

Festival Reflections: A Guide to Cultural Celebrations

Learning objective: To write a balanced, descriptive report about a significant festival, exploring its origins, traditions, and personal or communal significance.

Use this scaffold to structure your report. Ensure you include historical context, describe specific customs, and provide an analytical reflection on why these celebrations remain important today.

Festivals serve as vibrant threads in the tapestry of human history, connecting communities through shared rituals and ancient traditions.

Word bank: furthermore · consequently · in addition to · traditionally · symbolises · significance · commemorate · on the contrary · notably · culturally · nevertheless · in essence

1. Introduction: Define the festival you have chosen and explain its primary purpose. Start your paragraph with: The festival of [Name] is a significant event celebrated by... (2 marks)

2. Historical Origins: Explain the background of the festival. What might happen if this historical event or belief were forgotten? Start with: Historically, this celebration originated from... (3 marks)

3. Customs and Traditions: Describe the activities, foods, or clothes associated with the festival. Compare and contrast how it is celebrated in different parts of the world. Start with: During this festival, it is customary to... (3 marks)

4. Symbolism: Explain the deeper meaning behind the symbols used. Justify why these specific symbols are chosen. Start with: The symbols used, such as [Symbol], represent... (3 marks)

5. Personal and Communal Value: Reflect on why these festivals are still important in modern society. Start with: Although times have changed, the festival remains vital because... (3 marks)

6. Conclusion: Summarise your findings and explain why cultural diversity in celebrations benefits our society. Start with: In conclusion, the enduring nature of [Name] highlights... (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Imagine a new festival created to celebrate the importance of protecting our planet. Write a proposal for this event, detailing the traditions, the symbolic colours used, and a special meal that represents sustainability. Justify your choices by explaining how these elements help people connect with nature.