Bangkok Christian College

Unit 4: Thai Festivals and Travelling Worksheet 2

Name _____ Class _____ Group _____ No. _____

Date _____

Songkran Festival



Songkran is a Thai traditional New Year which starts on April 13 every year and lasts for 3 days. Songkran festival on April 13 is Maha Songkran Day or the day to mark the end of the old year, April 14 is Wan Nao which is the day after and April 15 is Wan Thaloeng Sok which the New Year begins. At this time, people from the rural areas who are working in the city usually return home to celebrate the festival. When this special time comes, Bangkok temporarily turns into a deserted city.

Songkran is a Thai word which means "move" or "change place" as it is the day when the sun changes its position in the zodiac. It is also known as the ***"Water Festival"***. People believe that water will wash away bad luck.

Songkran is also known as the ***"Family Day"*** because family members come together in order to express their respects to the elders. They pour water onto the hands of their parents and grandparents and give them some gifts. The children sprinkle perfumed water over the hands and shoulders of elders and friends to ask for forgiveness.

But today, this ***tradition*** have changed. Water battles are fought in the streets of every town and city over the country. People throw water off the buckets, pipes and guns. Everyone gets wet, but water is the sign of cleansing, refreshment pf the spirit and all good things associated with life.

Chiangmai is the most famous place for Songkran. Prapradaeng and Kawsarn Road are the other popular places where many people like to go during this festival.

Thai people dress in the traditional costumes. Women wear colorful Thai dresses. Men wear the traditional ***pha-kwow-ma***. Songkran festival is an unforgettable experience both for Thais and tourists.

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Part B *Choose the correct answer.*

1. From the passage we can say that _____.
   a. Songkran is a festival for children
   b. Songkran lasts for three weeks
   c. Songkran has changed over the year
   d. Songkran makes Bangkaok a crowded city

2. The natural element that makes Songkran special is _____.
   a. air b. water c. gifts d. flowers

3. The word "traditions" in line 16 means _____.
   a. a musical play or comedy
   b. the rules and laws of the country
   c. sorts of clothes worn in a country or at a certain time
   d. custom; what a group of people have always done

4. ***Pha-kwow-ma*** is _____.
   a. Thai traditional food which eat during Songkran Festival
   b. a scarf wrapped around men's waist or wear loosely over their neck
   c. a Thai women traditional costume
   d. a popular place where people like to go in this festival

5. Which of the following sentence is false?
   a. April 13 is the day to mark the end of the old year.
   b. Songkran is also known as "Water Festival" and "Family Day".
   c. Family members come together in order to have a party for children.
   d. People show their respects to the elders by pouring water onto their hands.

Part C ***Choose one tradition on Songkran Festival from the passage that you like best. Draw and color the picture.***





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