

**no resultó ningún impedimento**
no impediment (to marriage) resulted

**no resultando impedimento alguno**
no impediment (to marriage) resulting

An entry may give the three dates that banns were published. Sometimes these dates were given as holy days or feast days, for example, *Domínica seguida de cuaresma* ("the second Sunday of Lent"). Ordinarily you will not have to interpret a banns date.
Ceremony Phrases

2. Confession and the Wedding Mass
Before the actual marriage ceremony, the couple may have gone to confession and to a wedding mass, where they may have received holy communion and a nuptial blessing. They may also have been quizzed or instructed in the doctrine of the church.

In the example, the relevant phrases are:

- **instruidos en la doctrina cristiana, dispuestos sacramentalmente**
  - instructed in the Christian doctrine, sacramentally disposed

Following are some of the other phrases that can refer to the confession and mass:

- **confesados**
  - (having) confessed
- **dispuestos sacramentalmente**
  - sacramentally disposed

- **se dispusieron sacramentalmente**
  - sacramentally disposed
- **examinados en la doctrina cristiana**
  - examined in Christian doctrine
- **instruídos en la doctrina cristiana**
  - instructed in Christian doctrine
Ceremony Phrases

3. The Marriage Ceremony and Veiling
The actual marriage ceremony consisted of the couple expressing their mutual consent to marry. The priest then blessed the union. After the marriage ceremony, a veil was held over the couple while they were solemnly blessed. This manifestando el mutuo consentimiento de los contrayentes por palabras de presente que constituyen el verdadero legítimo
Matrimonio: casé y velé a
manifesting the mutual consent of the engaged parties, by these words, which constitute true and lawful marriage: I married and veiled

References to the marriage and veiling ceremonies usually consist of one or more of the following common phrases:

| de los pretendientes | asistió al matrimonio de
| las manos (a) | I assisted at the marriage of
| desposé (a) | I married
| in facie eclesiae (a) | con el mutuo consentimiento
| | con su mutuo consentimiento
| | within the church (Latin) with their mutual consent
| según el Rituale Romanum | he assisted at the marriage of
| (a book prescribing the form of Catholic ceremonies)
| según orden de nuestra Santa Madre iglesia | that constitute true and legitimate marriage
| que constituyen el verdadero y legítimo matrimonio | that constitute true and legitimate marriage
| que hacen el verdadero y legítimo matrimonio |

Self-Evaluation
Translate the following phrases using the above lists. Check your answers.

1. habiendo presidido lo dispuesto por el santo Concilio de Trento
2. leídas las tres amonestaciones
3. y no resultando impedimento alguno

Answers
1. having presided over everything required by the holy Council of Trent
2. having read the three banns of marriage
3. and no impediment (to marriage) resulting
4. examined in Christian doctrine
5. (having) confessed
6. and with their mutual consent
7. I married and veiled within the church
8. by these words
9. that constitute true and legitimate marriage
10. I married
The groom’s name usually follows the last ceremony phrase. In the example, the groom’s name Simeon Barajas is preceded by the phrase casé y velé a (“I married and veiled”).

Besides giving the groom’s name, this section may give any of the following information about him:
- race
- marital status (single or widower)
- place of origin
- parents’ names
- age
- parents’ race or social position
- parents’ residence
- father’s occupation

presé que constituyen el verdadero legítimo Matrimonio:

casé y velé a Simeon Barajas hijo legítimo de Pablo Barajas
y de María Chávez con Sara Ponce hijo legítimo de Roman
Bride

The bride's name is usually preceded by a punctuation mark, such as a colon or an equal sign and the word con ("with"), but it may be preceded by only one or the other. Occasionally it follows y ("and") or c.c., an abbreviation for casado con ("married with").

The entry usually gives the same information for the bride as it gives for the groom.

In the example, the bride's name Sara Ponce is preceded by the word con ("with").

Caste y vete a Simeón Barajas hijo legítimo de Pablo Barajas
y de María Chávez con Sara Ponce hija legítima de Roman
Ponce y de María de la Luz Espinosa. Fueron sus padrinos Félix
Godparents

The godparent phrase is usually the same as that for christening entries. In the example it is as follows:

Fueron sus padres Félix Barajas y Lucía Torres
Their godparents were Felix Barajas and Lucia Torres

Witnesses Phrase

Catholic law requires two witnesses (testigos or testigos presenciales) to the marriage ceremony. The entry may give the same information for the witnesses as it does for the godparents.

In the example, the phrase reads:

y testigos presenciales de la celebración de este matrimonio: Agapito Sanchez y José Dolores Alanis
and the eyewitnesses to the celebration of this marriage (were) Agapito Sanchez and Jose Dolores Alanis
Certification Phrase

The certification phrase is the last phrase. It is the same as it is in the christening entries. In the example, it reads:

\[ y \text{ para constancia lo firmé con el espresado Señor Cura} \]
and in witness thereof I signed it with the said parish priest

\[ \text{José Doroteo Zamora} \]

For additional information on certification phrases see chapter 2, section 1.
Summary—Marriage Entries

Following is a summary explanation of each of the possible parts of a marriage entry and a self-evaluation exercise.

Marginal Notation
When given, usually includes the names of the groom and bride (see page 2-21).

Place Phrase
Is either first phrase in an entry or immediately follows the date phrase; usually gives name of parish and sometimes its location (see page 2-22).

Date Phrase
Indicates day, month, and year of marriage; is either the first or second item in the entry (see page 2-23).

Priest Phrase
The third part of an entry; the priest’s name is usually the first personal name written in an entry and may be given in connection with the words cura (“parish priest”) or teniente (“assistant”) (see page 2-24).

Ceremony Phrase
Makes reference to:
1) The three readings of the banns (amonestaciones) (see page 2-25)
2) The confession and wedding mass (see page 2-26)
3) The marriage ceremony and veiling (see page 2-27)

Self-Evaluation
Identify each separate phrase or entry part in the sample entry which follows. Write the complete phrase or name (as it appears) next to the name of the part it represents. Write your answers under “Responses.” Refer to any information to assist you.

Groom
Usually preceded by the marriage ceremony and veiling phrase; may have other personal information given (see page 2-28).

Bride
Most often preceded by some punctuation mark or the word con (“with”). May be preceded by the word y (“and”) (see page 2-29).

Godparents
Usually introduced by the words fueron padrinos ("godparents were") or simply padrinos ("godparents"). There is never more than one godfather and one godmother (see page 2-30).

Witnesses Phrase
Two witnesses (testigos or testigos presenciales) are usually given. The information (names) may be the same as the godparents (see page 2-30).

Certification Phrase
Indicates that the priest signed the entry to certify the correctness of the information (see page 2-31).

Sample Entry

Roman García con Juana Mendoza

En el pueblo de Copalquin a los trece días de Mayo de mil ochocientos y dos y el Presbítero Miguel de Leon Cura de esta Santa Iglesia habiendo presidido lo dispuesto por el santo concilio de Trento y examinados en la doctrina cristiana caso y vele dice facie eclesiæ a Roman García hijo legitimo de Martín García y María Sanchez con Juana Mendoza hija natural de Antonia Mendoza. Fueron testigos Alfredo Gutierrez y José de la Cruz. Fueron sus padrinos Raul Lopez y Diliana Palomino y por verdad lo firmó

Miguel de Leon

2-32
Transcription
Roman
García
con
Juana
Mendoza
En el pueblo de Copalquín a los trece días de Mayo de mil ochocientos y dos yo el Presbítero Miguel de León Curia de esta Santa Iglesia habiendo presidido lo dispuesto por el santo concilio de Trento y examinados en la doctrina cristiana casé y velé in facie eclesiae a Roman García hijo legítimo de Martín García y María Sanchez con Juana Mendoza hija natural de Antonia Mendoza. Fueron testigos Alfredo Gutierrez y José de la Cruz. Fueron sus padrinos Raúl Lopez y Liliana Palomeque y por verdad lo firmé. Miguel de León

Translation
Roman
García
with
Juana
Mendoza
In the city of Copalquin on the 13th of May one thousand eight hundred(s) and two I the Priest Miguel de Leon Curate of this Holy Church having presided over everything required by the holy Council of Trent and examined in Christian doctrine, I married and veiled within the church Roman Garcia legitimate son of Martin Garcia and Maria Sanchez with Juana Mendoza natural daughter of Antonia Mendoza. The witnesses were Alfredo Gutierrez and Jose de la Cruz. Their godparents were Raul Lopez and Liliana Palomeque. In witness whereof I signed it.
Manuel de Leon

Responses
Below are the names of each part that could be found in a marriage entry. Write the complete phrase, as written in the sample entry, next to the name of the part it represents. If a part is not given in the entry, write the letters "N.G." (not given) next to the name of the part.

Date phrase

Godparents

Marginal note

Priest phrase

Groom

Witnesses phrase

Ceremony phrases

Reading of banns

Confession and wedding mass

Marriage and veiling

Bride

Certification phrase

Place phrase

Answers
Date phrase: a los trece días de Mayo de mil ochocientos y dos
Godparents: fueron sus padrinos Raúl Lopez y Liliana Palomeque
Marginal note: Roman García con Juana Mendoza
Priest phrase: yo el Presbítero Miguel de León Curia de esta Santa Iglesia
Groom: Roman García
Witnesses phrase: fueron testigos Alfredo Gutierrez y José de la Cruz
Ceremony phrases
Reading of banns: habiendo presidido lo dispuesto por el santo concilio de Trento
Confession and wedding mass: examinados en la doctrina cristiana
Marriage and veiling: casé y velé
Bride: Juana Mendoza
Certification phrase: por verdad lo firmé
Place phrase: En el pueblo de Copalquin