

## Across cultures – Coming of age

Read the text about ceremonies where kids grow up and become adults in other countries. Do the tasks below the text. You will get a percentage mark (%) in e-klase for this worksheet.

### Coming of age

Many societies have events to celebrate becoming an adult.

#### A) Quinceañera (no spāņu valodas; izruna: kinsanjera)

In most Central and South American countries, every girl **looks forward to** her fifteenth (15<sup>th</sup>) birthday, one of the most important days in her life. The girl chooses a beautiful dress and invites all her friends and family. The 'quinceañera' is like a princess for a day and chooses her 'court' of maids of honor (girls) and escorts (boys). The celebration starts with a service at the local church with her parents and her 'court'. At the reception, there is a big meal and the girl cuts a giant birthday cake which is the same color as her dress. A group plays music and the girl's first dance is always with her father. Then the party starts!

#### B) The Sunrise Ceremony

Young teenage Apache (apačī) girls have to **go through** a difficult but important four-day ceremony. The girl's godmother **deals with** all the arrangements and **gets in touch with** all of the girl's family. The godmother also gives the girl lessons about Apache culture. In the ceremony itself, the girl's hair and face are covered in white clay like the 'first woman' in Apache mythology. For hours and hours, she has to pray, dance, run and sing. After four days, she is exhausted (very tired) but she has become a young woman. The young woman and her family then celebrate with a fantastic meal.

#### C) Citizenship Ceremony

For years there have been 'citizenship ceremonies' in Australia for new immigrants. Now, young Australians do the same when they **get to** the age of eighteen (18). The ceremonies are usually on 26<sup>th</sup> of January (Australia Day) or 17<sup>th</sup> of September (Citizenship Day) and are usually held in schools or town halls. There was once a ceremony in a sports stadium when 30'000 people **turned up**. Native Australians in traditional dress often perform traditional dances to welcome the new citizens. After the ceremony, the proud new citizens have a meal with their family and friends.

**1 Read the texts again. In which of the events (A,B or C) do these things happen?**

*Pārlasi tekstus. Kuros notikumos (A,B vai C) notiek šīs lietas?*

- 1) There is dancing during the ceremony. **A** and
- 2) The ceremony is very tiring for the young person.
- 3) The ceremony takes place in a church.
- 4) There are sometimes thousands of people at the ceremony.
- 5) The ceremony is often on special dates.
- 6) The ceremony takes a very, very long time.

**2 Find the blue verbs (1-6) in the text and match them with the meanings (A-F).**

*Atrodi darbības vārdus zilā krāsā (1-6) tekstā, un atrodi to pareizo nozīmi.*

- |                     |                                  |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1 look forward to   | A) organize                      |
| 2 go through        | B) wait for and be excited about |
| 3 deal with         | C) come, arrive                  |
| 4 get in touch with | D) contact                       |
| 5 get to            | E) do, experience                |
| 6 turn up           | F) reach, arrive at              |

**3 Complete the sentences with the blue verbs (1-6) from task 2. Put them in the correct form.**

*Aizpildi teikumus ar zilās krāsas darbības v. (1-6) no 2. uzdevuma. Ievieto tos pareizā formā.*

I really 1) \_\_\_\_\_ my birthday because I always have a big party and it's great fun. First, I  
2) \_\_\_\_\_ all my friends a couple of weeks before and invite them. My mom and I 3) \_\_\_\_\_  
all the arrangements – we decorate the living room and buy the food. I always get a bit nervous just before  
the people 4) \_\_\_\_\_ and think nobody is coming! Then, when it 5) \_\_\_\_\_ 9 o'clock, I cut  
my cake and everybody sings 'Happy Birthday'.