

## 6.1 Crossing cultures

## Vocabulary cultures and communities

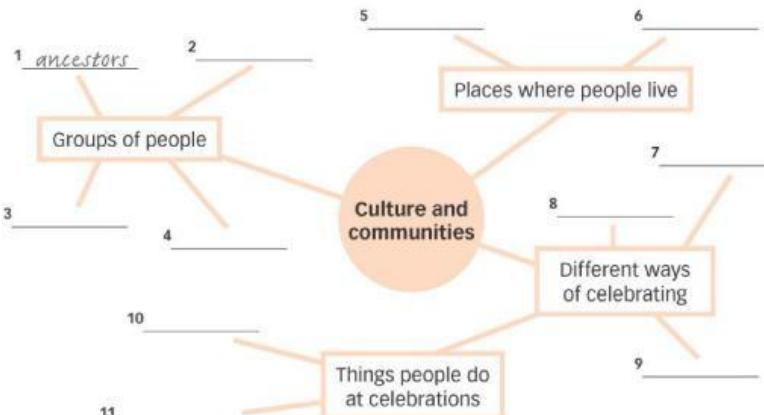
- 1 Match some of the words in the box to definitions 1–10. Not all the words are needed.

adjust ancestors ceremony citizens costume community custom descendants establish festival neighbourhood parade

- 1 A person's children, children's children and all the relatives who live after them. descendants
- 2 An accepted way of behaving or doing things in a society. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 A public celebration where people walk or drive through the streets. \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 People who have a legal right to belong to a particular country. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 Get used to a new situation by changing the way you think or behave. \_\_\_\_\_
- 6 People in your family who lived a long time ago. \_\_\_\_\_
- 7 An occasion when people stop working to celebrate a special event. \_\_\_\_\_
- 8 A district or an area of a town or city. \_\_\_\_\_
- 9 All the people who live in a particular area, when seen as a group. \_\_\_\_\_
- 10 A public or religious occasion with a series of formal actions. \_\_\_\_\_

- 2 Complete the word-map with the words in the box.

ancestors ceremony citizens community costumes decorate descendants festival immigrants neighbourhood parade



- 3 Complete the article with the correct form of some of the words from exercises 1 and 2.

## San Marino

San Marino is one of the smallest countries in the world. Completely surrounded by Italy, it is just 61 km<sup>2</sup> and has only about 28,000 1 citizens. Officially known as the Republic of San Marino, the country claims to be the oldest surviving republic in the world, founded in 301. Perhaps surprisingly for such a small country, San Marino has its own military. In the summer, the soldiers put on a celebratory 2 several times a day, marching through the streets in full uniform.

Although the people who live there (the Sammarinese) still consider themselves to be a farming 3, San Marino is very dependent on tourism, and the summer months are full of



4 and celebrations. For example, don't miss Medieval Day, when the people dress up in medieval 5 and re-enact some of the 6 of their 7, such as crossbow shooting in the town square.

## Grammar articles

- 4 Choose the beginning which best matches the ending given.
- 1 \_\_\_ where we'd arranged to meet, but you weren't there.  
a I went to a cinema      b I went to the cinema
  - 2 \_\_\_ Netherlands.  
a He lives in the      b He lives in
  - 3 \_\_\_ The woman became his wife.  
a While he was living in Italy, he met a beautiful young woman.  
b While he was living in Italy, he met the beautiful young woman.
  - 4 \_\_\_ Lake Maggiore.  
a He lives on the shore of the  
b He lives on the shore of
  - 5 \_\_\_ beauty. Notice it.  
a Life is full of      b Life is full of the
  - 6 \_\_\_ biggest country in the world.  
a Russia is      b Russia is the

### PRONUNCIATION *the*

- 5a 6.1 Listen to two different ways in which *the* can be pronounced.  
a the /ði:/      b the /ðə/
- 5b 6.2 Listen to the following phrases. How is *the* pronounced in each case? What happens to the sound of *the* before a vowel sound? Is it pronounced /ði:/ or /ðə/?
- |                |                  |
|----------------|------------------|
| 1 The English  | 5 The mountain   |
| 2 The river    | 6 The immigrants |
| 3 The Italians | 7 The ancestors  |
| 4 The Irish    | 8 The community  |
- 5c 6.2 Listen again and repeat.
- 6 Find and correct the mistakes in six of the sentences.
- 1 Porto is <sup>the</sup> second biggest city in Portugal.  
2 It is built on the site of ancient Roman settlement.  
3 In 1996, the historic centre of city was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site.  
4 Porto is situated on the banks of River Douro.  
5 The River Douro flows into the Atlantic.  
6 One of a biggest tourist attractions is the São Bento railway station.

- 7 The station is covered in beautiful blue-and-white tiles, called *azulejos*.

- 8 Tourists also take the boat trips into the Douro Valley.

- 7 Complete the text with *a/an*, *the* or – (no article).

## How do you celebrate the start of a new year?

Although different cultures celebrate in different ways, and even at different times of year, there seems to be a universal theme of hoping for better luck or more happiness, <sup>1</sup> love or money in the new year ahead.

Celebrating with <sup>2</sup> fireworks is common, and many cultures believe in making a lot of noise to frighten away bad luck. Some cultures, however, make noise in more unusual ways. In <sup>3</sup> Italy, particularly in <sup>4</sup> south, there is a custom, called *lancio dei cocci*, of throwing cups, mugs, pots and pans out of windows! Less dangerously, people in Puerto Rico throw <sup>5</sup> cup or bucket of water out of their windows.

Cleaning the house is another very common tradition, as people want to make a fresh start. In Brazil, people also often wear white to bring good luck and peace for the year ahead.

In <sup>6</sup> Philippines, circles have a particular importance, representing money. People wear <sup>7</sup> clothes with dots and circles and bake circular foods, and walk in a circle around the house at midnight. In Mexico, people who want to travel pack <sup>8</sup> suitcase and walk around their block of the neighbourhood.

Food is often important, too. The Spanish have possibly <sup>9</sup> most dangerous tradition as they eat twelve grapes, one to bring luck for each month of the year ahead, trying to swallow them all down before the clock stops chiming midnight. You'd have to be lucky not to choke!



### I can ...

- talk about cultures and communities.  
understand and use articles.

Very well      Quite well      More practice

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