1 Complete this paragraph with the words in the box.

- ☐ get together
- ☐ music
- ☐ fireworks
- ☐ decorations
- ☑ holidays
- ☐ customs
- ☐ picnic
- ☐ celebrate

One of the most important national ___holidays___ in the United States is Independence Day. This is the day when Americans _____ winning their independence from Britain almost 250 years ago. There are many _____ for Independence Day. Most towns, big and small, mark this holiday with parades and _____. They put up a lot of _____, usually in red, white, and blue, the colors of the U.S. flag. Bands play patriotic _____. It's also a day when many Americans _____ with family and friends to celebrate with a barbecue or a _____.

2 Complete the sentences with the clauses in the box.

- ☐ when I feel sad and depressed
- ☐ when people have to pay their taxes
- ☐ when school starts
- ☐ when summer vacation begins

1. I hate April 15! In the United States, it's the day
   _____.
   I always owe the government money.
2. June is my favorite month. It's the month
   _____.
   I always go straight to the beach.
3. September is my least favorite month. It's the
   month _____.
   Good-bye, summer!
4. I've never liked winter. It's a season
   _____. The cold
   weather always affects my mood negatively.

3 Special days

A Use words from the box to complete the sentences.

☐ February	☐ tricks
☑ June	☐ wedding
☐ anniversary	☐ presents
☐ party	☐ fireworks

1. _June_____ is the time of year when there are a lot of weddings in the U.S.

2. We always have a _____ at our house on New Year's Eve.

3. Janice and Nick are getting married soon. They plan to have a small _____ with just a few family members.

4. Valentine's Day is on _____ 14th every year.

5. My friends and family gave me some very nice _____ on my birthday.

6. People like to play _____ on each other on April Fools' Day.

7. On the Fourth of July, many people shoot _____ into the sky at night.

8. Tomorrow is my parents' 25th wedding _____.