

**Phrases for explaining festivals and celebrations challenge**

*Use as many of the phrases on the next page as you can to describe (local/ regional/ national/ international) festivals and celebrations, starting with any you like.*

*Ask about any phrases that you couldn't use, are not sure you used correctly, etc, working as a class to make suitable sentences about festivals and celebrations each time.*

**Brainstorming stage**

*Without looking below, write as many suitable phrases as you can in each space below.*

**Phrases for explaining names (including translating names)****Phrases for comparing festivals and celebrations****Phrases for talking about the history of festivals and celebrations****Phrases for talking about how common things are****Phrases for talking about parts of the festival or celebration****Other useful phrases for describing festivals and celebrations**

*Compare below. Many others are possible, so check if you wrote something different.*

### Phrases for explaining names (including translating names)

- (which is) (also) (officially/ unofficially) known as/ called/ nicknamed...
- The direct (= literal) translation of... is.../ Translated word for word ... would be...
- The normal (= usual) translation for ... is...
- ... can (also) be translated as...
- Although there's no obvious translation, ... could be explained as...
- People say... when they are talking about...
- ... is often explained as...
- ... means (something like)...
- ...'s name comes from...

### Phrases for comparing festivals and celebrations

- Similar to in..., people...
- ... has something/ quite a lot/ a lot in common with... but...
- ... is (a bit/ something) like (the British/ American/ Chinese/ Korean/...)... (but...)
- ... is similar to... in (name of country) (because...) (but...)
- ... also exists in China/ Korea/ most Asian countries/... (but...)
- ... only exists in ... (and a couple of other places) and is...
- ... is a kind of/ sort of...
- ... is (closely/ partly/ seemingly) based on...
- ... is a variation on/ a version of...

### Phrases for talking about the history of festivals and celebrations

- Traditionally,...
- Nowadays,/ These days,/ In the modern day.....
- According to the legend/ to myth/ to locals/ to...,.../ ... is said to/ thought to...
- ...'s origins lie in.../ It is based on.../ It originates...
- ... started/ became popular/ spread to.../ ... when...
- ... is changing/ has changed/ is likely to change
- ... has become (more/ less/ more and more/ less and less) popular/ famous/...

### Phrases for talking about how common things are

- It (mainly) consists of...
- The most common... is...
- It's available...

### Phrases for talking about parts of the festival or celebration

- It begins/ ends with...
- It progresses from... to...
- Before/ After it takes place...

### Other useful phrases for describing festivals and celebrations

- It takes place...
- ... take part/ participant.
- In order to celebrate this (properly)/ In order to, people.../ you need to...
- It's a time when...
- People are (not) supposed to/ allowed to...