

1 Complete this paragraph with the words in the box.

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|--|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| ☐ get together | ☐ music | ☐ fireworks | ☐ decorations |
| ☒ holidays | ☐ customs | ☐ picnic | ☐ celebrate |

One of the most important national holidays in the United States is Independence Day. This is the day when Americans _____ winning their independence from Britain almost 250 years ago. There are many _____ for Independence Day. Most towns, big and small, mark this holiday with parades and _____. They put up a lot of _____, usually in red, white, and blue, the colors of the U.S. flag. Bands play patriotic _____. It's also a day when many Americans _____ with family and friends to celebrate with a barbecue or a _____.



B Use the cues in parentheses to create sentences with relative clauses of time.

1. (Thanksgiving / a day / people spend time with their families)

Thanksgiving is a day when people spend time with their families.

2. (Spring / the season / flowers start to bloom)

3. (New Year's Eve / a night / people celebrate new beginnings)

4. (The weekend / a time / people relax)

5. (Father's Day / a day / children spend time with their fathers)

6. (Winter / the season / we go skiing)

5 What happens at these times in your country? Complete the sentences.

1. Before a man and woman get married, they
usually date each other.

2. When someone has a birthday, _____

3. After a couple moves into a new home, _____

4. After a student graduates, _____

5. When a woman gets engaged, _____

6. When a couple has their first child, _____



8 Choose the correct word or phrase.

1. Wedding _____ (celebrations / flowers / birthdays) are often held in a restaurant or hotel.
2. Children's Day is a day when people in many countries _____ (meet / honor / find) their children.
3. Fall is the _____ (custom / tradition / season) when people in the U.S. celebrate Thanksgiving.
4. In Indonesia, on Nyepi Day, Balinese people _____ (last / stop / observe) a day of silence to begin the new year.

Time to celebrate! **47**

9**Rewrite these sentences. Find another way to say each sentence using the words given.**

1. Everyone in the family comes to my parents' home on Thanksgiving. (get together)

Everyone in the family gets together at my parents' home on Thanksgiving.

2. Many people have parties on New Year's Eve. (New Year's Eve / when)

3. At the end of the year, Japanese people give and receive *oseibo* presents to show their appreciation for the people in their lives. (exchange)

4. June is the month when many Brazilians celebrate the Festa Junina. (in June)

5. In Sweden, people observe Midsummer's Day around June 21. (occur)
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