

3.4 DIWALI CELEBRATIONS

DVD PREVIEW

1 What special occasions do people usually celebrate in your country? What do people usually do on those occasions?

2 A Match the verbs with the phrases they go with.

- | | |
|------------|---------------------------------|
| 1 have | a) a restaurant |
| 2 eat | b) fireworks |
| 3 go to | c) new clothes |
| 4 sing | d) presents/gifts to each other |
| 5 give | e) a party |
| 6 watch | f) to special music |
| 7 invite | g) special food |
| 8 decorate | h) "Happy Birthday" |
| 9 wear | i) guests |
| 10 dance | j) your home |

B Add more activities to the list above about things people do at special occasions.

3 Read the show information and answer the questions.

- What is another name for Diwali? Why?
- Which country is the show about?
- Is the festival one day or more?

Diwali

Diwali, the Festival of Light, is an important time for more than a billion Hindus all around the world. It's a time of color and light, a time for family and new beginnings. This show joins Hindu families in the U.K. for Diwali, and looks at how they prepare for the five-day event and their different customs on each day of the festival.



There are different festivals related to light, one of them is Hanukkah; a Jewish holiday known as the *Festival of Lights*. This celebration lasts eight nights and days and is characterized by the lighting of the candles on a nine-branched candelabrum called *Menorah*.

DVD VIEW

4 A Watch the DVD. Which of the activities in Exercise 2A do you see? What other customs do you see?

B Work in pairs. Are sentences 1–8 true (T) or false (F)? Watch the DVD again and check your answers.

- Diwali is always in October or November. **T**
- It lasts for three days.
- Men buy jewelry for their wives.
- The woman throws a pakora* in two directions.
- They make a picture out of colored paints.
- The Hindu New Year's Day is the third day.
- People visit their parents and children.
- Fireworks are only on the last day of Diwali.

*pakora = an Indian snack food





B Write a description of your special occasion from Exercise 5A. Write about 100 words.

I love Hogmanay because all our friends and family come together, and it's a great start to the New Year!

- What's the name of the occasion?
- When and where does it happen?
- What do you usually do? Describe three or four activities.
- What's your favorite thing on that day?

I like it because ...