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CELEBRATIONS

- Talking about Celebrations
- Reading: Valentine Day
- Writing: Celebrations
- Conditional Sentences
- Genitive 's
- Word Forms
- Prepositions
- Making a Valentine Card



LISTENING

a) Listen and circle the word whose bold part is pronounced differently from that of the other three.

- | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. A. g ame | B. c elebrate | C. e xchange | D. c alendar |
| 2. A. s pecialty | B. c eremony | C. c elebrate | D. c ell phone |
| 3. A. p rosperity | B. s olemn | C. p rove | D. p romise |
| 4. A. s olution | B. r esolution | C. s uccess | D. p rosperity |
| 5. A. w estern | B. w restling | C. r esolution | D. r esolve |

b) Listen and write the words you hear in the appropriate columns (word stress).

calendar	solution	prosperity	traditional
society	holiday	celebrate	together
appropriate	festival	approval	occasion

• • •	• • •	• • • •
calendar	solution	prosperity

c) Listen to the passage and fill in the blanks.

In the United States, people (1)_____ Mother's Day on the second Sunday in May. On this (2)_____, the mother receives greeting cards and (3)_____ from her husband and children. For an American (4)_____, it is a day of (5)_____, on which she can enjoy the traditional (6)_____ cooked by her family and served to her on a tray in bed. Later on that day, it is also (7)_____ for the whole family together with relatives and friends to have dinner, either in a (8)_____ or in one of their homes.



SPEAKING

Talking about Popular Holidays / Festivals

Useful Expressions / Questions

- What's the most interesting holiday / festival...?
- How do people celebrate it?
- Do you / they eat any special food?
- Could you tell us more about...?
- We often spend time + V-ing...
- We always / usually / normally / often + Verb (present simple)

How much do you know about these days and months? Complete the sentences in column A with the information in column B. Then speak with a partner.

A	B
1. New Year's Eve is a night when	a. Carnival is celebrated in Brazil.
2. April Fools' Day is a day when	b. members of a family often get together.
3. Valentine Day is a day when	c. most Europeans celebrate New Year.
4. February is the month when	d. people play tricks on one another.
5. May Day is a day when	e. lovers give gifts to each other.
6. January 1st is a day when	f. workers in many countries are honored.

Example : (1-b)

New Year's Eve is a night when members of a family often get together.

Exchange

A: What's the most interesting holiday in your country?

B: To me, New Year's Day is the most interesting.

A: How do you celebrate it?

B: Well, members of the family often get together, exchange wishes, and enjoy a big dinner with traditional dishes.

READING

Read the following passage about Valentine Day and complete the following sentences.

February 14 is Valentine Day. We celebrate Valentine Day by giving flowers, gifts, and cards to those we love. We do this in honor of Saint Valentine. You may be wondering, "Who is Saint Valentine?"

Legend has it that Valentine was a priest in Rome in the third century. There was an Emperor at that time by the name of Claudius II. Emperor Claudius II was recruiting a large number of men to serve as soldiers for his wars without much success. The men preferred not to leave their wives, families, and sweethearts to fight in foreign lands. Claudius became angry and declared that no more marriages could be performed and all engagements were canceled. Valentine thought this to be unfair and secretly married several couples. When Claudius found out, he threw Valentine in prison, where he died.

Another legend has it that Valentine was an imprisoned man who fell in love with his jailer's daughter. Before he was put to death, he sent the first "valentine" himself when he wrote her a letter and signed it "Your Valentine," words still used on cards today.





Another valentine gentleman you may be wondering about is Cupid. In Roman mythology, Cupid is the son of Venus, goddess of love. His counterpart in Greek mythology is Eros, god of love. Cupid is often said to be a mischievous boy who goes around wounding both gods and humans with his arrows, causing them to fall in love.

Perhaps we'll never know the true story behind the man named Saint Valentine, but February has been the month to celebrate love for a long time, dating back to the Middle Ages. In fact, Valentine Day ranks second only to Christmas in the number of greeting cards sent.

1. We celebrate Valentine Day on _____.
2. On this day, we give flowers, gifts, and cards to _____.
3. Valentine was a priest during the reign of _____.
4. Claudius declared that no more marriages could be _____
and all engagements were _____.
5. Valentine secretly _____.
6. When Claudius found out, he _____.
7. Another legend has it that Valentine fell in love with _____.
8. He wrote her a letter and signed it "Your Valentine," before _____.
9. Cupid is the son of _____.
10. Cupid is often said to cause people _____.



WRITING

- a) *The following descriptions of two celebrations are mixed up. Write into separate texts about the two celebrations.*

Halloween And Christmas Day

In Medieval times, October 31 was considered to be the last day of summer. The birth of Christ is remembered on December 25. It was a

time to remember the souls of the dead who were supposed to come and revisit their homes. Grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins all meet for a big Christmas dinner of roast turkey and vegetables, and then Christmas pudding. Nowadays, children go from house to house dressed up as witches, ghosts, and monsters, asking for sweets or money, and saying “Trick or treat.”



People put decorations on Christmas trees and give one another presents and cards. They mean that if people don't give them anything, they will play a trick on them. Children traditionally put up stockings on Christmas Eve for Santa Claus to fill with presents.

Halloween	Christmas Day
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

b) Read the two texts again and fill in the chart with details.

	Halloween	Christmas Day
Date of celebration		
Reason for celebration		
Special food		
Special activities		

c) Think of a celebration in Viet Nam. Answer the questions about this celebration.

1. When is it celebrated?

2. Why is it celebrated?

3. What do people eat on the occasion?

4. What do people do?

Put the answers together to complete your description of a celebration.





USE OF LANGUAGE

1. Conditional Sentences

a) Match the sentences in the two columns and join them with if.

1. You need a ticket	a. You would have more time now.
2. You had been in the festival	b. I can get you one.
3. You had taken a plane	c. Just ask me.
4. We had more money	d. You would have had a lot of fun.
5. You need any help	e. You wouldn't eat it.
6. You didn't like this pudding	f. We would buy a better house.

b) Complete the conversations. Put in the correct form of the verbs.

- A: You look tired.
B: Well, if I _____ (not go) to bed late last night, I _____ (not be) so tired now.
- A: Is Jack a practical person?
B: Jack? No, he isn't. If he _____ (be) practical, he _____ (not refuse) that offer last month.
- A: How was Ann's wedding party?
B: It was good. If you _____ (be) there, you _____ (enjoy) it so much.
- A: How was your camping holiday?
B: Well, it _____ (be) all right if it _____ (not rain) all the time.
- A: Congratulations! It was great success!
B: Thanks. But without your good advice, I _____ (not be) successful.

2. Genitive 's

a) Rewrite these sentences, using genitive 's when possible.

- This bicycle is for a child. *This is a child's bicycle.*
- It's a school for girls. *It's a girls' school.*
- It's a trip of two days. _____

4. These toys belong to the children. _____
5. That's a job for a flight attendant. _____
6. Where's the key of the car? _____
7. This car belongs to James. _____
8. It's the fault of no one. _____
9. That's the leg of the table. _____
10. There is a delay of an hour. _____
11. Is that a magazine for women? _____
12. I can't see the bottom of the box. _____
13. Where can we buy clothes for children? _____
14. That's the doorbell of the house next door. _____
15. It's the work of three weeks. _____

b) Rewrite the following sentences. Begin with the words given and use the genitive 's.

1. The storms last month caused a lot of damage to farmers.
Last month's storms caused a lot of damage to farmers.
2. I only slept for one hour last night.
 Last night I only had _____.
3. The theater in the town has closed down.
 The town _____.
4. The meeting this afternoon has been canceled.
 This _____.
5. I'm going on holiday for a week.
 I've got _____.
6. Exports from Viet Nam to the United States have increased recently.
 Viet Nam _____.

7. It takes me about fifteen minutes to walk to school.

It's only about _____.

8. Tourism is the main industry in the region.

The region _____.

3. Word Forms

a) Fill in each blank with the correct form of the word given in parentheses.

For Luck in the New Year

Traditionally, it is thought that one can affect the luck they will have throughout the (1) *coming* (come) year by what they do on the first day of the year. For that reason, it has become common for folks to celebrate the first few minutes of a brand new year in the company of family and friends. Parties often last into the middle of the night after the ringing in of a new year. There is a general (2) _____ (believe) that the first (3) _____ (visit) on New Year's Day will bring either good luck or bad luck to the rest of the year. It is (4) _____ (particular) lucky if that visitor happens to be a tall dark-haired man.

(5) _____ (Tradition) New Year foods are also (6) _____ (think) to bring luck. Many cultures believe that anything in the shape of a ring is good luck, because it (7) _____ (symbol) "coming full circle," (8) _____ (complete) a year's cycle. For that reason, the Dutch believe that (9) _____ (eat) doughnuts on New Year's Day will bring good fortune.

Many parts of the U.S.A. celebrate the New Year by (10) _____ (consume) black-eyed peas. These legumes are (11) _____ (typical) accompanied by ham. Black-eyed peas and other legumes have been considered good luck in many cultures. The hog, and thus its meat, is considered lucky because it symbolizes (12) _____ (prosperous). Cabbage is another "good luck" vegetable that is consumed on New Year's Day by many. Cabbage (13) _____ (leaf) are also considered a sign of prosperity, being (14) _____ (represent) of paper currency. In some regions, rice is a lucky food that is eaten on New Year's Day.

b) Fill in each blank with the correct form of a word chosen from the box.

grow	true	four	differ
immigrate	dine	real	

Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving is a (1) *truly* American holiday. Nobody should have dinner alone on that day. That's what Thanksgiving is all about. The first (2)_____, who were called Pilgrims, came to America from Europe about three hundred and fifty years ago. They were good friends with the Indians and they tried (3)_____ corn and other stuff together but it was (4)_____ hard farming at that time. When they got the first harvest, the Indians and the Pilgrims had a big (5)_____ together to thank God for their good luck. And the foods Americans eat now for Thanksgiving are the same kinds of things that the Pilgrims ate: turkey, corn, and squash. The date is (6)_____ every year but it's always the (7)_____ Thursday of November. In Canada, they celebrate it in October.



4. Using Prepositions

Read the following passages and fill in the blanks with the correct prepositions from the box.

around	for	in	on	of	with
--------	-----	----	----	----	------

Guy Fawkes Night

In Britain, November 5 commemorates the day that Guy Fawkes was executed (1)_____ 1605 (2)_____ trying to blow up the Houses of

Parliament and kill James I of England. Before Guy Fawkes Night itself, children make “guys,” figures (3)_____ Guy Fawkes, and collect money (4)_____ the street (5)_____ fireworks. (6)_____ November 5, they put their Guys (7)_____ top of large bonfires. Families light fireworks as they stand (8)_____ the bonfire and eat sausages and potatoes cooked (9)_____ the fire.

The Annual Carnival in Brazil

The biggest carnival (10)_____ the world is the annual Carnival (11)_____ Brazil, which usually takes place in February when the whole country stops work (12)_____ four days while everybody enjoys parties. There are lots of street parades (13)_____ amazingly decorated trucks and people dressed (14)_____ colorful costumes. Everywhere you go, there are samba bands playing and people dancing. Right through the night the festivities continue (15)_____ more dancing and music and firework displays which light up the night sky.



5. Making a Valentine Card

Make the card out of paper.

Make heart-shaped pictures, using different colors.

Write a poem, a special message, or little sayings like Your Valentine, I Love You, or Be Mine.

A poem you may use for the card:

Roses are red,
Violets are blue,
Sugar is sweet,
And so are you.



I think you are nice,
I think you are fine,
Won't you please be my
Valentine.

Love somebody,
Yes, I do.
Love somebody,
Can you guess who?

I love you, _____ (*fill in the name*).
Yes, I do.
I will love you this year,
And next year too.