

# My dad's holidays



My dad was born in the North of England. His mum and dad worked in a cotton mill. Cotton mills, or factories, produced cotton to send all over the world. Workers in the mills worked six days a week. They could relax only on Sundays, when they went to church and visited relatives.

Factory workers didn't have many holidays, just a few days at Christmas and one day at Easter, but every year the factories closed for one week in summer to give the workers a holiday. Families with some money went to the beach at Blackpool or Morecambe. My dad's family always went to Blackpool in July. They usually stayed in a bed and breakfast. Every day, my dad and his brothers and sisters made sandcastles or went swimming in the sea and his mum and dad (my grandma and granddad) relaxed in deck chairs. The weather was not always very good, it was usually cloudy and cold, but everyone loved their holidays.

Not all families had money to go away. Some of my dad's friends stayed at home. In the evenings they went to special travelling fairs in the towns with lots of attractions.

The holidays were finished at the end of August, but there was one more important event before the winter - the Blackpool illuminations. Every year in Blackpool there were amazing, coloured lights in the form of flowers, pirate boats and famous cartoon characters. All the buses and trams were decorated, and it was an incredible spectacle. My dad said it was amazing to see, and all the workers from the local towns went back to Blackpool for one more evening to see 'The Lights'.

Choose the correct option to complete each sentence

- 1 Where did his parents work?                      In a factory.                      In Blackpool.                      In a travelling fair.
- 2 How long was their summer holiday?                      One day.                      A month.                      A week.
- 3 Where did they go on holiday?                      Preston.                      Blackpool.                      Morecambe.
- 4 When did they go on holiday?                      At Christmas.                      In July.                      In August.
- 5 Where did they stay?                      In a bed and breakfast.                      In a hotel.                      At home.
- 6 What did they do in the evening?  
                    Played on the beach.                      Visited travelling fairs.                      Worked.
7. What was the weather like during their holidays?                      Cloudy.                      Sunny.                      Warm.
8. What could you see at the Blackpool Illuminations?  
                    Lots of lights.                      Cartoons.                      Sandcastles.
9. When did people go to see the Blackpool Illuminations?  
                    Before the summer holiday.                      During the summer holiday.                      After the summer holidays.