

The Carnival of Venice

1. Read the text and choose the best option to complete each sentence



(1)..... Italy's most beloved carnivals, particular mention (2)..... to the Carnival of Venice.

The first official document with which the Carnival of Venice was (3)..... a public celebration dates back to 1296 – an edict by the Senate of the “most Serene Republic,” (4)

..... the day before Lent, a holiday.

Established (5)..... the Venetian oligarchy as a concession to the people, its (6)..... was fun and merrymaking, where the mask dominated as a means to briefly ignore any (7)..... of belonging to social class, gender or religion.

Today the Carnival of Venice is an evocative and much-anticipated (8)..... fest, unique in terms of its history, its masks and its atmosphere. (9).....-reputed and appreciated in all the world, it brings (10)..... of tourists to Italy (11)..... year.

(12)..... the Lagoon's two-week Carnival celebration, all can watch and take (13) in the numerous events and displays (14)..... the piazzas and main waterways of the city.

As in the past, private parties and masquerade balls (15)..... happen behind the scenes today, (16)..... Venice's grand noble palaces. In these places, (17)..... time seems to stand still, guests (18)..... jump into this world of ancient splendor, reliving the Carnival tradition of (19)..... ago.

Some of the (20)..... spectacular moments during the Venetian carnival are the “Flight of the Angel” (or “Flight of Colombina”), a (21)..... that began with a Turkish acrobat in mid-1500s. In this amazing spectacle an artist in flesh and (22)..... hangs from a metal cable, and, suspended in air, makes his (23)..... from the top of St. Mark's Bell Tower to the Doge's Palace. It is a magnificent (24)..... to see!

Venice, city of art and UNESCO World Heritage Site, exudes its charm all throughout the year, but only Carnival can render it even more (25)..... than it already is!

<http://www.italia.it/en/travel-ideas/culture-and-entertainment/italian-carnivals/the-carnival-of-venice.htm>



2. Read the description of a Mask from the Carnival of Venice and draw the design on the pattern that your teacher will give you. Then we will compare to see the most accurate illustrations:

This mask has a white background. On the forehead, there are two flowers next to each other, whose stems extend towards the opposite sides of the forehead.

There is only an eyebrow drawn above the left eye.

Over the right eye, there is a line that extends from the upper right corner of the forehead, goes through the face, right next to the nose without covering it. It continues down the fold near the mouth and ends on the lower right corner of the face. Within that area, there is a big teardrop drawn under the right eye. The lips of this mask are narrow, heart-shaped and red. Next to each angle of the mouth, there is a small red circle, and under each circle, there is a smaller one, for a total of four circles.

Finally, there is a small spiral drawn below the lips.

**CARNEVALE
di VENEZIA**