

Name:

Date:



## THE BRAZILIAN FESTIVAL.

Brazil's warm climate and beautiful beaches attract people from all over the world. What else attracts people to Brazil? The country's reputation for fun! During Carnival, seven weeks before Easter, Brazil turns into one big party. It is Carnival time!

Carnaval began similar to the tradition of Mardi Gras in the United States. Both started as a feast and celebration before the fasting of Lent. But today, Carnival is not as much about religion as about fun and pleasure. People parade, dance, play music, and wear costumes and masks. Everyone catches the spirit of Carnival. Bright colors are everywhere and people become more **outgoing**.

Carnaval combines many elements of Brazil's **heritage**: masked balls from the Portuguese aristocrat tradition, paint and marching from the Native American tradition... People from every background and social class take part in Carnival in one way or another.

Part of the Carnival is the "escolas de samba". Escolas de samba are groups that perform together. They spend a lot of time during the whole year preparing for Carnival. The exhibitions involve **parades** with breathtaking floats made of crepe paper, flowers, and other materials. There is also music. Each parade lasts about 90 minutes. Judges choose the best groups of floats and the best songs written each year. People from the community put their time and effort into the "escola de samba" to make their parade the best, loudest, and most amazing one



*Outgoing: friendly and socially confident*  
*Heritage: a special or individual possession.*  
*Parades: a public procession, especially one celebrating a special day or event.*



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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1. According to the passage, what other holiday is Carnival most similar to? (What is it true?)

- a. Mardi Gras
- b. Thanksgiving
- c. Easter
- d. Fourth of July



2. Carnival combines some elements to Brazilian heritage

If it is true, Why?

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3. The “Escolas de samba” are clubs who teach children some kind of dancings.

Do you want to go to the Brazilian carnival next year? Why?

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