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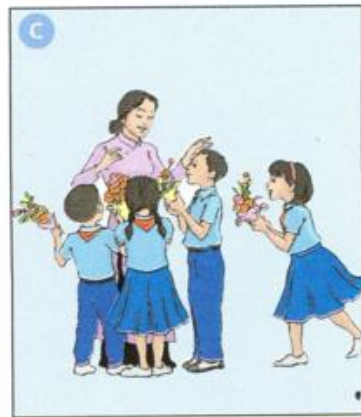
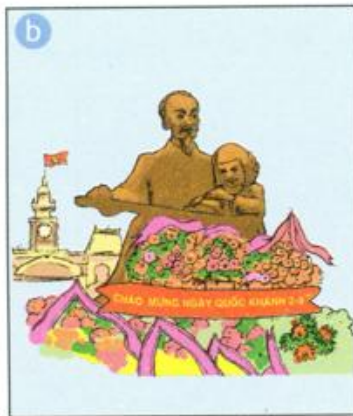
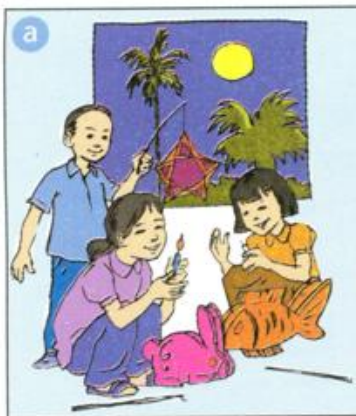
CELEBRATIONS



READING

Before You Read

a) Match the pictures with the appropriate celebrations.



CELEBRATIONS

- | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Vietnamese National Day | 4. Vietnamese New Year's Day |
| 2. King Hung's Death Anniversary | 5. Vietnamese Teachers' Day |
| 3. Mid-Autumn Festival | |

b) Write down the above celebrations under the suitable calendar pages.

THÁNG HAI	FEBRUARY
7	
<i>Tết Âm lịch</i>	
THỨ NĂM	THURSDAY
THÁNG GIÊNG (Đ)	
1	

1. _____

THÁNG TƯ	APRIL
15	
<i>Ngày Giỗ Tổ Vua Hùng</i>	
THỨ BA	TUESDAY
THÁNG BA (T)	
10	

2. _____

THÁNG CHÍN	SEPTEMBER
14	
<i>Tết Trung thu</i>	
CHỦ NHẬT	SUNDAY
THÁNG TÁM (Đ)	
15	

3. _____

THÁNG CHÍN	SEPTEMBER
2	
<i>2-9-1945 Ngày Quốc khánh nước Việt Nam</i>	
THỨ BA	TUESDAY
THÁNG TÁM (T)	
3	

4. _____

THÁNG MUỐI MỘT	NOVEMBER
20	
<i>Ngày Nhà giáo Việt Nam</i>	
THỨ NĂM	THURSDAY
THÁNG MƯỜI (Đ)	
23	

5. _____

Reading Text

Read the text and do the tasks that follow.

New Year's Celebrations Around the World and in Viet Nam



New Year's Eve in New York

In Europe and the United States, New Year's Day is observed on the 1st of January, which was named for Janus – the Roman god of doors and of beginnings. If the Gregorian calendar had not been introduced in 1582, Westerners would instead have had their New Year's celebrations on March 25th, a tradition that had previously lasted for centuries. On their New Year's Eve, bells are rung, horns blown, wishes exchanged, and resolutions made at midnight.



New Year's Eve in London

In the Middle East, the Shiite have Muharram through the first ten days of Muharram, the first month of the Islamic calendar. During this celebration, processions from different villages gather and people mourn by beating their chests. Similarly, the Jewish Rosh Hashanah, which takes place in the month of Tishri (September or October on the Gregorian calendar), is a very solemn holiday set aside for fasting and repentance.

In Viet Nam, Tet Nguyen Dan takes place in the first month of the lunar calendar – from late January to early February. As preparations, people are busy buying things, preparing traditional foods, and cleaning the house. “Must-have” items deemed to be bought or prepared are cakes made from sticky rice, dried watermelon seeds, fruits (fresh and candied), tea, alcoholic and soft drinks, ornamental plants, and flowers.

On New Year's Eve, people make offerings to their ancestors, go to church or pagoda, or go out to pick buds or young leaves. For the new year's first three days, Vietnamese visit family members, neighbors, teachers, friends, and graves of ancestors. Only best wishes and positive comments are expectedly exchanged, for people believe that they would be haunted by bad luck for the rest of the year if these first days were not filled with joy or good news. Children receive their *li xi* or *tien mung tuoi* – “lucky money” – normally in red envelopes. Across the country, festivals, games, and various forms of entertainment are held and traditional specialties such as wrestling, buffalo fighting, or dragon or unicorn dancing may take place in different regions.

a) Fill the table with the information from the text.

New Year's Celebrations Around the World			
Culture	What?	When?	Activities
Western (European & American)	New Year	_____	– ringing bells, blowing horns, and exchanging wishes – _____
_____	<i>Muharram</i>	1st month of Islamic calendar	– _____ – beating chests
Jewish	_____	_____	– fasting and repenting
_____	<i>Tet Nguyen Dan</i>	_____	– _____

b) Answer the following questions.

1. How long has January 1st been New Year's Day?
2. What is the origin of January?
3. Do Shiite people celebrate their New Year in January?
4. What month on the Gregorian calendar does Tishri normally fall on?

5. Who may get *li xi* or *tien mung tuoi*? What is it?
6. It can be inferred from the text that the following may be among the foods and drinks typically served during Tet. (Check (✓) the appropriate boxes.)

- | | | |
|---|---|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> glutinous rice cakes | <input type="checkbox"/> wine | <input type="checkbox"/> beer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> bread | <input type="checkbox"/> candied ginger | <input type="checkbox"/> Coke |
| <input type="checkbox"/> drinking water | <input type="checkbox"/> fast food | <input type="checkbox"/> lamb |
| <input type="checkbox"/> milk | <input type="checkbox"/> sausages | <input type="checkbox"/> fruits, tea |

7. What are Tet Nguyen Dan's traditional forms of entertainment mentioned in the text? (Check (✓) the appropriate boxes.)

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> soccer | <input type="checkbox"/> wrestling | <input type="checkbox"/> lottery drawing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> dragon/ unicorn dancing | <input type="checkbox"/> buffalo fighting | <input type="checkbox"/> swimming |
| <input type="checkbox"/> dancing | <input type="checkbox"/> card playing | <input type="checkbox"/> concerts |

8. What is the key difference between Shiite and Jewish New Year observances and those of the other countries described in the text?
9. People often make New Year's resolutions, promising to improve themselves in one way or another. Do you? If yes, how successful have you been in carrying them out?

- c) One of the most common New Year preparations is music. Give a list of your favorite songs you would select for your whole family to listen to during the new year days.



LISTENING

- a) Listen to these pieces of music and decide what celebrations they are about. Write down the numbers of the songs that correspond to the celebrations.

- New Year: _____
- Christmas: _____
- Birthday: _____

b) Listen again to two of the three pieces of music in a) and fill the blanks with the words in the box.

time	may	laughing	snow	hopes
friend	fireworks	bells	party	ride



1. No more champagne and the
(1)_____ are through.
Here we are, me and you, feeling
lost and feeling blue. It's the end of
the (2)_____, and the
morning seems so gray, so unlike
yesterday. Now's the
(3)_____ for us to say:

Ref.: Happy New Year! Happy New
Year! (4)_____ we all have
a vision, now and then, of the world
where every neighbor is a
(5)_____. Happy New
Year! Happy New Year! May we all
have our (6)_____, our
wills to try. If we don't, we might as
well lay down and die, you and I ...



2. Dashing thru' the
(7)_____ in a one-horse
open sleigh, o'er the fields we go,
(8)_____ all the way.
(9)_____ on bobsleds
ring, making spirits bright. What
fun it is to ride and sing a sleighing
song tonight!

Ref: Jingle bells, jingle bells, jingle all the way! Oh what fun it is
to (10)_____ in a one-horse open sleigh! Oh! (Twice)

- c) Complete the titles of the two songs you have just listened to. The initial letters given below will help you.

– H _____ N _____ Y _____ by ABBA

– J _____ B _____ by J. Pierpont



SPEAKING

Talking about Celebrations



- a) Tom and Tam are talking about celebrations in each other's country at a student exchange camp. Listen to the first part of the conversation in which Tom is telling Tam about preparations for Christmas in the States.

Tam: Christmas is coming round the corner. Any plan for the occasion?

Tom: Sure. We're flying home after this camp. Most Americans always come home for a Christmas family reunion.

Tam: Can you tell me more about the preparations for the celebration?

Tom: Certainly. As soon as December begins, we spend weeks decorating the home, planning parties, and shopping for gifts, to avoid the Christmas rush, you know. Also, it is interesting to stay up late to write letters and cards.

Tam: I see. And when the day is coming near...?

Tom: Everybody will be busy choosing Christmas trees, decorating Christmas crèches, wrapping presents, and, of course, preparing foods.

Tam: Wow, there must be a lot of fun, huh!

b) *Work in pairs. Play the roles of Tam and Tom. One tells the other about Tet – the Vietnamese New Year. The following hints will help you.*



Before Tet

- almost all people going home for a family union
- buying foods and drinks, preparing traditional foods – *banh chung* (square glutinous rice cakes) or *banh tet* (cylindrical ones), decorating the house
- *Tat Nien* parties (end-of-year parties)

New Year's Eve

- making offerings to ancestors
- going to church or pagoda or out on the street
- counting down to the New Year, watching firework displays

During Tet

- visiting parents and grandparents, and relatives (1st day); neighbors and close friends (2nd day); teachers, colleagues, and business associates (3rd day)

- greetings and wishes (meeting in person or by calling, chatting, texting messages)
- eating special dishes (*banh chung*, *banh tet*, pork stew in fish sauce, and coconut juice, etc.)
- children getting *lucky money*
- going to festivals or traveling

Useful Expressions

- ... is coming round the corner / coming (very) near / approaching.
- Could you tell me / us more about...?
- We always / usually / normally / often + verb (present simple).
- We spend time / are busy + *-ing* form of verb...



WRITING

Writing a Proposal for a Celebration Activity

This is a proposal for Class 11A1's camping trip to celebrate the foundation of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union (HCYU):



Event:	Camping to celebrate the foundation of HCYU
Objective:	Campers to understand more about HCYU and to have fun
Time & Venue:	March 25th and 26th at Tao Dan Park
Participants:	All HCYU members of the class (35 students)
Preparations & Students-in-Charge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Flysheet and groundsheet, tent poles, guy rope, tent pegs, flags... – Vinh, Thuan, Tuan, and Yen – Foods and drinks – Hanh, Quyen, Thuy, and Tam
Activities:	<p>March 25</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – afternoon: set up tents (1 p.m.) – evening: campfire and HCYU-oriented musical performances (Giao: soloist; Chi and Minh: duettists) <p>March 26</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – morning: collective games – afternoon: farewell party, striking camp
Expenses:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – materials for tent: 50,000 dong – foods: (35 students x 3,000 dong/student /meal) x 4 meals = 420,000 dong – candies and drinks: 20,000 dong – farewell party: 30,000 dong – contingency: 20,000 dong → Estimated total: 490,000 dong → Charge: 14,000 dong/student
Prepared by:	Thuc (HCYU Cell Secretary of 11A1)
Approved by:	Nguyen Dinh Tien (homeroom teacher)

And this is the sample proposal written by the HCYU Cell Secretary.

From: Nguyen Dinh Tien, homeroom teacher

Re: Camping Trip to Celebrate HCYU's Birthday

Date: March 22, 20__

A camping trip, lasting two days - March 25 and 26 - is going to be held by our class at Tao Dan Park to celebrate the foundation of HCYU. With the aims to help students better understand HCYU and have a good time, all the 35 HCYU members of the class are encouraged to join.

Preparations for the trip should be made as follows: Vinh, Thuan, Tuan, and Yen are in charge of the tent, including flysheet, groundsheet, tent poles, guy rope, tent pegs, and flags. Hanh, Quyen, Thuy, and Tam will take care of foods and drinks. As for musical performances, Giao will be singing solo and Minh and Chi duet. Importantly, there will be various activities such as campfires and collective games for all the students to take part in. It is necessary that all participants read the schedule to know what activity takes place at what time and where and to be as actively involved as possible.

The estimated total expenses (including tent materials, foods, drinks, and other things) are 490,000 dong (attached is the breakdown of expenses), so campers will make contributions of 14,000 dong each.

Hopefully, students, especially those with assignments, will do their best for a meaningful and enjoyable celebration.

Prepared by
Le Nguyen Minh Thuc
(HCYU Cell Secretary)

Approved by
Nguyen Dinh Tien
(homeroom teacher)

Now imagine that the Vietnamese Teachers' Day is coming near and you are one of the class leaders. Work in groups. Write down the notes for the proposal for the celebration of the day.

a) First, write down the notes.

Event	
Objective	
Time & Venue	
Participants	
Preparations & Students-in-charge	
Activities	
Expenses	
Prepared by	
Approved by	

b) Now, with the notes you have agreed upon, write a proposal.



LANGUAGE FOCUS

Word Study

Genitive 's



Examples

- *New Year's Eve*: the last day of the year, the day before New Year's Day
- *a women's college* → a college for women
- *a month's leave* → a leave lasting a month

Match the words in column A with those in column B, then use 's to make appropriate phrases to complete the sentences. The first one has been done as an example.

A	B
children	clothes
Mother	Day
a mile	Day
master	books
Revolutionary Invalids & Martyrs	sake
men	degree
heaven	break
fifteen minutes	distance

1. I've promised to buy my nephew some children's books if he passes the test.
2. Three teachers in this school are taking a course for a _____.
3. What are you going to buy mom on _____?
4. Well, that's enough for the first section. Let's have a _____.
5. In memory of those who have died in the struggles against foreign invaders, visits are paid to the City's Cemetery every year on _____.
6. It's not too far, just a _____; you can walk there.
7. For _____, calm down! I'm going to tell you all you need to know.
8. There are always fewer shoppers in the _____ department than in the women's.

Grammar

Conditional Sentences



Examples

- Don't worry! If she *accepts* your card and roses on Valentine Day, things *will be* very much hopeful!
- ... they *would be haunted* by bad luck for the rest of the year if these first days *were not filled* with joy or good news.
- If the Gregorian calendar *had not been introduced* in 1582, Westerners *would* instead *have had* their New Year's celebrations on March 25.

Put the verbs in parentheses in the appropriate forms.

1. "If you believe in Santa Claus," the father said to his little son, "he _____ (come and visit) you tonight."
2. If our motorbike had not broken down, we _____ (not be) late for his party, and he _____ (not get) so upset like that.
3. Suppose someone _____ (be) born on February 29, how often will they hold their birthday party?

4. According to the regulations, if a holiday _____ (fall) on a weekend, we will have the next nearest weekday as a day off.
5. Saint Giong _____ (grow) into a giant and _____ (get) admirable strength for the battle against the enemy without the villagers' seven baskets of local eggplants and rice?
6. – She is so popular in this neighborhood.
– Right. Without her blindness, we still _____ (love) her.
7. – Unless you put up the tinsel, nobody _____ (call) it a manger.
– Thanks.
8. But for the cake and champagne that she had brought, we _____ (not have) a real party.
9. Come with us! My mother never _____ (get) annoyed even if the children make noise.
10. Do you believe that if a couple kiss under a bunch of mistletoe, they _____ (have) a lot of children?
11. The teachers will be very much energized provided we all _____ (work) hard enough.
12. “It doesn't matter whether a cat is black or white as long as it _____ (catch) mice.” (Deng Xiaoping)