

Celebrations Have Meaning

Read for meaning, then compare traditions.

2.12 "Culture. The student understands ethnic and/or cultural celebrations. The student is expected to: identify the significance of various ethnic and/or cultural celebrations; and compare ethnic and/or cultural celebrations."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline words that tell why each celebration matters. Circle one way the celebrations are alike, then write 1 and 2 beside a different purpose for each celebration.

Lights, Food, and New Beginnings

- ① Lunar New Year is celebrated by many families in China, Korea, Vietnam, and other places. It welcomes a new year on a lunar calendar. Families may clean their homes, share special meals, and visit relatives to wish them health and good luck.
- ② Diwali is a festival celebrated by many Hindus, Jains, Sikhs, and Buddhists. For many people, lights are an important part of Diwali. Families may light lamps, gather with loved ones, and share food. The lights can stand for hope and goodness.
- ③ Both celebrations bring families together and include special foods. Lunar New Year welcomes a new year, while Diwali uses lights to show hope and goodness. People celebrate in different ways because families and communities have their own traditions.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 Why is Lunar New Year important to many people?

2 What is one way Lunar New Year and Diwali are alike?

3 How is the meaning of Diwali different from the meaning of Lunar New Year?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Choose a cultural celebration you know about. Fill in one row for it and one row for Lunar New Year or Diwali. Tell why each celebration is important and write one way they are alike or different.

CELEBRATION	WHY IT IS IMPORTANT	ALIKE OR DIFFERENT

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline words that tell why each celebration matters. Circle one way the celebrations are alike, then write 1 and 2 beside a different purpose for each celebration. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Why is Lunar New Year important to many people?	It welcomes a new year on a lunar calendar.
2	What is one way Lunar New Year and Diwali are alike?	Both bring families together and include special foods.
3	How is the meaning of Diwali different from the meaning of Lunar New Year?	Diwali lights can stand for hope and goodness, while Lunar New Year welcomes a new year.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

CELEBRATION	WHY IT IS IMPORTANT	ALIKE OR DIFFERENT
Día de los Muertos	It honors family members who have died.	It is different from Lunar New Year because it remembers loved ones who died.
Lunar New Year	It welcomes a new year.	It is different from Día de los Muertos because it welcomes a new year.

Accept passage-based wording for the three questions. For Your Turn, accept an accurate celebration, an appropriate significance, and a clear comparison to Lunar New Year or Diwali.