

A Smart Boy

Mr. Jones and Mr. Brown worked in the same office. Their _____ (WIFE) were good friends. One day Mr. Jones invited Mr. Brown to a small party.

Mr. Brown went into the other room and telephoned. He _____ (SURPRISE) very much by his telephone conversation.

When he came back Mr. Jones asked him, "Have you spoken to your wife already?"

"No, she _____ (NOT BE) there when I phoned. My small son answered the phone. I asked him, "Is your mother there?" And he said, "She is somewhere outside".

"Why is she outside?" I asked. "She _____ (LOOK) for me", he answered.

Maslenitsa

Have you ever celebrated Maslenitsa? It is one of the _____ (POPULAR) festivals in Russia. It signals the end of winter and welcomes the coming of spring.

Russian pancakes blini — are very important in the celebration of Maslenitsa. Blini _____ (EAT) with jam, sour cream, and of course, lots of butter.

Warm, round, and golden — blini are the symbol of the sun! Ancient Russians actually believed that when eating a pancake, they _____ (GET) a part of the Sun's life energy.