

UNIT 3 – FESTIVALS AND CELEBRATIONS

I. LISTENING

Task 1: Listen to a conversation about a festival, then answer the questions with NO MORE THAN FIVE WORDS.

1. What did the guest come to Kaohsiung for?
2. Where are the races held?
3. What food should the guest try while in Kaohsiung?
4. What are the salty ones made from?

Task 2: Listen to the conversation between a tourist and a tour guide about a local festival, then fill in the gaps with NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS.

Name	Ooc bom boc
Place	Soc Trang
Time	(1) _____ on the 14 th and 15 th of 10 th lunar month
Purpose	giving thanks to (2) _____
Activities	- (3) _____ - floating (4) _____ - dragon boat races
Offerings	green rice flakes, (5) _____, potatoes and pia cakes

Task 3: Listen to two short talks about two special celebrations in Western countries, then answer the questions with NO MORE THAN FOUR WORDS.

1. In the U.S., on what day of November does Thanksgiving take place?
2. Who do people celebrate Thanksgiving Day with?
3. What dessert is eaten on this occasion?
4. What does Christmas celebrate?
5. Which are decorated with Christmas trees?

II. READING

Task 1: Read the information about Hanshi Festival and answer the questions with NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS AND A NUMBER.

HANSHI – COLD FOOD FESTIVAL

Hanshi Festival, is literally “Cold Food Festival” which falls on March 3rd in Lunar Calendar. This is a traditional festival in some Asian countries such as China, Vietnam and also celebrated in some Chinatowns all across the world.

During this occasion, Vietnamese floating cake, a traditional cake made of rice flour, mixed with water, sometimes extracted from grapefruit flowers, rock sugar, scraped coconut, sesame, and stuffed with grounded mung bean as a core, is displayed and offered to our ancestors and Buddha. The festival is still maintained widely in most of the cities in Northern Vietnam, especially in Hanoi and its surrounding provinces.

Nevertheless, floating cake is not the only thing to be seen. Incenses, flowers, betel, and areca are also displayed on a tray, along with 3 to 5 small bowls of floating cake.

Rarely do most of the citizens in the two countries nowadays have any idea about the story behind their event.

Legend has it that, during the Spring and Autumn Period in Ancient China, King Chong’er of the State of Jin, on his way to flee from the kingdom as a result of civil war, fell into starvation due to the lack of living conditions. Jie Zitui, who followed him throughout 19 years, cut off the flesh from his thigh and offered it to the King. Unfortunately, when Chong’er became the King, he ordered a search for Jie Zitui who had been hiding in the remote forest and turned down the invitation. King Chong’er set the whole forest on fire in order to force Jie to come out. However, the fire ended up with the death of Jie. Filled with regret, King Chong’er requested that every year when it comes to the 3rd of March, all forms of using fire are forbidden and that all food would be consumed cold. The Festival, from then on, is so-named.

1. According to Lunar Calendar, when is Hanshi Festival?
2. What is English name of a traditional cake during this occasion?
3. In which city is the festival maintained extensively?
4. Where did the legend of Hanshi Festival come from?
5. According to the legend, what is prohibited to be used on this festival every year?

Task 2: Read the passages below and complete sentences with NO MORE THAN FOUR WORDS.

Lim Festival in Bac Ninh

Lim Festival opens annually on around 12th - 13th day of the first lunar month in the year. The festival takes place in Noi Due Commune, Lien Bao Commune and Lim Town in Tien Du District, Bac Ninh Province. It's the festival of "Quan Ho" folk singing, which was named UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage in 2009.

The main day of the festival is 13th day of Lunar New Year. At the beginning of the festival, the locals gather very early in a procession up to Lim Hill – the center of Lim Festival.

On Lim Hill, representatives of villages take part in a traditional liturgy of incense-offering at Lim Pagoda, which is a place to worship Mr. Nguyen Dinh Dien.

According to the story told by a local resident, Nguyen Dinh Dien, who lived in the 18th century, was born in Noi Due Village and made many great merits for his hometown.

He was also the person who founded Lim Festival, which was originally Commune Festival held yearly in the eighth lunar month. Therefore, the incense-offering liturgy expresses gratitude and respect of the locals for him, and is also an occasion to remember the origin of Lim Festival as well.

Recreational activities of Lim Festival begin earlier, usually from 12th day of Lunar New Year. Of course, the most attractive activity is “quan ho” singing performance.

Each year, thousands of tourists come to visit Lim Festival and enjoy the Intangible Cultural Heritage. On Lim Hill, several stages of villages in Bac Ninh Province are built. Visitors can enjoy “quan ho” singing at different stages and interact with singers in traditional costumes.

Female singers are beautiful in four-panel traditional dress and “quai thao” hat, so-called “non ba tam”. Male singers are elegant in “ao the” and “khan xep”. They sing love duets together in pairs of one male and one female. Don't miss the taste of betel chewing while enjoying the lovely melody of “quan ho” folk songs.

Moreover, on the lake in front of Lim Communal House, visitors can catch the scenery of “quan ho” singing performance on a dragon boat. Visitors will experience a unique specialty of legend land of Kinh Bac as well as of Vietnam in general.

Lim Festival is also a space for various folk games such as bamboo swings, wrestling, cocks fighting, tugging war, blindman's bluff, human chess, pot beating, etc. Visitors can learn more about the culture of Vietnamese people in the Red River Delta region with a weaving competition.

Over 300 years in existence, Lim Festival has become an indispensable part of Vietnamese culture and the pride of Vietnamese people.

1. Lim Festival in Bac Ninh Province, also known as the festival of “Quan Ho” folk singing, is held annually on the 12th and 13th of the _____.
2. “Quan Ho” folk singing was recognized as _____ by UNESCO in 2009.
3. The main activities of the festival happen on _____, the heart of Lim Festival.
4. Legend has it that a local resident named _____ founded Lim Festival in the 18th century.
5. There are various activities taking place on this occasion, but _____ is the activity attracting people most.
6. Bamboo swings, pot beating, human chess, wrestling, and other _____ are also held on the day of Lim Festival.

Task 3: Read an article about festivals in Latin America and complete the sentences with NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS.

Festival time in Latin America

Salvador, Brazil

People say that Carnival in northeastern Brazil is the best celebration on earth! For six days, the city center is filled with crowds, sounds, and colors. Bands play exciting music on moving stages, called trios elétricos. Thousands of people follow them through the streets. The music and dancing go on all day and all night. Carnival is a time when no one sleeps!

Cuzco, Peru

The fabulous Inti Raymi, or Sun Festival, is the second biggest festival in Latin America after Carnival in Brazil.

The festival goes back about 500 years, to Inca times. The Inca believed that they were descendants of the sun. Inti Raymi was the time when they said, “Sun! We love you! Please don’t leave us!”

Nowadays, hundreds of local men and women act out the roles of Inca priests, nobles, “chosen women”, and soldiers. The ceremony starts in the main square. After that, thousands of people follow the actors to an ancient fortress in the hills. Later, there’s great food, music, and dancing!

Mexico City, Mexico

El Día de los Muertos, or the Day of the Dead, is the day when Mexicans honor the dead by taking food to the cemetery and having a picnic. They also decorate the graves with personal belongings, photographs, and special ornaments.

You can buy *pan de muerto* (a sweet bread covered with icing) in the shape of bones, candies in the shape of skulls, and papier *maché* skeletons. People use skulls and skeletons as decorations in their homes, too.

New words:

fortress /'fɔ:trəs/ (n): pháo đài

descendant /di'sendənt/ (n): hậu duệ (con cháu)

cemetery /'semətri/ (n): nghĩa trang

1. In Salvador, Carnival lasts for _____ with music and dancing performances all day and all night, so people do not sleep at night.
2. Inti Raymi, also called _____, is a 500-year old Inca tradition.
3. The celebration of Inti Raymi Festival starts in the main square before people move to an _____ in the hills.

4. On the Day of the Dead, Mexicans honor the dead by having picnics in the _____.
5. Mexican people buy pan de muerto or candies, and decorate their houses with _____ on the Day of the Dead.

III. WRITING

Choose the best option to make complete sentences using given words and phrases

1. Tet/ be/ time/ us/ worship/ ancestors/ furthermore/ it/ be/ time/ family reunion.
- A. Tet is time with us to worship our ancestors; furthermore, it is time with family reunion.
- B. Tet is a time for us to worship our ancestors; furthermore, it is a time for family reunion.
- C. Tet is a time with us worshipping our ancestors; furthermore, it is a time with family reunion.
- D. Tet is time for us worshipping our ancestors; furthermore, it is time for family reunion.
2. Hung King Festival/ be/ local festival/ nevertheless/ it/ become/ public holiday/ Viet Nam/ 2007.
- A. The Hung King Festival is a local festival; nevertheless, it becomes a public holiday in Viet Nam in 2007.
- B. The Hung King Festival was a local festival; nevertheless, it has become a public holiday in Viet Nam in 2007.
- C. The Hung King Festival was a local festival; nevertheless, it has become a public holiday in Viet Nam since 2007.
- D. The Hung King Festival is a local festival; nevertheless, it became a public holiday in Viet Nam since 2007.
3. Although/ Buffalo-fighting Festival/ sound/ frighten/ it/ be/ essential part/ the ceremony/ worship/ Water God.
- A. Although the Buffalo-fighting Festival sounds frightened, it is an essential part for the ceremony to worship the Water God.
- B. Although the Buffalo-fighting Festival sounds frightening, it is essential part for the ceremony worshipping the Water God.
- C. Although the Buffalo-fighting Festival sounds frightened, it is an essential part of the ceremony worshipping the Water God.

D. Although the Buffalo-fighting Festival sounds frightening, it is an essential part of the ceremony to worship the Water God.

4. Vietnam/ most famous/ traditional food/ Tet Holiday/ be/ “Chung” cake/ which/ symbolize/ Earth.

A. In Vietnam, the most famous traditional food in Tet Holiday is “Chung” cake which is symbolized the Earth.

B. In Vietnam, the most famous traditional food on Tet Holiday is “Chung” cake which symbolizes the Earth.

C. In Vietnam, most famous traditional food on Tet Holiday is “Chung” cake which is symbolizing the Earth.

D. In Vietnam, the most famous traditional food in Tet Holiday was “Chung” cake which symbolizes the Earth.

5. pilgrimage/ Yen Tu Festival/ be/ deep/ meaningful/ journey/ true Vietnamese Buddhist/ fascinate/ experience/ sightseers.

A. Pilgrimage to Yen Tu Festival is a deep meaningful journey with any true Vietnamese Buddhist and fascinating experience for sightseers.

B. A pilgrimage to Yen Tu Festival is a deep meaningful journey for some true Vietnamese Buddhist and fascinated experience with sightseers.

C. Pilgrimage to Yen Tu Festival is a deeply meaningful journey with some true Vietnamese Buddhist and a fascinated experience for sightseers.

D. A pilgrimage to Yen Tu Festival is a deeply meaningful journey for any true Vietnamese Buddhist and a fascinating experience for sightseers.

6. While/ children/ wait/ moon/ rise/ they/ sing/ dance/ listen/ story/ Hang Nga and Cuoi.

A. While children are waiting for the moon to rise, they sing, dance and listen to the story of Hang Nga and Cuoi.

B. While children wait for the moon to rise, they sing, dance and listen to the story of Hang Nga and Cuoi.

C. While children wait the moon to rise, they sing, dance and listen about the story of Hang Nga and Cuoi.

D. While children were waiting for the moon to rise, they sang, danced and listened about the story of Hang Nga and Cuoi.

7. Because/ we/ have/ many/ festival/ in/ January/ we/ call/ it/ month/ fun and joy.
- A. Because we are having many festivals in January, we will call it the month of fun and joy.
 - B. Because we had many festivals in January, we called it the month with fun and joy.
 - C. Because we have many festivals in January, we call it the month of fun and joy.
 - D. Because we have much festival in January, we call it the month with fun and joy.
8. “Quan ho” folk singing/ often/ perform/ Lim Festival/ and/ other/ local festival.
- A. “Quan ho” folk singing often performs at the Lim Festival and any other local festivals.
 - B. “Quan ho” folk singing is often performed in the Lim Festival and some other local festivals.
 - C. “Quan ho” folk singing will often be performed in the Lim Festival and any other local festivals.
 - D. “Quan ho” folk singing is often performing at the Lim Festival and some other local festivals.
9. Although/ many/ people/ study/ or/ work abroad/ they/ try/ return/ home/ enjoy/ Tet holiday/ their family.
- A. Although many people are studying or working abroad, they try to return home and enjoy Tet holiday beside their family.
 - B. Although many people study or work abroad, they try returning home and enjoying Tet holiday with their family.
 - C. Although many people are studying or working abroad, they try returning home to enjoy Tet holiday with their family.
 - D. Although many people study or work abroad, they try to return home to enjoy Tet holiday with their family.
10. “Day” cake/ have/ shape/ circle,/ so/ it/ represent/ Sky.
- A. “Day” cake have the shape of circle, so it represents for the Sky.
 - B. “Day” cake has the shape of circle, so it represents for the Sky.
 - C. “Day” cake has the shape of circle, so it represents the Sky.
 - D. “Day” cake have the shape of circle, so it represents the Sky.