

Homecoming

1 Homecoming is an annual tradition in the United States. People, towns, high schools and colleges come together, usually in late September or early October, to welcome back *alumni* and former residents.

5 It is built around a central event such as a banquet and, most often, a game of football or, on occasion, basketball, ice hockey, or soccer.

When celebrated by schools, the activities vary widely. However, they usually consist of a football game played on the school's home football field, activities for students and alumni, a parade featuring the school's marching band and sports teams, and the coronation of a Homecoming Queen (and at many schools, a Homecoming King).

10 A dance commonly follows the game or the day following the game.

When attached to a football game, *Homecoming* traditionally occurs on the team's return from the longest road trip of the season.

The game itself, whether it be football or another sport, will typically feature the home team playing a considerably weaker opponent.

15 The game is supposed to be an "easy win," and thus weaker schools will sometimes play lower-division schools.



Answer the following questions.

Write your answers on the lines provided.

The line numbers will help you find the information in the text.

1 What is Homecoming? (Lines 1–4)

2 When does Homecoming usually take place? (Lines 1–2)

3 What are the two main events around which Homecoming is built? (Lines 5–6)

4 Mention three activities that usually take place during Homecoming celebrations. (Lines 7–10)

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____

5 When does the Homecoming dance usually take place? (Line 10)

6 Which sport is most often played during Homecoming? (Lines 5–6)

a) Basketball

b) Football

c) Soccer

7 What does the word *alumni* mean in the passage? (Lines 1–2)

8 Who are "alumni"? (Lines 1–2)

a) Current students

b) Former students

c) Teachers and staff