



SPECIAL DAYS

Discussion

Basic questions

1 What festivals do you celebrate in your country?

**We have different festivals in our country like....*

2 How do you celebrate them?

**We celebrate them by...*

3 Do you celebrate Christmas Day?

**Yes, we celebrate Christmas Day. / No, we don't celebrate Christmas day.*

4 When is your birthday?

**My birthday is on...*

5 How do you usually celebrate your birthday?

**I usually celebrate it by...*

6 What is the most memorable birthday present you have received?

**The most memorable birthday present I've received is...*

Extended questions

1 Are celebrations and gift-giving important during a person's birthday?

**Yes, I think they are important... / No, they aren't important...*

2 What are the traditions in your country during New Year celebration? Is there any special food?

**The traditions in my country during New Year's celebration are...*

Yes, there are some special foods like...

3 In your country, do people celebrate Mother's Day and Father's Day?

What do you do on those days?

**In my country, we celebrate...day. We usually...*

4 If you can add a festival in your country, what would it be? Why?

**If I could add a festival in my country, it'd be...because...*

Vocabulary



1 celebrate /'selibreit/

[verb] to do something special or enjoyable for an important event, occasion, holiday, etc.

Ex. Jake's passed his exams. We're going out to celebrate.

2 celebration /,seli'breiʃn/ [noun]

a special event that people organize in order to celebrate something/ the act of celebrating something Ex. There were lively New Year celebrations all over town.

Ex. Let's have some celebration!

3 anniversary /,æni'və:səri/

[noun] a date that is remembered or celebrated because a special or notable event occurred on that date in a previous year

Ex. My parents will celebrate their 20th wedding anniversary in Europe.

4 tradition /trə'diʃn/

[noun] a belief, custom or way of doing something that has existed for a long time among a particular group of people; a set of these beliefs or customs

Ex. It's a tradition in our family to have a party on New Year's Eve.

5 delicacy /'delikəsi/

[noun] something especially rare or expensive that is good to eat

Ex. In some parts of the world, sheep's eyes are considered a great delicacy.

6 festival /'festivəl/

[noun] a special time or event when people gather to celebrate something

Ex. Vietnam has a lot of interesting festivals throughout the year.

Useful Expressions

1 **To propose a toast** : to ask a group of people at a social occasion to drink to the health and happiness of a specified person

Ex. I'd like to propose a toast to the bride and groom.

2 **throw a party** : have a party

Ex. We're throwing a party next Saturday.

3 **kick off** : to begin something; to hold a party or ceremony to mark the start of something

Ex. They kicked off the celebration with a parade.



Idioms

1 **ring out the old, ring in the new** : to celebrate the end of a year while celebrating the beginning of a new one.

Ex. I don't plan to ring out the old this year. I'm just going to go to bed.

2 **more fun than a barrel of monkeys** - extremely wonderful, enjoyable

Ex. This is the best birthday party ever! It's more fun than a barrel of monkeys.

3 **party is over** - happy time or days are finished

Ex. It's 12 midnight guys! Party is over! Go home everyone.

4 **paint the town red** - go out in the evening and have fun at bars or clubs

Ex. John's idea of a birthday celebration was painting the town red so we all went to Happy Club Bar last night.

5 **a wet blanket** - someone who doesn't like having a good time

Ex. You should have even just one bottle of beer. Don't be a wet blanket!