



Five College Center for the Study of World Languages

Conversation Preparation Guides

Title: Community Celebrations

Topic: Holidays and Celebrations

Level: Intermediate

Practice on Your Own

Holidays and festivals are very important in many cultures around the world. Often people in a community organize to celebrate holidays or festivals together.

- Make a list of holidays and festivals that are celebrated in the country/ies where the language is spoken.
- Figure out which ones are celebrated as a community. Choose a couple from the list.
- Find out how people plan in a community to celebrate these holidays or festivals. In some places they may organize performances like dancing and singing, other arts like henna, etc. In some communities the celebration may be very long; it may last a whole day, or even multiple days. Sometimes there are snacks during the performances and other events; other times the celebration is followed by a lunch or a dinner.
- Make a comparison between a community celebration in your country and one in the country/ies where the language is spoken.

Practice in Conversation Session

- Name the holidays and festivals celebrated in the country/ies where the language is spoken.
- Ask your conversation partner about these celebrations and their importance in the country/ies.
- Do role plays where you ask your conversation partner about what people do for a few holidays or festivals that you chose to learn about. Switch roles and repeat the conversation.
- Have a conversation with your conversation partner and classmates in which you discuss the similarities and differences in the ways holidays and festivals are celebrated in your culture and other cultures, including in the country/ies where the language is spoken.

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