

Holidays and Traditions

Preview

GOALS After Unit 7, you will be able to:

- 1 Wish someone a good holiday.
- 2 Ask about local customs.
- 3 Exchange information about holidays.
- 4 Explain wedding traditions.



Japan

People picnicking and viewing the cherry blossoms at a *Hanami* party in Japan



Korea

A couple dressed in the traditional hanbok during the Korean holiday of *Chuseok*



United States

Thanksgiving dinner in the United States, featuring the traditional main dish of roast turkey



Mexico

Friends who have come together for *Quinceañera* to celebrate a girl's fifteenth birthday and her entry into adulthood in Mexico



Brazil

Dancers in the fantastic costumes of Brazil's world-famous yearly celebration of *Carnaval*

A Look at the photos. Which traditions are you already familiar with? Which ones would you like to know more about? Why?

B Discussion Why do people think it's important to keep traditions alive? Do you think it's important to learn about the customs and traditions of other cultures? Explain your reasons.

C **Photo story** Read and listen to a conversation about holiday traditions.



Basma: Wow! That dress your sister's wearing is gorgeous! What was the occasion?

Mi-Cha: Oh, that was for Chuseok. The dress is called a hanbok.

Basma: Did you say Chuseok? What's that—a holiday?

Mi-Cha: That's right. It's a traditional Korean holiday. It takes place in September or October each year to celebrate the harvest.

Basma: So does everyone dress up like that?

Mi-Cha: Some people do.



Basma: So what else does everyone do on Chuseok?

Mi-Cha: We get together with our relatives. And we eat a lot!

Basma: Well, that sounds nice.

Mi-Cha: Not only that, but we go to our hometowns and visit the graves of our ancestors.

Basma: So I suppose the airports and train stations are mobbed with people, right?

Mi-Cha: Totally. And the traffic is impossible. It takes hours to get anywhere.



Basma: I think every country's got at least one holiday like that!

Mi-Cha: What holiday comes to mind for you?

Basma: It reminds me of Eid al-Adha, a four-day religious holiday we celebrate where I come from.

Mi-Cha: In what way?

Basma: Well, people put on their best clothes, and we eat a ton of great food. We also travel to be with our relatives and visit the graves of our loved ones who have died.

Mi-Cha: How about that! Sounds just like our holiday.

Basma: Arabic speaker, Mi-Cha: Korean speaker

D Paraphrase Say each of the underlined expressions from the Photo Story in your own way. **F Pair work** Complete the chart about traditions in your country. Present your information to the class.

- 1 It takes place in September or October.
.....
- 2 We get together with our relatives.
.....
- 3 The train stations are mobbed with people.
.....
- 4 The traffic is impossible.
.....
- 5 It reminds me of Eid al-Adha.
.....

E Focus on language Write five sentences about a holiday or a tradition in your country, using the underlined language from Exercise D.

Songkran takes place in April.

| | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| A special type of clothing | Explain when it is worn. |
| | |
| A type of music | Explain when it is played. |
| | |
| A special dish | Explain when it is eaten. |
| | |
| A traditional dance | Explain when it is danced. |
| | |
| A special event | Explain what happens. |
| | |

GOAL Wish someone a good holiday

CONVERSATION MODEL

A ^{4:03} Read and listen to a conversation about a holiday.

- A: I heard there's going to be a holiday next week.
 B: That's right. The Harvest Moon Festival.
 A: What kind of holiday is it?
 B: It's a seasonal holiday that takes place in autumn. People spend time with their families and eat moon cakes.
 A: Well, have a great Harvest Moon Festival!
 B: Thanks! Same to you!

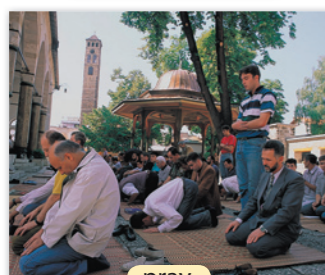
B ^{4:04} **Rhythm and intonation** Listen again and repeat. Then practice the Conversation Model with a partner.

^{4:05} **Types of holidays**
 seasonal
 historical
 religious



VOCABULARY Ways to commemorate a holiday

A ^{4:06} Read and listen. Then listen again and repeat.



B Pair work Match the Vocabulary with holidays and celebrations you know.

“Everyone wears costumes on . . .”

C ^{4:07} **Listening comprehension** Listen and use the Vocabulary to complete the chart.

| Type of holiday | What people do to celebrate |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Mardi Gras (U.S.) | |
| Bastille Day (France) | |
| Tsagaan Sar (Mongolia) | |

GRAMMAR Adjective clauses with subject relative pronouns who and that

Adjective clauses identify or describe people or things. Introduce adjective clauses about people with who or that.

- A mariachi singer is someone **who** (or **that**) sings traditional Mexican music.
 Carnival is a great holiday for people **who** (or **that**) like parades.
 Anyone **who** (or **that**) doesn't wear a costume can't go to the festival.

Use that, not who, for adjective clauses that describe things.

- Thanksgiving is a celebration **that** takes place in November.
 The gifts **that** people exchange are not very expensive.

Be careful! Don't use a subject pronoun after the relative pronouns who or that.
 Don't say: Thanksgiving is a celebration that it takes place in November.

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- Adjective clauses: common errors
- Reflexive pronouns
- By + reflexive pronouns
- Reciprocal pronouns: *each other* and *one another*

A Understand the grammar Underline the adjective clauses and circle the relative pronouns. Then draw an arrow from the relative pronoun to the noun or pronoun it describes.

- Ramadan is a religious tradition that Muslims observe all over the world.
- Chuseok is a Korean holiday that celebrates the yearly harvest.
- In the U.S., the costumes that people wear on Halloween are usually inexpensive.
- The celebrations that take place in Brazil during Carnival are a lot of fun.
- April Fool's Day is a holiday that people celebrate in many countries around the world.
- The Dragon Boat Festival in China is a celebration that takes place on the fifth day of the fifth moon, in May or June.

B Grammar practice On a separate sheet of paper, write five sentences with adjective clauses to describe some holidays and traditions in your country.

... is a religious tradition that ...

... is a great holiday for people who ...

NOW YOU CAN Wish someone a good holiday

A Pair work Use your holiday chart from page 75 to role-play the Conversation Model with a visitor to your country. Wish each other a good holiday. Then change roles.

- A: I heard there's going to be a holiday next
 B: That's right.
 A: What kind of holiday is it?
 B: It's a holiday that takes place in People
 A: Well, have a !
 B: Thanks! Same to you!

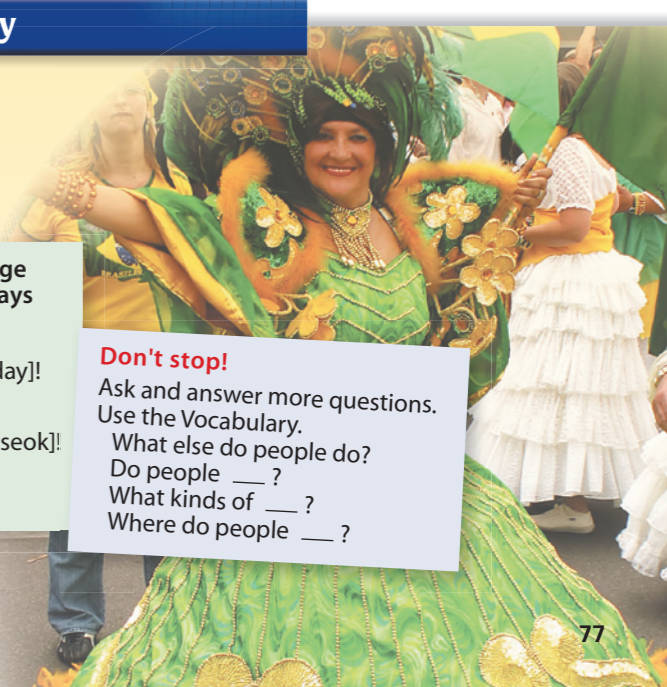
Some ways to exchange good wishes on holidays

- Have a { nice, good, great, happy } [holiday]!
 Enjoy yourself on [Chuseok]!
 You too!
 Same to you!

B Change partners Exchange wishes about other holidays.

Don't stop!

- Ask and answer more questions. Use the Vocabulary.
 What else do people do?
 Do people ___ ?
 What kinds of ___ ?
 Where do people ___ ?



GOAL Ask about local customs

CONVERSATION MODEL

A ^{4:08} Read and listen to a conversation about local customs.

- A: Do you mind if I ask you about something?
 B: Of course not. What's up?
 A: I'm not sure about the customs here. If someone invites you for dinner, should you bring the host a gift?
 B: Yes. It's a good idea. But the gift that you bring should be inexpensive.
 A: Would it be appropriate to bring flowers?
 B: Definitely!
 A: Thanks. That's really helpful.

B ^{4:09} **Rhythm and intonation** Listen again and repeat. Then practice the Conversation Model with a partner.



GRAMMAR Adjective clauses with object relative pronouns *who*, *whom*, and *that*

In some adjective clauses, the relative pronoun is the subject of the clause.

The person **who comes for dinner** should bring a gift.
 (*who* = subject / **The person** comes for dinner.)

In other adjective clauses, the relative pronoun is the object of the clause.

The person **who** (or **whom** or **that**) **you invite for dinner** should bring a gift.
 (*who* = object / You invite **the person** for dinner.)

When the relative pronoun is the object of the clause, it may be omitted.

The person **you invite for dinner** should bring a gift.

Be careful!

When the relative pronoun is the subject of the clause, it can NOT be omitted.

Don't say: ~~The person comes for dinner~~ should bring a gift.

Do not use an object pronoun after the verb.

Don't say: The person who you invite ~~them~~ for dinner . . .

Relative pronouns

- Use *who* or *that* for a subject of a clause.
- Use *who*, *whom*, or *that* for an object of a clause.

Note: *Whom* is very formal.

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- Adjective clauses: *who* and *whom* in formal English

A Understand the grammar Correct the error in the adjective clause in each sentence. Explain each correction.

- Putting butter on a child's nose is a birthday tradition ^{that} ~~who~~ people observe on the Atlantic coast of Canada. “Only use *who* for people.”
- On the Day of the Dead, Mexicans remember family members ~~who~~ they have died.
- The tomatoes ~~that~~ people throw them at each other during La Tomatina in Buñol, Spain, make a terrible mess.
- The performer sang ~~that~~ traditional holiday song is world-famous.
- The fireworks people set them off during the summer festivals in Japan are very beautiful.

B Grammar practice Complete the adjective clause in each sentence, using the cues. Omit the relative pronoun when possible.

- People *who visit other countries* should find out the local customs.
People visit other countries.
- The man *You were talking with the man.* plays in a mariachi band.
- The young people *You saw the young people in the parade.* were all wearing traditional costumes.
- The traditional Chinese dress *She's wearing the dress.* is called a cheongsam.
- Anzac Day is a holiday *People celebrate the holiday in Australia.* to remember the soldiers who died in wars.



A Chinese woman wearing a traditional cheongsam

PRONUNCIATION “Thought groups”

A ^{4:10} “Thought groups” clarify the meaning of sentences. Notice how sentence rhythm indicates how thoughts are grouped. Listen and repeat.

- The person who comes for dinner should bring flowers.
- The man we invited to the party is from Senegal.
- The song that you were listening to is fado music from Portugal.
- The Cherry Blossom Festival is a tradition that people observe in Japan every spring.

B Practice reading the sentences you completed in B Grammar Practice, breaking the sentences into thought groups.

NOW YOU CAN Ask about local customs

A Pair work Change the Conversation Model. Role-play a conversation in which you ask about local customs. Use the ideas from the box below. Then change roles.

- A: Do you mind if I ask you about something?
 B: What's up?
 A: I'm not sure about the customs here. If , should ?
 B:
 A: Would it be appropriate to ?
 B:
 A: Thanks. That's really helpful.

Ideas

- someone invites you out for dinner
- someone invites you to a party
- someone gives you a gift
- someone makes a special effort to help you
- your own idea: _____

Don't stop!

Ask and answer other questions.
 Is it OK if _____ ?
 Would it be possible to _____ ?
 Should I _____ ?



B Change partners Ask about local customs in other situations.

BEFORE YOU READ

Preview Look at the photos and the names of the holidays in the Reading. How would you categorize each holiday—historical, seasonal, or religious? Are you familiar with any of these holidays? What do you know about them?

READING 

Holidays Around the World

Ramadan, the Month of Fasting

“May you be well throughout the year” is the typical greeting during Ramadan, the ninth month of the Islamic calendar, a special occasion for over one billion Muslims throughout the world. According to Islamic tradition, Ramadan marks the time when Muhammad received the word of God through the Koran. Throughout the month, Muslims fast—totally abstaining from food and drink from the break of dawn until the setting of the sun. It is also a time of increased worship and giving to the poor and the community. Ramadan ends with the festival of Eid ul-Fitr—three days of family celebrations—and eating!



Worshippers pray during Ramadan.

wish their parents a healthy and happy new year and receive red envelopes with money inside. It is customary for people to give each other small gifts of fruits and sweets and to visit older family members. In the street, lion and dragon dancers set off more firecrackers to chase away evil spirits.



Dragon dancers chase away evil spirits.

Simón Bolívar's Birthday

Simón Bolívar was born on July 24, 1783 in Caracas, Venezuela. He is known throughout Latin America as “The Liberator” because of his fight for independence from Spain. He led the armies that freed Venezuela, Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, and Panama. He is memorialized in many ways, but two countries celebrate his birthday every July 24th—Venezuela and Ecuador. On that day, schools and most general businesses are closed and there are military parades and government ceremonies. But the malls are open and people usually use the holiday to go shopping.



Bolívar led the fight for independence

A Scan for facts Complete the chart. Check the holidays on which each tradition is observed, according to the information in the Reading. Explain your answers.

| On this holiday, people... | Bolívar's Birthday | Chinese New Year | Ramadan |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| give each other gifts. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| wear costumes. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| pray. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| wish each other well. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| get together with their families. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| perform traditional dances. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| decorate their homes. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| celebrate for several days. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| give away money. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| have parades. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| avoid eating during the day. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Which holiday is celebrated in more than one country?

Simón Bolívar's Birthday Chinese New Year Ramadan

B Compare and contrast Which holiday or traditions from the Reading do you find the most interesting? Why?

C Relate to personal experience Name one holiday you know for each tradition in the chart.

On your *ActiveBook* Self-Study Disc:
Extra Reading Comprehension Questions

NOW YOU CAN Exchange information about holidays

A Notepadding With a partner, choose three holidays in your country. Discuss the traditions of each holiday and write notes about them on your notepads.

| | A historical holiday | A seasonal holiday | A religious holiday |
|------------------|----------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| name of holiday | | | |
| purpose | | | |
| typical food | | | |
| typical music | | | |
| typical clothing | | | |
| other traditions | | | |

B Group work Choose one of the holidays from your notepad and give an oral report to your classmates. Each student has to ask you one question.

 **Be sure to recycle this language.**

Traditionally, people ____ .
It's customary to ____ .
It's probably best to ____ .

It's offensive to ____ .
____ is taboo.
It's impolite to ____ .

GOAL Explain wedding traditions

BEFORE YOU LISTEN

A ^{4:12} **Vocabulary** • *Getting married* Read and listen. Then listen again and repeat.

The events

- an engagement** an agreement to marry someone—**get engaged** v.
- a (marriage) ceremony** the set of actions that formally makes two single people become a married couple—**get married** v.
- a wedding** a formal marriage ceremony, especially one with a religious service
- a reception** a large formal party after a wedding ceremony
- a honeymoon** a vacation taken by two newlyweds after their wedding

B Discussion Read about wedding traditions in many English-speaking countries. How are these similar or different from traditions practiced in your country?

The people

- a fiancé** a man who is engaged
- a fiancée** a woman who is engaged
- a bride** a woman at the time she gets married
- a groom** a man at the time he gets married
- newlyweds** the bride and groom immediately after the wedding



The bride throws the bouquet after the wedding ceremony. The woman who catches it is believed to be the next to get married.



The newlyweds cut the cake together at the wedding reception.



The groom carries the bride "across the threshold," through the doorway to their new home. Soon after the wedding, they go on their honeymoon.

LISTENING COMPREHENSION

A ^{4:13} **Listen for the main idea** Listen to Part 1 of a lecture about a traditional Indian wedding. Which of the following statements best summarizes the information?

- a An Indian couple gets engaged long before the wedding.
- b There's a lot of preparation before an Indian wedding.
- c An Indian wedding lasts for days.

B ^{4:14} **Listen for details** Listen again to Part 1 and circle the best way to complete each statement.

- 1 A traditional Hindu wedding celebration can last for more than (two / five) days.
- 2 The bride's and groom's birthdates are used to choose the (engagement / wedding) date.
- 3 Before the wedding, musicians visit the (bride's / groom's) home.
- 4 The (bride / groom) is washed with oil.
- 5 An older relative offers the (bride / groom) money.
- 6 Relatives spend a lot of time painting the (bride's / groom's) skin.

C ^{4:15} **Listen for the main idea** Now listen to Part 2 of the lecture. What is the information mainly about?

- a the wedding ceremony
- b the honeymoon
- c the reception after the wedding

D ^{4:16} **Listen for details** Listen again to Part 2 and check the statements that are true. Correct the statements that are false.

- 1 Relatives wash the bride's and groom's hands.
- 2 The bride is seated behind a cloth so the groom cannot see her.
- 3 Relatives throw rice grains at the bride and groom.
- 4 The couple gives each other rings made of flowers.
- 5 The groom places a flower necklace around the bride's neck.

NOW YOU CAN Explain wedding traditions

A Frame your ideas With a partner, read each saying or proverb about weddings and marriage. Discuss what you think each one means.

"Marry off your son when you wish. Marry off your daughter when you can."
Italy

"Marriages are all happy. It's having breakfast together that causes all the trouble."
Ireland

"Marriage is just friendship if there are no children."
South Africa

"The woman cries before the wedding and the man after."
Poland

Advice to the bride: "Wear something old and something new, something borrowed, and something blue."
United Kingdom

B Discussion Do you find any of the sayings or proverbs offensive? Why or why not? What sayings or proverbs about weddings do you know in your own language?

C Notepadding On your notepad, make a list of wedding traditions in your country. Compare your lists with those of other groups.

D Pair work Role-play a conversation in which you describe local wedding traditions to a visitor to your country. Ask and answer questions about the details.

“So how does a couple get engaged here?”

“Well, before they get engaged, they have to . . .”

| |
|--------------------------|
| Before the wedding: |
| |
| |
| |
| At the wedding ceremony: |
| |
| |
| |
| After the wedding: |
| |
| |
| |

Review



More Practice
ActiveBook Self-Study Disc

grammar • vocabulary • listening
reading • speaking • pronunciation

A ^{4:17} **Listening comprehension** Listen to each conversation and circle the occasion or the people they are talking about. Then circle T if the statement is true or F if it is false. Correct any false statements.

- 1 an engagement / a reception / a honeymoon
- 2 an engagement / a reception / a honeymoon
- 3 a bride / a groom / relatives
- 4 a bride / a groom / relatives

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| T | F | The man who is speaking is the groom. |
| T | F | The man who is speaking is the groom. |
| T | F | The woman who is speaking is the bride. |
| T | F | The woman who is speaking is a guest. |

B Complete each statement, using the unit Vocabulary. Then write the name of a holiday or celebration you know for each statement.

| Name a holiday when people . . . | Examples |
|-----------------------------------|----------|
| 1 . . . fireworks. | |
| 2 . . . in parades. | |
| 3 . . . picnics. | |
| 4 . . . time with their families. | |
| 5 wear . . . | |
| 6 give . . . gifts. | |
| 7 . . . other well. | |

^{4:18/4:19}
Top Notch Pop
"Endless Holiday"
Lyrics p. 150

C Complete each sentence with an adjective clause.

- 1 A groom is a man *who has just gotten married*
- 2 Eid al-Adha is a religious holiday
- 3 A honeymoon is a vacation
- 4 A hanbok is a traditional dress
- 5 A wedding reception is a party
- 6 Chuseok is a holiday

D On a separate sheet of paper, answer each question in your own way.

- 1 What's your favorite holiday? What kind of holiday is it (seasonal, historical, religious)?
- 2 What's the longest holiday in your country? How long is it?
- 3 What's the most interesting wedding tradition in your country?

My favorite holiday is Semana Santa. It's a religious holiday that takes place for a week in March or April.

WRITING BOOSTER ▶ p. 146
• Descriptive details
• Guidance for Exercise E

E Writing On a separate sheet of paper, describe two different holidays that are celebrated in your country. Include as many details as you can about each.

- What kind of holiday is it?
- When is it celebrated?
- How is it celebrated?
- What do people do / eat / say / wear, etc.?

ORAL REVIEW

Pair work challenge For one minute, look at the photos and Fact Sheet for one of the holidays. Your partner looks at the other holiday. Then close your books. Ask and answer questions about each other's holidays. For example:

Why do people celebrate Songkran?

Pair work Create conversations for the people.

- 1 Ask about one of the holidays. Start like this:
I heard there's going to be a holiday.
- 2 Ask about local customs during the holiday. Start like this:
Do you mind if I ask you something?

Group presentation Choose one of the holidays and give a presentation to your group or class. Use adjective clauses.
Songkran is a seasonal holiday that . . .



Songkran Water Festival

Celebrated in Thailand. Lasts for three days.

- Marks the . . .**
- start of the Buddhist New Year.
 - beginning of the farming season.

- People . . .**
- clean their homes.
 - make offerings at temples.
 - sing and dance in the street.
 - throw lots of water at each other!



NOTE: Don't worry! It's customary for people to throw lots of water at complete strangers on this holiday.

Mexican Independence Day

Celebrated on September 15 and 16.

- Commemorates . . .**
- the beginning of the War of Independence.
 - Mexico's independence from Spain.

- People . . .**
- march in parades.
 - perform traditional music and dances.
 - decorate with the colors of the Mexican flag (red, white, and green).
 - set off fireworks.
 - eat special dishes (sometimes red, white, and green).



NOTE: It's customary for people to shout, "Viva México!" Even if you are not Mexican, you can join in.



NOW I CAN...

- Wish someone a good holiday.
- Ask about local customs.
- Exchange information about holidays.
- Explain wedding traditions.