

READING EXERCISE:

DRAGON BOAT FESTIVAL

Have you ever heard of the festival of the dragon boat? It is a popular festivity in China that takes place in the month of June. This festival has been celebrated for a long time; some may say since the Zhou dynasty. The main traditions are zongzi and the dragon boat races.

Zongzi has been the traditional food of this festival since the death of Qu Yuan, a royal official. Zongzi are like tamales of glutinous rice. The story says that Qu had to scape from the royal palace, and was killed one day near a lake. People admired Qu so much that they decided to look for his body in the lake; and to avoid fish eating the corpse, people started throwing rice balls to the lake. Since then, zongzi has become a tradition.

How about the dragon boats? They are a way to represent the Chinese mythology. People design their own dragon boats and make teams to compete and see which is the fastest boat. The teams are guided by someone playing a drum, who will guide the rhythm in which the players row. My friend Pier has gone to this festival for 10 years. Also, since 2018, he has been able to participate in the dragon boat competition. At first, he wasn't very good, but he has been practicing a lot, maybe he and his team will win this year.



1. _ Choose the correct answer.

Qu Yuan was

The main traditions in the festival are

The name of the festival is

2. _ Match with the correct answers.

Dragon boat festival is

Zongzi are

People that participate in the festival are

People design

Pier has gone to the festival

The festival has been celebrated

since the Zhou dynasty.

their own boats.

from China.

for 10 years.

guided by a drum.

made of glutinous rice.

3. _ Answer with complete sentences.

A) Since when was Pier authorized to compete in the dragon boat race?

B) Have you ever heard of the dragon boat festival?

C) What did they people do to avoid fish eating Qu's corpse?

4. _ Choose the tense the sentences are written with.

The festival has been celebrated for a long time.

Qu was killed near a lake.

My friend Pier has gone to this festival for 10 years.

The teams are guided by someone playing a drum.

5. _ Choose True or False.

The dragon boat festival takes place in Taiwan. True / False

Qu Yuan was a royal official. True / False

Zongzi are made of glutinous rice. True / False

Pier has been practicing a lot for the competition. True / False