

## UNIT 9: FESTIVALS AROUND THE WORLD

### C. READING

**I. Read the following passage and mark the letter A, B, C, or D to indicate the correct word or phrase that best fits each of the numbered blanks.**

Brazil's most popular and festive holiday is Carnival. In fact, many people (1)\_\_\_\_\_ Carnival one of the world's biggest celebrations. Each spring, on the Saturday before Ash Wednesday, the streets of Brazil's largest city, Rio de Janeiro, come alive (2)\_\_\_\_\_ parties, festivals and glamorous dances. The Samba School Parade is the highlight of the (3)\_\_\_\_\_ event. About 3000 performers, in colorful costumes embellished with feathers, beads and thousands of sequin dance down the parade route into the Sambadrome - a dance stadium (4)\_\_\_\_\_ for the event. Judges award a (5)\_\_\_\_\_ to the most spectacular group of dancers.

- |                 |             |               |              |
|-----------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| 1. A. believe   | B. regard   | C. consider   | D. hope      |
| 2. A. with      | B. in       | C. of         | D. at        |
| 3. A. four days | B. four-day | C. fourth day | D. four-days |
| 4. A. built     | B. build    | C. to build   | D. building  |
| 5. A. result    | B. price    | C. respect    | D. prize     |

**II. Read the film review, and decide whether the statements are true (T), or false (F).**

*Las Fallas Festival* in Valencia, Spain is a week-long festival with music, and a lot of fireworks. Fallas are big sculptures made of wood and paper. People burn them at the end of the festival. The festival takes place on 15-19 March every year.

David and Marta, two teenagers from Valencia, are talking about the preparations for the festival of *Las Fallas*.

**David:** The tradition of *Las Fallas* started when carpenters burned their old wood at the end of winter to celebrate spring. Now, big groups of neighbours usually make a *falla* together. They can take about a year to make! My brother is an artist and he designed our falla. He's worried because he hasn't finished and it has to be ready next week!

**Marta:** I live in a village near Valencia but I come and stay with my grandmother for *Las Fallas*. There's music, dancing and lines of people walking in the streets. It's very noisy festival and it goes on all day and all night for a week. A lot of people wear beautiful, traditional costumes and they make foods in the streets. It's always great fun. This year is going to be the best. I'm really excited!

1. \_\_\_\_\_ *The Las Fallas festival* is at the beginning of March.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ People make the *falla* with their friends.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ One problem with the festival is the noise from the fireworks.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ The festival often brings a lot of fun.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ People burn *fallas* at the end of the festival.