TIME TRAVEL

A Journey Through Culture

WRITING ACTIVITIES

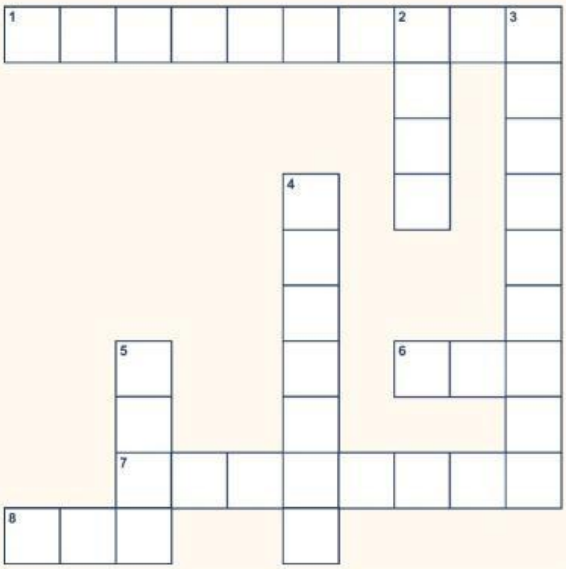
1 Complete a festival journal
2 Solve a festival crossword
3 Write your time-travel story

Simple Past Tense • Online Learning



Activity A | Festival Crossword Challenge

Complete the clues using the simple past tense. Write one letter in each box.



Hint: Check regular and irregular past-tense forms.

ACROSS

1. Last year, we _____ Chinese New Year with our neighbours.

6. During Deepavali, we _____ oil lamps.

7. At Christmas, my sister _____ a gift from Grandma.

8. We _____ dumplings at Chinese New Year.

DOWN

2. We _____ family photographs at Hari Raya.

3. We _____ our home with red lanterns.

4. We _____ our cousins during Hari Raya.

5. My brother _____ traditional clothes for the festival.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Activity B | Joanne's Chinese New Year Journal

Read Joanne's story. Complete all 12 blanks using the simple past tense of the verbs in brackets.



A nervous first visit turns into an unforgettable celebration

Last Chinese New Year, my friend Mei Lin (1) _____ (invite) me to celebrate with her family. I (2) _____ (feel) excited, but I was also nervous. I had never joined a Chinese New Year celebration before, and I was afraid of making a mistake. However, Mei Lin promised that it will be fine and to look foward for fun.

When I (3) _____ (arrive), to Mei Lin's home, I saw red lanterns swayed above the gate, and the smell of pineapple tarts (4) _____ (fill) the air. Mei Lin (5) _____ (welcome) me inside with a warm hug and introduced me to her family members. When we walked to the kitchen, I saw Mei Lin's grandmother making dumplings in the kitchen. I observed how the dumpling was folded with great focus and her grandmother (6) _____ (ask) if I wanted to help.

I (7) _____ (take) a piece of dough and tried to fold it neatly but my first dumpling (8) _____ (look) like a squashed pillow! Everyone (9) _____ (laugh), at the wired looking dumpling, including me. Her grandmother patiently (10) _____ (show) me how to pinch the edges. After a few more tries, I finally made one that looked like a real dumpling.

Later, we (11) _____ (eat) together while the family shared stories about earlier celebrations. Before I left, Mei Lin's grandmother (12) _____ (give) me a red packet to share blessing, good luck and prosperity for the year ahead. I went home smiling while recalling all the fun i had with Mei Lin and her family. Even though, I was (13)_____(worry) and felt a little awkward before joining the celebration but upon returning home all my worries had (14)_____(disappear), and I felt as though I had become part of the family.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Activity C | My Time-Travel Festival Essay

Imagine you travelled back in time. Write a short essay of at least 100 words about one festival.

CHOOSE YOUR FESTIVAL

Your time machine stopped at a celebration in the past. Which one did you visit?

- Chinese New Year
- Deepavali
- Hari Raya Aidilfitri
- Christmas
- Easter

YOUR WRITING MISSION

Give your essay an interesting title. Describe a memorable moment, not just a list of activities.

Write in 2–3 connected paragraphs and submit your work online.

MAKE YOUR STORY FLOW

BEGINNING

When and where did you arrive? Who did you meet? What did you expect?

MIDDLE

What did you see, hear, taste or do? Describe one surprising, funny or meaningful moment.

ENDING

How did the visit end? How did you feel? What did you learn about the festival?

100 words minimum • Simple past tense

LIVEWORKSHEETS

From Writing to Speaking

Use your 100+ word essay to prepare a 30–45-second summary. Do not read the entire essay aloud.

YOUR SPEAKING CHECKLIST

- [ ] Introduce the festival and where you went.
- [ ] Include at least THREE correct past-tense sentences.
- [ ] Share the most interesting moment from your essay.
- [ ] End with what you felt or learned.

1- 2

MINUTES

Speak from a few short notes, live online or in a voice recording.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Teacher Answer Key | Keep This Slide Hidden

Suggested answers and simple formative assessment guidance.

ACTIVITY 1 • 12 MARKS

1. invited
2. felt
3. arrived
4. filled
5. welcomed
6. asked
7. took
8. looked
9. laughed
10. showed
11. ate
12. gave

Award one mark per correct simple past tense form.

ACTIVITY 2 • 8 MARKS

1. celebrated
2. took
3. decorated
4. visited
5. wore
6. lit
7. received
8. ate

One mark for each correctly spelled verb.

LIVEWORKSHEETS