Look at the pictures below and answer the questions.

See if you can guess the answers to questions 1-5.

1. Where is America's National Cherry Blossom Festival held?

2. When does the festival take place?

3. How often is the festival held?

4. Why do people celebrate the festival?









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Read the text below about the National Cherry Blossom Festival to check your answers.

The blooming of the cherry trees in Washington, D.C. is an annual tradition which has come to symbolize the natural beauty of America's capital city. The famous trees herald Washington's rite of spring with a vivid explosion of life and colour that blankets the city's open spaces in a sea of fragrant white and pale pink blossoms.

The first cherry trees were presented as a gift of friendship from the Japanese people to the people of the United States in the early twentieth century. 3,020 cherry trees of different varieties were planted in March 1912, with just over half of the trees being Yoshino Cherry trees.

In Japan, the cherry tree, or "Sakura," is a plant which is valued highly. It is a powerful symbol which represents the transformation of Japanese culture throughout the ages.

Cherry blossom blooming peaks anywhere from mid-March to mid-April, depending on weather conditions. The peak bloom date is defined as the day when seventy percent of the Yoshino Cherry blossoms are open.

Hundreds of thousands of people from around the world visit Washington D.C. every spring, to enjoy seeing the Japanese flowering cherry trees in full bloom.

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Choose the correct answer.

1. When does the Cherry Blossom Festival take place?

a) in winter **b)** in spring **c)** in summer

2. Which of these statements about the text is true?

a) the trees were planted in the 19th century **b)** the trees were a gift from the people of Japan **c)** the trees only flower every other year

3. Which of these statements about the text is false?

a) the festival is a local event **b)** Cherry blossoms are pink and white **c)** Washington D.C. is America's capital city

4. Which of these things does the text tell us?

a) What happens during the festival **b)** when the trees were planted **c)** how many different varieties of tree were planted

5. Which of these things isn't mentioned in the text?

a) how long the trees stay in bloom for **b)** when the trees were planted **c)** how many different varieties of trees were planted

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