VISITING GREECE

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Part C: Answer the following questions:

1. Think of an important celebration in your country /culture. What **festivities** are associated with this occasion?
2. When you visit a new place, do you enjoy **strolling** around looking at things, or do you prefer doing things at a faster pace? Why?
3. What is there an **abundance** of in your country?

8 Skim reading

Match the following paragraph titles to the paragraphs (A-F) in the article "Welcome to Greece" on the following page. Two are not needed.

1. Early beginnings
2. An ancient competition
3. Eating well and enjoying the sun
4. Nature and natural wonders
5. Hopping between islands
6. Learning about Greek gods and legends
7. Supporting relatives across generations
8. The importance of religion

9 Reading comprehension

Answer the following questions.

1. What do Greek people usually call the country where they are from?
2. How many Greek islands have people living on them?
3. In the past, how often was meat eaten in a Mediterranean diet?
4. What example is given of an older generation supporting a younger one?
5. Why must you pay attention to the date if you want to experience Easter in Greece?

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Welcome to Greece

Experience natural wonders, ancient monuments, and fantastic food, all at your own pace

A. _____

Although the country's official name is Hellenic Republic, most of its citizens refer to it as *Hellas* or *Hellada*. Greek legend claims that the world was created by passing soil through a sieve, with the stones remaining in the sieve being used to build Greece! Looking at a map, it's easy to understand why. Greece has more than 2,000 islands, of which about 170 are inhabited. Santorini, Mykonos, Crete, Rhodes and Corfu are five of the most popular.

B. _____

Over 80% of Greece's land is mountainous. The country is also extremely rich in wildlife, claiming 6,000 native plants and an abundance of animal species. Natural features like the volcanic rocks of Falakro (on Limnos), the Samaria Gorge (on Crete) and the Blue Caves of Zakynthos (on Zakynthos) are popular destinations.

C. _____

Greeks spend a lot of time outside, appreciating the Mediterranean climate. In many places, the tradition of the volta is still followed: at sunset, people can be seen strolling up and down the main street or, on the islands, along the shore. Greece is renowned for its healthy Mediterranean diet based on vegetables, fruit, olives, olive oil, cheese, bread, and seafood. Meat was traditionally a luxury consumed only on special occasions but is more present in modern diets. There's more to Greek cuisine than moussaka, and food lovers should not be disappointed.

D. _____

Greek society is also famous for its strong family structure, and the vast majority of the country's businesses are still family-run. The extended family, and the obligation placed on family members to support one other, is extremely important. For example, married couples may live with their in-laws until they can find or afford their own housing. In most cases the elderly are looked after by younger relatives; there are hardly any care homes in Greece.

E. _____

Virtually all of the population belongs to the Church of Greece (Greek Orthodox Church), with Easter being the most important religious and family festival. Many people return to their hometowns for the traditional festivities, which include a church service on Saturday evening and lighting the Holy Fire at midnight on Easter morning. Visitors interested in witnessing this aspect of Greek culture should bear in mind that, due to following a different calendar, Easter takes place at a later date than in other European nations.

F. _____

Ancient Olympia grew to be the most celebrated site of Ancient Greece, and the birthplace of the Olympic Games. The first games were held in 776 BCE, and the very first race was won by Coroebus of Elis, a cook! In the early days of the Olympics, Greeks across the known world would be reunited every four years, even during times of war. All hostilities would be temporarily forgotten. Olympia remains a powerful landmark which can be visited today.

source: welcome-to-greece.com

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10 Talking point

Discuss the following questions.

1. What places mentioned are you interested in visiting? Why?
2. How does the importance of extended family in Greece compare with your culture?
3. Could you follow a Mediterranean diet? How would it differ from what you usually eat?
4. Do you enjoy watching the Olympic Games? How do you think the original Olympics compared to the modern ones?
5. Have you ever been island-hopping? If so, describe your experience. If not, what do you think the advantages (and disadvantages) of this type of holiday would be?

11 Optional extension: English words with Greek roots

Part A: Prefixes. Many common prefixes used in English come from the Greek language. Read the example and choose the Greek meaning of the prefix.

against – alone – small – many - far

Prefix	Meaning	Example
anti-	1 _____	James is quite **antisocial**; he doesn't like spending time with people.
tele-	2 _____	Advances in **telecommunication** have helped us to communicate with people all over the world more easily.
mono-	3 _____	The woman gave an extremely long **monologue** about the company. I think she didn't want anybody else to speak.
poly-	4 _____	Corinne is a **polyglot**. She speaks five languages fluently and is learning another two!
micro-	5 _____	Greece generally enjoys warm Mediterranean weather, but it has several **microclimates** due to its mountainous landscape.

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Part B: Choose the correct prefix to complete the words.

1. To help find lost animals, vets can insert a 2mm_____**chip** containing the owner's data under an animal's skin.
2. Theo lives hundreds of miles from his company's office. He_____**commutes** from his home, contacting the office by phone and video call.
3. The man was bitten by a dangerous snake; fortunately, an_____**dote** was available to help his body fight the venom.
4. That company has_____**polised** the market, making it very difficult for other companies to sell their products.
5. Rectangles, squares and other four-sided shapes are examples of_____**gons**.

Part C: Match the words to their definitions.

1. monologue (n)	a. not wanting to spend time with other people
2. antisocial (adj)	b. the weather in a particular small area, especially when this is different from the weather in the surrounding area
3. microchip (n)	c. a person who can speak or use several languages
4. polyglot (n)	d. a substance that controls the effects of a poison or disease
5. telecommute(v)	e. the technology of sending signals, images and messages over long distances by radio, phone, television, satellite, etc.
6. antidote (n)	f. have or take control of the largest part of something so that other people are prevented from sharing it
7. polygon (n)	g. a very small part of a computer which stores information or does calculations
8. microclimate (n)	h. a long speech by one person during a conversation that stops other people from speaking or expressing an opinion
9. monopolise (v)	i. work at home and communicate with your office by phone or email
10. telecommunication (n)	j. a flat shape with three or more straight sides

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Part D: Find more words with these prefixes. Use a dictionary to help you.

anti-	tele-	mono-	poly-	micro-

Examples of other Greek words:

logos - word phonos - sound gramma - writing scopos - watcher bios - life

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