

Reading and use of English

Part 6



1 EXAM You are going to read a text about Diwali. Six sentences have been removed from the text. Choose from the sentences A–G the one which fits each gap (1–6). There is one extra sentence which you do not need to use.

Exam tips

- Skim the whole text for general comprehension.
- Look at the seven sentences and try to find connecting words and ideas, such as time periods, contrasting ideas, etc.

Diwali, Festival of Lights

Diwali, also known as the festival of lights, is one of the most widely celebrated festivals in India and around the world. It is the one of the most significant festivals for followers of the Hindu religion. (1) _____ The exact dates vary each year since the festival is decided according to the Hindu lunar calendar. It is a time of joy, happiness, and togetherness, as families and communities come together to celebrate.

Diwali is also known as Dipawali. Its name comes from the words *avali* (row) and *deepa* (clay lamps). Hindus hang these clay lamps in rows outside their homes as a symbol of their inner light, which protects them from dark spirits.

(2) _____ Different regions of India celebrate Diwali as a way of remembering different gods' battles against demons. However, all the stories celebrate good over evil.

Diwali is a five-day festival, and each day holds its own significance and meaning. On the day, people buy gold, silver, and other items of wealth to bring good fortune into their lives. Many people clean their homes on this day in preparation for the other celebrations to come.



(3) _____ People create patterns on the floor using coloured powder or sand. These patterns are called *rangoli*, and they are designed to welcome the Hindu gods into the house.

The third day is also the main day of the festival.

People say a prayer to the Goddess Lakshmi, who is believed to give wealth and good fortune.

(4) _____ There is often an assortment of traditional sweet treats on offer, and the whole family gathers to share them together. (5) _____

The fourth day of the festival is also the first day of the new year. This is the time to visit friends and other relatives and to give presents and good wishes for the year to come. (6) _____ On this day, brothers visit their married sisters so the sisters can pray for them before they can share a meal.

- A After that, there is usually a delicious feast.
- B Finally, everybody returns to their homes until the next year.
- C There are many gods in the Hindu religion.
- D The day then finishes with a spectacular fireworks display.
- E This annual festival is usually celebrated in October or November.
- F The last day aims to strengthen the bond of love between siblings.
- G On the second day, homes are decorated with clay lamps.



Vocabulary Festivals

1 Underline the correct alternative.

- 1 We don't need to stand in the streets because the *parade / ceremony* will pass below our balcony.
- 2 The dancers were wearing traditional *costumes / customs*.
- 3 Have you ever watched the opening *ceremony / celebration* of the Olympic Games?
- 4 There are beautiful *decorations / parades* on all the buildings.
- 5 Let's stay until the evening, so we can watch the *festival / fireworks*.
- 6 Do you know the *folklore / origin* of this festival?

2 Read the sentences below. Use the words given in capitals at the end of each sentence to form a word that fits the gap.

- 1 We have parties and other _____ during our national day. **CELEBRATE**
- 2 Some of the _____ ceremonies in my country are very old. **RELIGION**
- 3 Festivals show _____ the local culture. **VISIT**
- 4 The streets are beautifully _____. **DECORATE**
- 5 There are many _____ recipes which people use to make special food. **TRADITION**
- 6 The event starts with an _____ parade down the main street. **OPEN**
- 7 This date has a very important historical _____ in our country. **MEAN**

Music

3 Complete the sentences with a word related to music. The first letter is given.

- 1 The b_____ of the drums at the festival got everybody dancing.
- 2 That song is the top of the c_____, so it's on the radio all the time.
- 3 The band's c_____ v_____ of a classic song was the highlight of the festival.
- 4 I still can't believe my two favourite music artists performed a d_____ at the festival.
- 5 Everyone screamed when the DJ played his latest h_____.
- 6 The l_____ of that song always make me cry.
- 7 Jess is feeling nervous about her s_____. She's never been on the stage on her own.
- 8 What's your favourite music s_____?
- 9 I don't really like that song, but it's so c_____ that I can't stop singing it!
- 10 What t_____ can you play on your flute?

Listening Part 2

- 1 **EXAM** You will hear a boy called Jack talking about his experience at the Tomatina festival in Spain. For questions 1–10, complete the sentences with a word or short phrase.

The Tomatina festival in Buñol, Spain

- 1 Jack describes going to the festival as _____.
- 2 The tomatoes thrown in the festival are _____.
- 3 He didn't realise that he should wear _____.
- 4 He uses the word _____ to describe the start of the festival.
- 5 He had a good time despite the _____.
- 6 The festival lasted for _____.
- 7 He washed in _____ after the festival.
- 8 The first festival was in the _____.
- 9 The amount of _____ was surprising for Jack.
- 10 He feels that the organisers care about the participants' _____.



Exam tip

Remember to check your spelling. Incorrect spelling can lose you points, even if you know the correct answer.

Grammar

Zero and first conditionals



- 1 Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verb in brackets.

Sustainable festivals

- If you _____ (buy) a ticket for Glastonbury festival in the UK, you _____ (have) to sign a promise. The promise _____ (say) that if you go to the festival, you _____ (leave) any rubbish behind.
- If you _____ (look) for a rubbish bin at Burning Man festival in the Nevada Desert, you _____ (find) one. The organisers believe that if people _____ (generate) rubbish, they _____ (be) responsible for it.
- Festival goers at Green Man festival _____ (can) wear glitter unless it _____ (be) biodegradable. Also, if they _____ (drink) juice or soda, it _____ (come) from a local company in West England.
- If someone _____ (flush) a toilet at Pohoda Festival in Slovakia, it _____ (use) very little water. At this festival, all the public toilets have vacuum toilets.
- It _____ (get) dark if you _____ (go) to Secret Solstice festival in Iceland because of the midnight sun. If the festival _____ (need) power, it _____ (use) geothermal energy.

Second conditional



- 2 Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verb in brackets to make second conditional sentences.

- If I _____ (have) enough money, I _____ (buy) tickets for the VIP section of the festival.
- My aunt _____ (make) my costume if her sewing machine _____ (not be) broken.
- They _____ (not tell) us the story if they _____ (not believe) it was true.
- I _____ (not forget) my country's customs if I _____ (move) abroad.
- Paolo _____ (perform) in the opening ceremony if he _____ (not be) sick.
- Charlotte _____ (go) to the Day of the Dead celebration if she _____ (not have) to study for an exam.

Zero, first or second conditional

- 3 Choose the correct option (A, B or C) to complete the dialogue.



- Lara Are you going to the festival in the park?
 Ellie I can't go (1) _____ my dad gives me a lift. But I think he's working tonight.
 Lara Let's go together. I'll ask my mum to take us in case your dad (2) _____ to work.
 Ellie Sounds good, thanks!
 Lara No problem. I know you (3) _____ offer me a lift if I needed one. Anyway, what are you thinking of wearing?
 Ellie I'd wear my new sandals if it (4) _____ sunny, but it looks like it's going to rain. If it stays cloudy like this, I (5) _____ my boots.
 Lara Yes, your sandals would get ruined if you (6) _____ them. It always gets so muddy in the park when it (7) _____!
 Ellie What time will you pick me up?
 Lara I'll come at 7, but I (8) _____ you know if that changes.

- | | | |
|--------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1 A unless | B if | C in case |
| 2 A has | B had | C will have |
| 3 A offer | B offered | C 'd offer |
| 4 A were | B is | C will be |
| 5 A wear | B 'd wear | C 'll wear |
| 6 A 'll wear | B wore | C wear |
| 7 A rained | B will rain | C rains |
| 8 A 'd let | B 'll let | C let |

- 4 Write a new zero, first or second conditional sentence using the same ideas as the original sentences. There is one example.

- They might go to a concert tonight. Their favourite band is playing.
If they go to the concert tonight, they will see their favourite band.
- He hasn't prepared for the duet, and it will be terrible.
- They walk to the beach when the weather is nice.
- She is not going to the festival because she has a lot of homework.
- He is eating traditional food because he loves it.
- They will miss the concert because of the traffic jam.

- 5 Complete the sentences for you.

- Unless I know the lyrics of the song, _____.
- When there is a local festival, my family _____.
- If I hear a catchy tune, I _____.
- If I had to choose a favourite festival, _____.
- If I were invited to participate in a parade, I _____.

Writing

Part 2 – Review

1 Read the exam task below. Then read the example essay. Answer the questions.

Have you been to a festival recently? We want to hear about it! Write a review of your experience at the festival, giving your opinion about it.
Tell us about the things you enjoyed. Were there some things you didn't like or enjoy?
Tell us if you would visit the same festival again.
Tell us whether or not you would recommend going to the festival.
Write your review in 140–190 words.



Fringe Festival – Edinburgh

The Fringe Festival in Edinburgh is a famous event that hosts a variety of different performances, from theatre to comedy and music to dance. In this review, I will give my experience of the Fringe Festival.

The Fringe Festival is probably the only place I've been to where you can experience a huge range of art forms in a diverse and immersive way.

There were over 3,000 shows to choose from, so it's almost impossible to go there and not find something that you enjoy. There was also a great sense of community because the festival brings together different people.

However, the size of the festival was quite overwhelming. Sometimes I felt like there were too many shows to choose from. I didn't know where to

start and I was afraid that I would make the wrong choice and miss out on a great show. In addition, it was incredibly crowded. There were long queues to buy drinks or use the toilets.

It was an unforgettable experience, but I think next time I'll choose a smaller, quieter festival.

- 1 How does the writer address both the positive and the negative points of the topic?
- 2 What additional factual details are given?
- 3 Have all the points in the question been answered?
- 4 Would you go to the festival? Provide reasons for your answer.

2 Write a recommendation for each of the topics below. Use the expressions in the Useful language box and give reasons.

a cultural event in your town/city • a band • a music app
a traditional event in your country

3 EXAM Read another exam task. Write your answer in 140–190 words in an appropriate style.

You see an announcement on social media:

Live performances

Have you watched a live performance recently? Please tell us about it! It could be any type of performance, concert, show, street performance, anything! What was it like? What was the most interesting thing about it? Would you recommend it to other people?

The best and most interesting reviews will be posted online next week!

Useful Language

Making recommendations

I highly recommend...
I really think (you) would like...
Don't miss...
Make sure you...
... is definitely worth (visiting/reading).

Exam tips

- Choose an appropriate title.
- Remember to include an introduction and a recommendation.