Name: Class: No:

READING COMPREHENSION ACTIVITY

THE HAKA DANCE

The Māori people are the original inhabitants of New Zealand. They are Polynesian and their name means 'Children of Heaven'. They speak English as well as Māori and are friendly and kind. Today, most Māori people follow a European lifestyle, but they still keep the customs and traditions of their culture alive.

One of the most impressive Māori traditions is the haka dance. It is a war dance but the Māori now perform it on special occasions such as when welcoming visitors. They dance in the traditional Māori costume called kakahu. This includes a grass skirt and a belt. The belts have different designs on them that represent elements of nature, such as the waves of a river or the stars in the sky.

The Māori people are famous for their tattoos or ta moko. Men wear them all over their faces and women on their chin and lips. The tattoos are not simple drawings. Each one is unique and belong to.

Read the text, Then read the sentences and decide if they are true or false.

1. The Māori only speak Māori language
2. The haka is now used to welcome visitors
3. Kakahu includes a grass skirt.
4. Women wear tattoos all over their faces.
5. Tattoos show which tribe a person belongs to.

Answer the following questions using information from the text

1. Where are the Māori from? _____
2. What does the word "haka" describe? _____
3. When do Māori people perform the haka today? _____
4. What do the belt designs represent? _____
5. Why are ta moko important? _____

LIVEWORKSHEETS