UP English Center

Name: _____

Class: _____

1A. VOCABULARY

Complete each sentence with a word from the box. Change the form if needed.

culture • nationality • continent • landscape • climate • language • capital • population

1. Asia is the largest … in the world.	_____
2. My … is Vietnamese, and Vietnam is my home country.	_____
3. The … of Japan is Tokyo.	_____
4. The Sahara Desert has a very hot and dry ….	_____
5. The … of a country includes its traditions, celebrations and customs.	_____
6. Spanish is an official … in many countries.	_____
7. Norway is famous for its beautiful …, including mountains, fjords and waterfalls.	_____
8. India has a … of more than one billion people.	_____

LIVEWORKSHEETS

1B. GRAMMAR

Choose A, B or C to complete each sentence.

1. Our city has ten museums. Their town has two. Their town has ___ museums than our city. A less B fewer C the fewest	_____
2. This region gets 400 mm of rain a year. The coast gets 800 mm. This region gets ___ rain than the coast. A fewer B the least C less	_____
3. Of all the continents, Asia is ___. A the largest B larger C the most large	_____
4. Last year, the fair had eight food stalls. This year, it has twelve. This year, there are ___ food stalls than last year. A the most B fewer C more	_____
5. Of the three towns, Hilltown has 2 parks, Riverton has 4 and Lakeside has 6. Hilltown has ___ parks. A fewer B the fewest C the least	_____
6. Of the three routes, the mountain path is the hardest to walk. It is ___ route. A the more difficult B more difficult C the most difficult	_____

LIVEWORKSHEETS

2. READING

The Day of the Dead



Imagine arriving in a Mexican town at the beginning of November. You see bright flowers, photographs and candles outside people's homes. In the streets, some people have painted their faces to look like skeletons. At first, you might think that this is a frightening event. However, the Day of the Dead, or Día de los Muertos, is a time when families remember people they love.

Mexico is in North America, and Spanish is its most widely spoken language. The Day of the Dead is celebrated on 1 and 2 November. During this time, families remember relatives and friends who have died. There can be music, colourful decorations and public events, but the celebration also gives people time to share personal memories.

One important tradition is preparing an ofrenda, a special display in the home. Families decorate it with photographs, candles and bright flowers. They also include the favourite food of the people they are remembering. Each object has a connection with someone's life. For example, a favourite dish can remind a family of meals they enjoyed together. To a visitor, two displays may look similar, but each one tells a different family story.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Family members can prepare these displays together. While they work, adults may tell children stories about relatives they never met. A photograph can start a conversation about a funny event or a happy day. In this way, younger people can learn about their family's past. Remembering someone can bring sadness, but sharing good memories can also make people smile.

In some towns, people join lively parades, wear costumes or paint their faces. These events attract tourists who want to experience Mexican culture. Yet visitors should remember that the festival includes private moments as well as public celebrations. A colourful display in a family home may be especially meaningful to the people who made it.

Visitors can show respect by asking before photographing people or their displays. They can also listen carefully when someone explains a family tradition. The most interesting part of a visit may be a conversation rather than a photograph. By learning about the stories behind the decorations, travellers can understand more about how Mexican families remember the people they love.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

3. READING COMPREHENSION

Choose the correct answer A, B or C for each question.

1. What is the main purpose of the Day of the Dead?

A To teach visitors how to make costumes

B To remember relatives and friends who have died

C To celebrate the beginning of a new year

2. Why do families put particular foods on an ofrenda?

A The foods are easy for visitors to recognise.

B The foods are popular with children in the family.

C The foods have a connection with the people they remember.

3. What does the writer mean by "each one tells a different family story"?

A Each display contains objects connected to particular people.

B Each display includes a written story for visitors to read.

C Each display shows how families celebrate in different countries.

4. How can preparing an ofrenda help children?

A It teaches them to organise public celebrations.

B It helps them learn about relatives they never met.

C It allows them to choose the food for a parade.

5. What should tourists understand about the festival?

A Families prefer private celebrations to public events.

B The public events are mainly organised for tourists.

C Some parts of the celebration have a personal meaning for families.

6. What does the writer suggest visitors should do?

A Focus on taking photographs of the decorations.

B Join a parade before visiting any family displays.

C Listen to people and learn the stories behind their traditions.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

4. WRITING

Read the email from your English-speaking friend Alex and the notes you have made.

From: Alex Morgan **Subject: International Culture Fair**	**Your notes**
Hi! Great news! Our school is organising an International Culture Fair next month. Each student can introduce a country they know about.	
I'm thinking of presenting either Japan or Italy. Which country do you think I should choose, and why?	**Suggest and explain**
I'd also like to include something interesting about the country's culture. What could I talk about?	**Give an idea**
We're going to prepare some food for visitors. Do you think traditional food would be a good idea?	**Give your opinion**
By the way, would you like to help me prepare our presentation next Saturday?	**Yes, but…**
Write back soon! Alex	

Write your email to Alex using all the notes. Write about 100 words.

LIVEWORKSHEETS