



Read the text carefully and complete the activities using reading strategies.

Celebrations Around the World

People around the world celebrate special traditions that reflect their history, culture, and values. These celebrations are important because they help people remember their heritage, strengthen family bonds, and bring communities together.

In **Mexico**, people celebrate the **Day of the Dead** on November 1st and 2nd. This important tradition honors family members and friends who have passed away. Families build colorful altars decorated with candles, marigold flowers, sugar skulls, photographs, and the favorite food of their loved ones. Many people visit cemeteries to clean and decorate graves while sharing stories and memories.

In **India**, people celebrate **Holi**, also known as the festival of colors. This exciting celebration usually takes place in March and marks the arrival of spring. During Holi, people throw colored powder and water at each other while dancing, singing, and laughing together. The festival symbolizes happiness, friendship, renewal, and the victory of good over evil. Families and friends gather in open spaces to celebrate and enjoy traditional sweets and special foods.

In **Japan**, people celebrate **Hanami** during spring. Hanami means “flower viewing” and is one of the most beautiful traditions in Japanese culture. During this celebration, families and friends gather in parks to admire the cherry blossoms, also called sakura. They usually sit under the trees, share meals, take photographs, and enjoy the peaceful atmosphere. Hanami reminds people to appreciate beauty and the short, precious moments of life.

In **China**, people celebrate **Chinese New Year**, which is one of the most important celebrations in the country. This festival marks the beginning of the lunar new year and is usually celebrated between January and February. Families clean their homes to remove bad luck and decorate them with red lanterns and paper decorations that symbolize prosperity and happiness. They prepare large meals, exchange red envelopes with money, and watch fireworks.

In **Brazil**, people celebrate **Carnival**, one of the most famous festivals in the world. It usually takes place before Lent and attracts millions of people every year. During Carnival, people wear bright costumes, dance samba, participate in colorful parades, and celebrate in the streets. Music plays an important role, and cities become full of energy and excitement. Carnival is a time for joy, creativity, and cultural expression.

In **Germany**, people celebrate **Oktoberfest**, a traditional festival that began in Munich. It is celebrated every year from late September to early October. During Oktoberfest, people wear traditional Bavarian clothing, listen to live music, enjoy traditional food, and participate in cultural activities. Families and tourists gather in large decorated tents to celebrate together.

In the **United States**, people celebrate **Thanksgiving** every November. This holiday is a time for families and friends to gather and express gratitude for the good things in their lives. People usually share a large meal that often includes turkey, vegetables, and pumpkin pie. Many families also watch parades or football games.

Although these celebrations are very different in their customs, colors, and activities, they all help preserve culture, strengthen relationships, and create unforgettable memories. They remind us that traditions are an important part of human life because they connect people to their history, their families, and their communities.

I. Choose the correct answer. Use Skimming.

1. What is the main idea of the text?

- a) School activities
- b) Celebrations around the world
- c) Sports events

II. Answer the questions. Use Scanning

2. When is Day of the Dead celebrated?
3. What do people throw during Holi?
4. What do people admire during Hanami?
5. What decoration is common during Chinese New Year?
6. What dance is associated with Carnival?
7. What do families do during Thanksgiving?

III. True or False. Read the following statements, write T if the statement is correct, and F if its incorrect.

8. ____ Hanami is celebrated in Japan.
9. ____ Carnival is celebrated in China.
10. ____ Holi celebrates friendship.
11. ____ Oktoberfest is celebrated in Germany.