HULA DANCING IN HAWAIIAN CULTURE

Words

Write the letter of each definition with the word it defines. If you don't know the definition, use the context of the reading passage to help you. Look for the words in bold as you read the passage.

PARAGRAPH 1

Words	Definitions
1 ..... evoke	**A** n., the use, advantage of
2 ..... image	**B** v., to bring to mind
3 ..... sway	**C** n., a mental picture
4 ..... benefit	**D** n., a fixed idea people have, especially one that is wrong
5 ..... stereotype	**E** v., to move back and forth
6 ..... tradition	**F** n., the custom or belief of a group of people

PARAGRAPH 2

Words	Definitions
7 ..... altar	**G** v., to go with; happen at the same time
8 ..... accompany	**H** n., a table or similar structure for religious ceremonies
9 ..... ritual	**I** n., signs; proof something is or is not true
10 ..... evidence	**J** n., a set of actions used as part of a ceremony

PARAGRAPH 3

Words	Definitions
11 ..... discourage	**K** n., a social event to mark a special day or occasion
12 ..... revive	**L** v., to try to stop or prevent something
13 ..... reign	**M** n., the period of time that a king or queen is in power
14 ..... celebration	**N** v., to bring back to life

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PARAGRAPHS 4–5

Words	Definitions
15 ..... influence	**O** adj., having a lot of detail and decoration
16 ..... energetic	**P** adj., having a lot of energy
17 ..... graceful	**Q** adj., related to flowers
18 ..... elaborate	**R** n., a decorative rope of flowers or leaves
19 ..... floral	**S** adj., having beauty of movement
20 ..... garland	**T** n., an effect; power

Reading

Hula Dancing in Hawaiian Culture

(1) Many people dream of visiting the beautiful Hawaiian Islands. Mention of this Pacific paradise **evokes images** of women in grass skirts **swaying** their hips as they perform graceful island dances for the **benefit** of tourists. Although this image is a common **stereotype** of Hawaii, it has its roots in a real **tradition** that continues to play an important role in Hawaiian culture.

(2) Hula dancing has always been part of Hawaiian life. Hawaiian mythology includes various stories that explain the origins of hula, each story attributing its creation to a different god or goddess and its first appearance to a different location. In reality, hula dancing is such an ancient tradition that it is impossible to say when or where it first appeared. It was most likely originally performed in front of an **altar** in honor of gods and **accompanied by** great **ritual**. It is a common belief that the ancient hula was danced only by men, but some scholars point to **evidence** suggesting that hula was traditionally danced by both men and women.

(3) The English explorer Captain James Cook's visit to the islands in the eighteenth century caused many changes to Hawaiian society as a result of the contact with European culture. Although hula did not completely disappear after contact, it was **discouraged**. King David Kalakaua is credited with **reviving** hula dancing during his **reign** in the late nineteenth century. He was interested in reestablishing lost traditions, and hula was performed at **celebrations** held in his honor[1].

[1]BrE: honour

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(4) In the 1960s, a Hawaiian cultural festival was established as part of an effort to attract more tourists to the islands. A major part of this festival consisted of hula competitions, which were organized into categories of *hula kahiko*, or hula danced in the ancient style, and *hula auana*, or modern hula. This festival, called the Merrie Monarch Festival in honor of King David Kalakaua, has become a major annual cultural event. The hula competition is a central part of the festival and has had a significant **influence** on modern hula dancing.

(5) Hula continues to be danced in both the ancient and modern styles. Traditional hula is an **energetic** dance performed to the accompaniment of chants and the beating of drums. The dancers wear traditional costumes consisting of garlands of leaves, skirts of tapa (a type of bark), and anklets made of animal bone. Many of the movements of modern hula are based on the ancient hula, but the modern style is slower and more **graceful**. It is danced to flowing guitar and ukulele music, and the dancers wear **elaborate** costumes, including the famous Hawaiian **floral garlands** known as *leis*.

(5) Hula has attracted the interest of people outside the islands, and hula schools can be found in many parts of the world. Although people of other nationalities learn to dance some form of hula, it is also danced by Hawaiians who live away from the islands, on the mainland United States, in Europe, and elsewhere. It has become a way for native Hawaiians to maintain their cultural identity even while living away from their island homeland. What was once a religious ritual has become a form of entertainment, not only for tourists, but also for native Hawaiians who seek to maintain connections with their cultural heritage.

Answer the questions about **Hula Dancing in Hawaiian Culture**.

Questions 1–4

Choose the correct letter, ***A***, ***B***, ***C***, *or* ***D***.

1 Originally, hula was danced
- **A** by dancers wearing floral garlands.
- **B** for the benefit of kings.
- **C** in competitions.
- **D** near an altar.

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2 Hula dancing was discouraged
- **A** in certain ancient rituals.
- **B** after contact with Europeans.
- **C** in the 1960s.
- **D** during traditional celebrations.

3 Hula was revived in the nineteenth century by
- **A** a Hawaiian king.
- **B** an English explorer.
- **C** Hawaiians in Europe.
- **D** the tourist industry.

4 Modern hula dances are accompanied by
- **A** drums.
- **B** guitars.
- **C** chants.
- **D** violins.

Questions 5–7

Complete the summary using words from the list below.

elaborate	evidence	influence
energetic	graceful	reign

Hula dancing has been part of Hawaiian culture since ancient times, although the styles of dancing have changed over time. The traditional style of hula dancing, which is still performed, is fast, whereas modern hula is more **5**..... and flowing. Dancers of modern hula wear costumes that are **6**....., while dancers of ancient hula wear simpler traditional costumes. People everywhere are interested in hula, including Hawaiians living in other parts of the world. The fact that hula is danced by Hawaiians living away from their homeland is **7**..... of its importance to Hawaiian culture.

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Word Families

A

Complete each sentence with the correct word from the word family chart. Make nouns plural where necessary. Use the correct form of verbs.

noun	verb
accompaniment	accompany

1 Guitars often ..... modern hula dances.

2 The ..... of drums and chants helps the hula dancers maintain their energy.

noun	verb	adjective
benefit	benefit	beneficial

3 Tourism is ..... to the economy of Hawaii.

4 Hawaii ..... from the large numbers of tourists who visit the islands.

5 A ..... of visiting Hawaii in the off season is the lower hotel prices.

noun	verb	adjective
celebration	celebrate	celebratory

6 People like to ..... important events by dancing.

7 Hula dances are often performed at cultural ..... .

8 ..... dances were performed in honor of the king.

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noun	verb	adjective	adverb
energy	energize[1]	energetic	energetically

9 The dancers performed ..... all evening.

10 It takes a great deal of ..... to dance hula.

11 ..... chants and drumming accompany the hula dancers.

12 The beating of the drums ..... the crowd.

noun	verb	adjective
influence	influence	influential

13 The ..... of other cultures has changed the way hula is danced.

14 Ancient hula ..... the modern style of hula dancing.

15 King David Kalakaua was ..... in the return to old traditions.

noun	adjective	adverb
tradition	traditional	traditionally

16 Hula was ..... performed in honor of the gods.

17 Hula dancing is an ancient ..... .

18 Hula is the ..... dance of Hawaii.

[1]BrE: energise

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Word Families

B

Choose the correct word family member from the list below to complete each blank.

1	tradition	traditional	traditionally
2	energy	energetic	energetically
3	accompaniment	accompany	accompanies
4	influences	influenced	influential
5	celebrations	celebrates	celebratory
6	benefits	benefited	beneficial

Hula is a **1**..... dance from Hawaii. Originally, it was performed as part of religious rituals. It was danced **2**..... to the **3**..... of drums and chants. Over time it has been **4**..... in different ways, and styles have changed. Modern hula is a more graceful dance performed to guitar and ukulele music. It is performed for tourists and also as part of **5**..... . The wide interest in hula dancing is **6**..... for Hawaii because it helps attract tourists to the islands.

Paraphrases

Read the sentence from the reading passage. Then, choose the sentence that has the same meaning.

1 *Although this image is a common stereotype of Hawaii, it has its roots in a real tradition that continues to play an important role in Hawaiian culture.* (paragraph 1)

A Many people don't realize that hula is an old and important tradition.

B People enjoy seeing photographs of traditional hula dancers.

C Hula dances are traditionally performed for visitors to Hawaii.

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2 *It is a common belief that the ancient hula was danced only by men, but some scholars point to evidence suggesting that hula was traditionally danced by both men and women.* (paragraph 2)

A Contrary to common opinion, there are signs that women, as well as men, danced the ancient hula.

B The ancient hula was originally danced by men, but later women started dancing it, too.

C Some scholars have pointed out that women may have danced the ancient hula more skillfully than men.

Dictionary Skill

DIFFERENT MEANINGS

Many words have more than one meaning.

Read the definitions below. Then read the sentences and write the letter of the correct definition for each sentence.

im-age [IM-mij]
A *noun.* a mental picture
B *noun.* impression, appearance

..... 1 The word *Hawaii* carries *images* of sunny beaches, volcanoes, and hula dancing.

..... 2 King David Kalakaua was known as the Merrie Monarch because of his *image* as a happy party host.

Listening

Track 11

*Listen to the conversation. Choose **FOUR** letters, **A–G**.*

Which **FOUR** of the following will be included in the hula demonstration?

A floral decorations

B elaborate costumes

C garlands of leaves

D an altar

E energetic dances

F graceful movements

G traditional music

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Writing (Task 2)

Most countries have traditional celebrations that occur annually. In your opinion, what benefits do these celebrations have for society?

Support your opinion with reasons and examples from your own knowledge or experience.

Write at least 250 words.

Speaking

Talk about the following topics.

What are some important traditional celebrations in your country?

What are some rituals connected with traditional celebrations in your country?

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