Ecuador: A Country of Living Traditions

Reading Comprehension • Culture & Traditions

Ecuador is a country with a rich cultural heritage. Its traditions reflect the history, beliefs, and lifestyles of different communities. Throughout the country, people celebrate festivals that bring families and communities together. These celebrations are not only entertaining but also help preserve cultural identity.

One of the most important celebrations is Inti Raymi, also known as the Festival of the Sun. Indigenous communities celebrate it in June to express gratitude to the Sun and Mother Earth for the harvest. During this festival, people wear traditional clothes, dance to ancestral music, and prepare special dishes. It is an opportunity for younger generations to learn about their ancestors and cultural roots.

Another famous celebration is La Mama Negra, which takes place in Latacunga. This festival combines Indigenous, Spanish, and African cultural influences. Participants wear colorful costumes, dance through the streets, and perform traditional activities. Visitors from different parts of Ecuador and other countries travel to Latacunga to experience this unique celebration.

Ecuador's traditions are an important part of its tourism. However, protecting cultural heritage requires everyone's participation. Young people can contribute by learning about their history, respecting different customs, and sharing their cultural experiences with others. In this way, Ecuador's traditions will continue to inspire future generations.

2. Choose the correct answer.

1. What is the main purpose of Ecuadorian traditional festivals?

a) To attract only international tourists.
b) To preserve cultural identity and bring communities together.
c) To introduce modern music and fashion.

2. When do Indigenous communities celebrate Inti Raymi?

a) In December.
b) In February.
c) In June.

3. Which cultural influences are combined in La Mama Negra?

a) Indigenous, Spanish, and African.
b) Asian, European, and American.
c) Brazilian, Mexican, and Spanish.

4. How can young people help protect Ecuador's cultural heritage?

a) By avoiding traditional celebrations.
b) By learning about their history and respecting different customs.
c) By replacing traditional activities with modern entertainment.

3. Write TRUE or FALSE.

1. Inti Raymi is a celebration to express gratitude to the Sun and Mother Earth. (_____)
2. La Mama Negra takes place in Cuenca. (_____)
3. Young people can help preserve Ecuadorian traditions. (_____)

4. Match the words with their correct definitions.

Words	Definitions
1. Heritage	a. People who belong to the same community.
2. Harvest	b. The traditions and history inherited from previous generations.
3. Community	c. The process of collecting crops from the fields.

Answers: 1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____

Name: _____ Date: _____ Score: _____ / 10

LIVEWORKSHEETS