

UNIT 5: READING 1

D. READING

I)-Read the passage about the Pig Slaughter Festival and do the tasks that follow.

Viet Nam Pig Slaughter Festival

The traditional Pig Slaughter Festival is held on the 6th day of the Lunar New Year in Nem Thuong Village, in Bac Ninh Province. This festival is held to commemorate a general in the Ly Dynasty – Doan Thuong, who reclaimed this land. According to legend, the general brought his troops to this land and slaughtered with male pigs to feed his soldiers. The Pig Slaughter Festival originated from this. Pig blood in the festival is believed to symbolize prosperity, vitality and good harvest. However, the festival is known as the most brutal in the country, and many people have asked the government to stop the festival. “Animal Asia” – an international organization to protect animal rights – is calling on the Vietnamese authorities to end the Nem Thuong Pig Slaughter Festival.

Task 1: Match a word in column A with its definition in column B, writing the answer in each blank.

Answer	A	B
_____	1. slaughter (n)	A. the state of being full of energy
_____	2. reclaim (v)	B. soldiers in a large group
_____	3. troops (n)	C. to make land suitable for use
_____	4. symbolize (v)	D. the killing of animals for meat
_____	5. vitality (n)	E. to be a symbol of something

Task 2: Read the passage again, and then answer the following questions.

6. Where and when is the Pig Slaughter Festival held?

7. What is the purpose of this festival?

8. What legend did the festival originate from?

9. What is pig blood in the festival believed to symbolize?

10. Why is the festival asked to stop by many people?
