5 Then and now

Reading

1 Read the blog post on page 33. Choose the best title (a, b, or c).

a Australians in Asia

b Lunar New Year Around the World

c The Vietnamese New Year

2 Read the blog post again and answer the questions.

1 Where is the writer right now?

_____

2 What country is the writer from?

_____

3 Which countries does the writer talk about?

_____

4 What are the names of three Lunar New Years in the blog post?

_____

3 Read the blog post again. Complete these sentences with the name of a country or city from the blog post.

1 In _____ (country), New Year's Day is celebrated on the same day every year.

2 In _____, _____, and _____ (countries), the date of the New Year is different each year.

3 In _____ and _____ (countries), New Year celebrations last for more than one day.

4 In _____ (country), _____ (city), and _____ (city), there are large New Year celebrations in the streets.



Posted on February 10th, 8:15 p.m.

Hi guys! I'm writing from beautiful Mongolia. It's the festival of *Tsagaan Sar*—the Mongolian Lunar New Year. One thing I'm learning on my trip across Asia is that many countries have different New Year festivals, on different days.

In my home country, Australia, we use a solar calendar. A solar calendar follows the movement of the sun. It has 12 months, and New Year's Day is always on January 1st. But a lunar calendar is based on the movement of the moon. The dates of the lunar new year are different each year.

Mongolia isn't the only country with a lunar new year celebration. In Vietnam, the New Year celebration is called *Tết*, and it's one of the most important festivals for Vietnamese people. The celebration can last for seven days. People visit their families and friends. They bring flowers and presents to their houses. At night, there are noisy celebrations in the streets.

In South Korea, the Lunar New Year is called *Seollal*, and the festival lasts for around three days. Families come together. People wear traditional clothes (called *hanbok*). They eat traditional food, like *tteokguk*, a soup with rice cakes. They also play Korean games, like *jegichagi*, a game with a paper ball.

Now, people celebrate the Lunar New Year outside of Asia, too. In London, there's a big Lunar New Year parade every year. And in Sydney—my hometown—over a million people celebrate the Lunar New Year in the streets. As more and more people move around the world, their celebrations move, too.

How and when do you celebrate the New Year in your country? Post below and tell me!


Street celebrations during *Tết*

4 Read these sentences from the blog post. Are they exact (✔) or not exact (✗)?

1 New Year's Day is always on **January 1st**. ____

2 The festival lasts for **around three days**. ____

3 In Sydney, **over a million people** celebrate the Lunar New Year. ____

Grammar

Simple past *be*

1 Circle the correct option to complete the sentences.

1 Where *were you / you were* born?

2 Marta and I *was / were* at the party yesterday.

3 A: *Was she / She was* on the soccer team?

B: Yes, she *was / wasn't*.

4 I'm sorry, you *was / were* right.

5 A: *Was / Were* you good at math in school?

B: No, I *weren't / wasn't*.

6 I *wasn't / weren't* at work yesterday.

7 The lessons *was / were* really interesting last week.

2 Write sentences and questions with the words given. Use the simple past form of *be*.

1 I / not be / at school on Monday.

I wasn't at school on Monday.

2 Art and English / be / her favorite subjects.

_____

3 What / be / good about your first school?

_____

4 The exam / not be / very difficult.

_____

5 You / be / late for class.

_____

6 We / not be / interested in science.

_____

7 they / be / in France / last summer?

_____

LIVEWORKSHEETS

3 Complete the fact file with the simple past (positive or negative) form of *be*.



Irène Joliot-Curie (1897–1956)

Everyone knows the names Marie and Pierre Curie. They [1]_____ famous scientists and Nobel Prize winners. But Marie and Pierre [2]_____ the only scientists in their family. Their daughter, Irène Joliot-Curie, [3]_____ also a famous scientist. Irène and her husband [4]_____ also Nobel Prize winners. But Irène [5]_____ only interested in science. She [6]_____ also interested in politics. Later in her life, Irène and her husband [7]_____ the winners of another great prize: the French *Légion d'honneur*.

Pronunciation

Stressing syllables

1 51 Listen to the words. How many syllables do they have? Write the words in the correct column of the chart.

1 difficult
2 July
3 hairdresser
4 languages
5 science
6 important
7 explore
8 enjoy

Two syllables	Three syllables

Pronunciation

Understanding sentence stress

1 Look at the sentences. Which words do you think are stressed?

1 The train leaves at four thirty.
2 It's the city's new sports arena.
3 I need to buy some souvenirs for the family.
4 It's only a hundred and fifty meters away.

2 53 Listen to the conversations again. Choose the correct answers.

1 What time does the train leave?
a 4 p.m. b 4:15 p.m. c 4:30 p.m.
2 What sport do they play at the arena?
a baseball b soccer c basketball

Listening

1 53 Listen to four short conversations. What are the man and woman doing?

a They are on a guided tour.
b They are shopping.
c They are watching a soccer game.

3 What kind of museum is it?
a modern art b science c history
4 How far away is the mall?
a 30 meters b 45 meters c 150 meters

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Grammar

There was / There were

1 Circle the correct options to complete the text.

When I was 10 years old, there [1]*was / were* a big festival in my hometown. There [2]*wasn't / weren't* any classes that day. There [3]*was / were* hundreds of people in the streets, and there [4]*was / were* a big parade. There [5]*was / were* food, and there [6]*were / was* drinks. There [7]*weren't / wasn't* a concert, but there [8]*were / was* a few street musicians. It was a great day.

2 Complete the questions with *was there* or *were there*.

1 _____ more than 20 students in the class?

2 _____ a TV in the classroom?

3 How many computers _____?

4 _____ posters on the walls?

5 _____ individual tables?

Vocabulary

Describing a place

1 Match the words (1–4) with their opposites (a–d).

1 clear	○	○ a	noisy
2 crowded	○	○ b	empty
3 pleasant	○	○ c	horrible
4 quiet	○	○ d	dirty

2 Look at the pictures and complete the sentences (1–4) with these adjectives.

crowded empty modern old-fashioned



1 Look at that _____ car!



2 The museum isn't very _____.



3 The town is _____ at night.



4 These buildings look very _____.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Writing

1 Complete the sentences with these words.

having	hope	join	let	place

1 We're _____ a goodbye party for Mike on Saturday.

2 Please _____ me know.

3 We would like you to _____ us.

4 I _____ you can come.

5 The party will take _____ at the Bela Vida Restaurant.

LIVEWORKSHEETS