

Unit 5

Festivals In Vietnam

C. READING



IX Read the passage. Choose the most suitable word to fill in the blank.



Co Loa Citadel Festival

Among the very old days of the country, (1) the government of King An Duong Vuong (Thuc Phan), Vietnam was called Au Lac. The King decided to build Co Loa as the country's royal (2)

To (3) the event when An Duong Vuong started moving into the citadel, residents of 12 hamlets belonging to Co Loa as well as 7 other communes around the region held Co Loa Citadel Festival within a 10 day period - from the 6th to 16th day of the first Lunar month.

On the 5th day, in the afternoon, all of the eight communes (4) a ceremony with incense offering at the (5) house. Meanwhile, at An Duong Vuong Temple, the same ritual is held by the most (6) elder among 8 communes, with revision of An Duong Vuong's accomplishments and merits. (7) the next day, the official festive day, is carried (8) This settlement will be positioned in front of the two altars later on.

1. A. in	B. over	C. under	D. on
2. A. castle	B. kingdom	C. palace	D. house
3. A. memorize	B. miss	C. remind	D. commemorate
4. A. hold	B. is held	C. take place	D. takes place
5. A. commune	B. communal	C. common	D. commonly
6. A. respected	B. disrespected	C. respectful	D. disrespectful
7. A. in	B. to	C. on	D. at
8. A. on	B. out	C. in	D. off

X Read the passage.



The dragon dance and the lion dance was originated from China, and it has been introduced to many parts of the world. The dragon dance and lion dance are also popular in some traditional festivals in Vietnam. Dragons symbolize wisdom, power and wealth, and they are believed to bring good luck to people. The origin of the dragon dance can be dated back to the Han Dynasty (206 BC–220 AD). It was then used in a ceremony for worshiping ancestors and praying for rain, and it gradually developed into an entertainment activity. By the Tang Dynasty (618–907) and the Song Dynasty (960–1279), it had become a common ceremonial activity in festivals like Chinese New Year.

The dragon body is woven in a round shape of thin bamboo strips, segment-by-segment, and covered with a huge red cloth with dragon scales decorating it. The whole dragon is usually up to 30 meters in length — and people hold rods every 1 to 2 meters to raise the dragon segments.

1

Decide if the statements are true (T) or false (F).

1. The dragon dance came from China.
2. People think that the dragon dance is associated with luck.
3. The dragon dance was firstly performed for entertainment.
4. People performed the dragon dance to pray for less rain.
5. The whole dragon is usually much more than 30 meters in high.

2

Answer the questions below.

1. What does the image of a dragon represent?

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2. When was the dragon dance originated?

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3. After the Han Dynasty, what was the dragon dance used for?

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