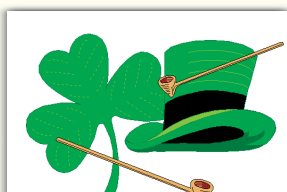


UNIT 1

HOLIDAYS AND CELEBRATIONS

PREPARING FOR SPEAKING



HOLIDAYS/CELEBRATIONS AROUND THE WORLD

- Christmas • Easter • carnival
- Thanksgiving • Independence Day
- Halloween • Chinese New Year
- St Patrick's Day • St Valentine's Day
- national/public holiday • birthday
- name day • wedding • baptism

WHEN IS IT?

- **in:** (the) summer, March
- **on:** March 17th, Monday, the weekend, weekends, my birthday
- **at:** Christmas, Easter
- **during:** the holidays, the Christmas break

THINGS TO DO

- wear a mask/traditional costumes
- put up decorations
- have a party
- invite friends/family
- get together with friends
- go out for a meal
- go to church
- take part in a/the parade
- prepare/eat special food
- have a picnic
- buy/give/get/open presents
- sing carols/the national anthem

EXPRESSIONS

- dress up in a costume
- dress up as a (clown)
- set off fireworks
- look forward to (Christmas)
- roast a lamb on the spit
- fly kites
- dye eggs

TEACHER'S

- I dressed up as a witch at Halloween.
- Young children believe in Father Christmas.
- St Valentine's Day is in February.
- We went skiing during the Christmas break.
- We put up the decorations on Christmas Eve.
- I can't eat a hamburger; I am fasting for Easter.
- Let's go out for a meal on St Patrick's Day.
- We dye eggs red at Easter.
- Schoolchildren take part in the parade on national holidays.
- St George's Day is a public holiday in our town.
- My little sister's christening is on June 26th.
- We always get together with friends during the holidays.
- I always look forward to roast turkey at Thanksgiving.

A. MODEL DIALOG

- What **is your favorite celebration** ? My favorite celebration is Christmas.
- Where **do you usually spend Easter** ? We usually spend Easter with my cousins.
- What **do you (usually) eat at Easter** ? We always eat lamb at Easter.
- What **do you (usually) wear at carnival time** ? I usually wear a mask and a costume at carnival time.
- Do **you have a national costume** ? Yes, I've got a beautiful national costume.

B. CHOICE

Complete the exercises below and, when finished, use the sentences as a reference when you approach the Speaking task Part Two on the next page.

- I like to be with my family... **c** a. ...especially the fireworks at midnight.
- I love Easter,... **a** b. ...so a party at home would be a good idea.
- At carnival time I enjoy... **d** c. ...so I always spend Christmas at home.
- My friends and I enjoy dancing... **b** d. ...dressing up and dancing in the streets.

C. REJECTION

- I don't like dressing up in costumes... **c** a. ...because it would be expensive.
- I don't like restaurant food... **a** b. ...but the pay is low.
- I wouldn't choose the costume party... **b** c. ...so I wouldn't have a carnival party.
- I don't really like going to... **c** d. ...so I would prefer to celebrate it at home.



PART 1

SPEAKING

WARM-UP QUESTIONS

1. When is your birthday? How do you celebrate it?
2. How do you spend Christmas?
3. Which do you prefer, Christmas or Easter? Why?
4. What's the best thing about carnival for you?
5. On what occasions do you get together with family and friends?
6. What happens on your country's national day(s)?

TEACHER'S

SUGGESTED ANSWERS

1. My birthday is on September 13th. I always have a party, and invite a few of my friends. If the weather is good, we have the party outside in the garden, and my dad makes a barbecue.
2. We always spend Christmas with my mother's parents. They have a little cottage in the countryside with a big fireplace.
3. I prefer Easter because the weather's better and spring has arrived. Christmas is in the middle of winter and I don't like it when it's cold.
4. I like going out in costume with my friends. That's the best part of carnival for me.
5. Apart from Christmas, we all get together on August 15th in my grandmother's village. It's lovely and it's next to the sea.
6. We have parades and speeches in the main square. Usually there are dances, too. Then we all go to a taverna together.

PART 2

PLANNING A CELEBRATION



SITUATION: Your brother has won a place at university and you want to arrange a large celebration party for him. You must decide where you would like to have the party.

YOUR TASK: Look at the pictures and ask about:

- location
- type of food
- prices of food
- music/space for dancing
- anything else you want to know

When you have all the information you need, explain which place you would choose and why. You must also say why you didn't choose the other place.

REMEMBER!!! Use the information you learn to make your choice and give reasons.

TEACHER'S

MODEL DIALOG

- S:** How far away are these two places?
Ex: Well, the restaurant is in the city center. You'll have to drive down to the port for the boat, but it's only about 15 miles away.
S: What kind of food would there be in each place?
Ex: Well, they do a cold buffet on the boat: cold meat, cheese, salads, that kind of thing. There's a good variety of food at the restaurant.
S: Are these two places expensive?
Ex: Well, at the restaurant you will pay \$30 to \$40 per person. The boat is quite a lot cheaper. That would be about \$10 or \$15 per person.
S: What kind of music do they play? Can we dance?
Ex: Yes, there's a dance floor at the restaurant and they play any music you want. Unfortunately, there's not enough room for dancing on the boat but they play music for you.
S: What else? Oh, yes. What kind of clothes must we wear at each place?
Ex: Well, you should dress formally for the restaurant. You can wear anything you like on the boat.
S: Well, I think I'll choose the restaurant. It's near, so it will be easy to get there. I know it's more expensive than the boat, but it is a special occasion. Another reason is that everybody is keen on dancing and there's a dance floor. I wouldn't choose the boat because we can't dance there.

FOLLOW-UP QUESTIONS

1. Do you think traditions are important? Why (not)?
2. Do you know anything about traditions in other countries?
1. Yes, I think traditions are very important because they help us to understand our past and our history.
2. A little, but not enough. I've seen some dances from Scotland, and of course the carnival in Brazil is very famous.

SAMPLE ANSWERS

EXPRESSIONS: MAKING YOUR CHOICE

- I (don't) enjoy...
- I'm not too/very keen on...
- My favorite place to eat is...
- I (don't) think I'd choose... because...
- I think I've made my choice.



UNIT 1

PART 1

In this part of the listening test you will hear eighteen short dialogs or announcements.
After each dialog you will hear a question relating to what you heard, and you then tick A, B or C to identify the picture which you think corresponds to the correct answer.

1.

M: I'm glad we decided not to camp this year.

W: I know. It's much nicer staying in a hotel.

M: And a nice, modern one, too.

NARRATOR: Where are they staying?



2.

M: Open your mouth. Ah, yes. I shall have to take it out.

W: Will it hurt?

M: No. You won't feel a thing.

NARRATOR: Where are they?



3.

M: What's the weather like in Boston?

W: Well, the sun was shining this morning but it turned to rain just before I left.

NARRATOR: What's the weather like in Boston at the moment?



4.

W: Getting out here?

M: No. Thank you. Mine's the next floor.

NARRATOR: Where are they?



5.

W: Come on! We're going to miss our flight.

M: Don't panic. Departure time isn't until 11.30.

NARRATOR: How will they travel?



6.

M: How much are these bananas?

W: \$3 a bunch, sir.

M: Here's \$5. I'll take a bunch. Thank you.

NARRATOR: How much change does the man get?





LISTENING

7.

M: Coming to the gym tonight? Round about six?

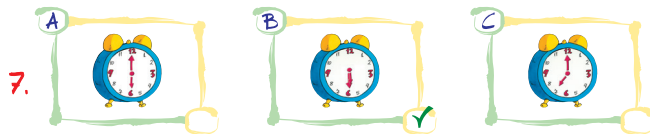
Or later - seven if you like.

W: OK. But I want to finish some work first.

Say we meet around six-thirty?

M: Fine.

NARRATOR: What time will they meet?

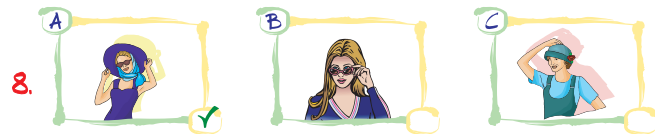


8.

M: Which one is Penelope?

W: The one in the hat and dark glasses.

NARRATOR: Which picture shows Penelope?

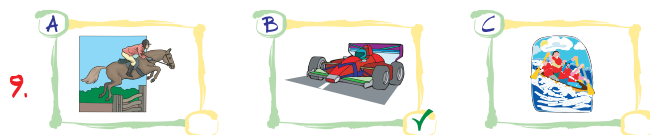


9.

W: Oh, no. He's crashed!

M: What do you expect? The track's wet and he was going too fast.

NARRATOR: What sport are they watching?



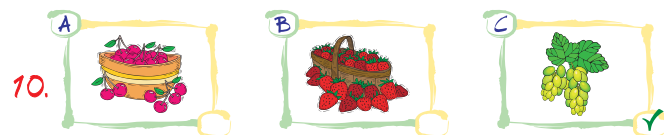
10.

M: Did you get strawberries or cherries?

W: Neither. I got grapes, actually.

M: Oh, good. Mom loves those. They're her favorite.

NARRATOR: What is the man's mother's favorite fruit?



11.

W: You don't have to wear a suit tonight. It's casual.

M: Fine. I'll just wear pants and a sweater.

NARRATOR: What will the man wear?



12.

W: Can I help you?

M: Yes. My wife is making some cookies and I need butter and sugar.

NARRATOR: What is the man's wife making?





UNIT 1

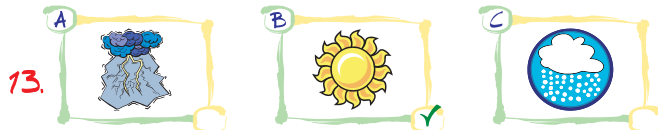
PART 1

13.

W: What a lovely day. I think I'll go for a swim.

M: OK. Just remember that they said there would be thunderstorms later.

NARRATOR: What is the weather like at the moment?

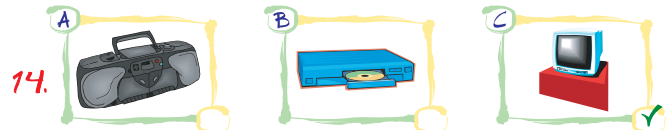


14.

M: So, did you buy a new one or did you decide against it?

W: Oh, yes. We bought one all right. And we have 38 channels. Pete can watch as much baseball and hockey as he likes.

NARRATOR: What are they talking about?



15.

W: How much was your shirt?

M: Well, it was originally \$100, but I got it for half price.

NARRATOR: How much did the man pay?



16.

W: What sports do you play at college?

M: Just tennis. I've no time to go swimming or play basketball this year.

NARRATOR: What sport is the man playing this year?



17.

W: Could you give me your new phone number?

M: Sure. It's 555 4613.

NARRATOR: What's the man's new telephone number?



18.

W: Have you and Ruth decided on your vacation yet?

M: Well, Ruth wants to go to Mexico but I want to go to Hawaii.

W: So what have you decided?

M: California.

NARRATOR: Where have the couple decided to go?



PART 2

LISTENING

4th JULY

19. What was the official day of independence?

20. Where was it signed?

19. a. 4th July, 1777
b. 3rd Sept, 1783
c. 4th July, 1783

20. a. in Paris
b. in Britain
c. in America

21. What did George Washington do in 1778?

22. Which was the first state to recognize 4th July as a holiday?

21. a. He gave a dinner for his friends.
b. He gave his army extra rum.
c. He went across the Atlantic.

22. a. Virginia
b. New York State
c. Massachusetts

23. Which Americans have to work on 4th July?

24. What does Linda do on 4th July?

25. What do they do in the evening?

23. a. nearly all of them
b. those with essential jobs
c. post office workers
24. a. She attends political speeches.
b. She spends it alone.
c. She spends it in a typical American way.
25. a. They go to a sporting event.
b. They watch a parade.
c. They stay at home.

26. Why are fireworks banned in some states?

27. When was the Hot Dog Eating Competition started?

28. How many hot dogs do Americans eat on 4th July?

26. a. They are not made in America.
b. They are too expensive.
c. They are not safe.

27. a. in 1916
b. in 1926
c. in 1960

28. a. 15 million
b. 50 million
c. 150 million

29. How many people turned up to the first *I Love America* celebrations?

30. What happened on 4th July, 1826?

29. a. 13,000
b. 30,000
c. 120,000

30. a. Calvin Coolidge was born.
b. Thomas Jefferson became President.
c. Two ex-presidents died.

NOTES