



Whose Festival Is It?

Read the passage and answer the questions. (CEFR B1–B2)

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1 In 2005, UNESCO recognized the Gangneung Danoje Festival in South Korea as a masterpiece of intangible heritage. Many people in China were shocked, and some newspapers complained that Korea had taken a Chinese festival. Four years later, China's own Dragon Boat Festival was added to the UNESCO list, becoming the first Chinese festival to receive this honor.



2 Yet the two festivals are quite different. Gangneung's celebration centers on shamanist rituals, mask dramas, and local folk games, while the Chinese festival is known for boat races and zongzi. Japan's Tango no Sekku has changed even more, turning into a day for children with carp streamers and samurai helmets. In Vietnam, Tết Đoan Ngọ, sometimes called the bug-killing festival, adds yet another local meaning to the same date.

3 The debate raises a deeper question about cultural ownership. UNESCO lists are designed to protect living traditions, not to give any single country ownership of them. When a tradition spreads across borders and develops in new ways, does it still belong to its place of origin? Perhaps the most accurate answer is that the Double Fifth now belongs to everyone who keeps it alive.

Comprehension

1. What is the main idea of the passage?

- ☐ (A) Festivals with the same origin have developed differently in different countries, which raises questions about cultural ownership.
- ☐ (B) South Korea copied the Dragon Boat Festival from China.
- ☐ (C) UNESCO decided that the Double Fifth belongs only to China.
- ☐ (D) Japan's Tango no Sekku is exactly the same as the Chinese festival.

2. What happened in 2005?

- ☐ (A) China's Dragon Boat Festival was added to the UNESCO list.
- ☐ (B) Vietnam started the bug-killing festival.
- ☐ (C) UNESCO recognized the Gangneung Danoje Festival in South Korea.
- ☐ (D) Japan changed Tango no Sekku into Children's Day.

3. How is the Gangneung celebration different from the Chinese festival?

- ☐ (A) It is held on a different day of the year.
- ☐ (B) It centers on shamanist rituals, mask dramas, and local folk games.
- ☐ (C) It is known for boat races and zongzi.
- ☐ (D) It is a day for children with carp streamers.

4. Why were many people in China probably shocked in 2005?

- ☐ (A) They had never heard of UNESCO before.
- ☐ (B) They thought South Korea had stopped celebrating Danoje.
- ☐ (C) They wanted Japan to join the UNESCO list.
- ☐ (D) They believed the festival was originally Chinese and felt it was being taken away.

5. In paragraph 2, the phrase 'centers on' is closest in meaning to

- ☐ (A) focuses mainly on
- ☐ (B) takes place in the middle of
- ☐ (C) stays far away from
- ☐ (D) is paid for by

6. Why does the writer mention Japan's Tango no Sekku and Vietnam's Tết Đoan Ngọ?

- ☐ (A) To prove that Japan and Vietnam started the festival.
- ☐ (B) To show that both countries want to be on the UNESCO list.
- ☐ (C) To show that the same date has developed different meanings in different places.
- ☐ (D) To explain how to make zongzi.



Vocabulary, Paraphrase & Summary

Match the words with the definitions. Then rewrite and summarize.

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| 1. recognize | a. correct and true in every detail |
| 2. masterpiece | b. to officially accept that something is important, true, or valuable |
| 3. complain | c. an excellent work of art or skill, one of the best of its kind |
| 4. center on | d. to say that you are unhappy or not satisfied about something |
| 5. folk | e. to have something as the main subject or activity |
| 6. ownership | f. traditional and coming from ordinary people in a particular area |
| 7. origin | g. the fact of owning something or having the right to it |
| 8. accurate | h. the place or point where something begins |

Paraphrase — say it in your own words

1. “Many people in China were shocked, and some newspapers complained that Korea had taken a Chinese festival.”

Hint: Use 'surprised' and 'said that Korea had stolen'.

2. “UNESCO lists are designed to protect living traditions, not to give any single country ownership of them.”

Hint: Start with 'The purpose of UNESCO lists is ...' and use 'does not mean'.

3. “Perhaps the most accurate answer is that the Double Fifth now belongs to everyone who keeps it alive.”

Hint: Use 'Maybe', 'the best answer', and 'continue to celebrate'.

Summary

Summarize the passage in about 50 words.



Debate & Opinion Essay

Prepare for a debate. Then write your opinion (100–150 words).

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Motion: A festival belongs to the country where it began.

FOR 賛成

- The Double Fifth began in China, so China has a special connection to its history and stories, such as Qu Yuan.
- Recognizing the place of origin shows respect for the people who created the tradition.
- Without clear origins, the history behind a festival may be forgotten as it spreads.

Add your own reason:

AGAINST 反対

- UNESCO lists are designed to protect living traditions, not to give any single country ownership of them.
- Korea, Japan, and Vietnam have developed very different customs, so each version belongs to the people who practice it.
- Traditions always travel and change; the people who keep a festival alive today are its true owners.

Add your own reason:

Opinion	<i>I believe / I think that ...</i>
Reason 1	<i>First, ... For example, ...</i>
Reason 2	<i>Second, ... In fact, ...</i>
Counter	<i>Some people say ... However, ...</i>
Conclusion	<i>In conclusion, ...</i>