

Celebrations Tell Stories

Find how celebrations honor people, history, and shared traditions.

3.10 "Culture. The student understands ethnic and/or cultural celebrations of the local community and other communities. The student is expected to: explain the significance of various ethnic and/or cultural celebrations in the local community..."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle each celebration name. Underline words that tell why the celebration is important, then number one similarity you notice among the celebrations.

Celebrations in Communities

- ① In the local community, some families celebrate Día de los Muertos on November 1 and 2. They may build an ofrenda, or altar, with photos, flowers, and favorite foods to honor family members who died. This Mexican tradition is not a sad holiday alone. It is a time to remember loved ones and share stories about them.
- ② In Chinese and other Asian communities, Lunar New Year welcomes a new year on a lunar calendar. Families gather for reunion meals, clean their homes, and give children red envelopes. Lion or dragon dances may appear at public events. The celebration brings families together and expresses hopes for health, luck, and a good year ahead.
- ③ In many U.S. communities, Juneteenth marks June 19, 1865, when news of freedom reached enslaved people in Galveston, Texas, more than two years after the Emancipation Proclamation. People may hold parades, music programs, meals, and learning events. Juneteenth remembers freedom and honors Black history. Like the other celebrations, it joins people through shared traditions and stories.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 Why do some families celebrate Día de los Muertos?

2 What hopes does Lunar New Year express?

3 What does Juneteenth remember and honor?

4 Tell one way Lunar New Year and Juneteenth are alike. Then tell one way they are different.

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write three sentences about a cultural celebration you know about. Explain why it is important, then compare it with one celebration in the passage by telling one similarity and one difference.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Circle each celebration name. Underline words that tell why the celebration is important, then number one similarity you notice among the celebrations. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Why do some families celebrate Día de los Muertos?	They celebrate it to honor loved ones who died, remember them, and share stories about them.
2	What hopes does Lunar New Year express?	It expresses hopes for health, luck, and a good year ahead.
3	What does Juneteenth remember and honor?	Juneteenth remembers freedom and honors Black history.
4	Tell one way Lunar New Year and Juneteenth are alike. Then tell one way they are different.	Both bring people together through shared traditions and stories. Lunar New Year welcomes a new year, while Juneteenth remembers freedom and honors Black history.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

My family celebrates Diwali by lighting lamps and sharing sweets. Diwali celebrates the victory of light over darkness, and it brings our family together. Like Lunar New Year, it includes family gatherings, but Diwali uses lamps while Lunar New Year may include red envelopes and lion or dragon dances.

Accept answers that accurately state each celebration's significance using passage details. For the open response, accept any accurate cultural celebration, a clear reason it matters, and one valid similarity and difference with a passage celebration.