

Exercise 6

Read the information. Then skim read the paragraphs with the headings again. Choose the correct options to answer the questions.

It is not only the vocabulary of a paragraph that can help you understand what its main idea is. The grammar of a paragraph can also help you.

The annual Busójárás celebration

Agnes Kovacs travels to a small Hungarian town to witness a local festival that has entertained people for hundreds of years

A The effect of the things people wear during the carnival

The costumes are intentionally frightening. Several people walk around the square of the small town wearing masks. The faces are red, with small eyes and large pointed teeth. Then, there are the horns. In some of the costumes, they look like goat's horns. Other masks have bull's horns. The people wear huge cloaks made of sheep skin, which makes them look bigger than they really are. With the sticks and rattles they carry to make noise with, they look like monsters.

B A connection between the carnival and historical events

This carnival has been a tradition in southern Hungary, for several centuries. The town of Mohács was the site of a famous battle between the Hungarians and the Ottoman Empire 500 years ago. The Turkish army was far superior at the time and would eventually overrun most of Hungary. However, the small town of Mohács managed to repel the invaders, albeit briefly. Legend has it that the townspeople dressed up as monsters and managed to drive away the Turks.

C Rituals that have continued to the present day

The carnival is a celebration of continued life and combines historical events with ancient traditions of chasing away the winter darkness. It is held at the end of each winter and, as in many other winter festivals around Europe, a man-like figure is constructed from straw. On the final night of the carnival, the man is paraded through the town and set on fire. People from the town hold hands and dance around the burning man until dawn.

1. Which paragraph mostly uses the past form of verbs? A/B/C
2. Which paragraph uses the present simple and describes things as if the writer is actually there? A/B/C
3. Which paragraph uses the present simple to talk about things that regularly happen? A/B/C