

Origins of the festivals

Today's objectives

- 1. Students can find details about the origins of the festivals**
- 2. Students can write a short paragraph about the characteristics and origins of the festival**

Guess the reasons



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World Festivals: Discovering their roots

Festivals are not just exciting events. They are mirrors reflecting a country's deep history and culture. **Traveling** around the world, you can find unique festivals that bring people together. Here are three vibrantly celebrated festivals and the hidden origins behind them.

First, Songkran in Thailand is a famous water festival celebrating the traditional Thai New Year. **Rooted** in ancient Buddhist traditions, it began as a peaceful ritual. **Believing** that water washes away bad luck and purifies the soul, people gently poured water over Buddha statues. Today, it has transformed into a massive nationwide water fight. **Arming** themselves with water guns and buckets, both locals and tourists playfully splash water on each other in the streets.

Q1. Songkran has always been a massive water fight since it started. (T / F)



Another exciting event is the Rio Carnival in Brazil, famous for its massive parades. **Introduced** by Portuguese colonists in the 17th century, it originally started as a quiet religious custom. Over time, it mixed with African culture to become a lively celebration. Today, millions of people fill the streets, **dancing** to energetic samba music in beautiful costumes.

Q2. What kind of music do people dance to during the Rio Carnival today?



Finally, Holi in India marks the end of winter and the arrival of spring. **Known** as the Festival of Colors, it is rooted in ancient Hindu myths celebrating the victory of good over evil. Chasing each other around the streets, participants playfully throw colored powder and water.




Experiencing these festivals, we can learn about the unique traditions of each country **while having** a great time!

Q3. Holi marks the arrival of ().
It celebrates the () of good over evil.



After you read

A. Fill in the blanks

Festival	Country	Origin	Today's celebration
Songkran	 Thailand	Ancient () traditions, celebrating the traditional Thai New Year	A massive nationwide water fight
Rio Carnival	 Brazil	A quiet () religious custom mixed with African culture	Dancing to energetic samba music in beautiful costumes
Holi	 India	Ancient () myths, marking the end of winter and the arrival of spring	Playfully throwing powder and water at each other

After you read

B. Find and Fix

Read the sentences below. Underline the mistakes and rewrite them correctly.

Songkran → Songkran began as a massive nationwide water fight to celebrate the Thai New Year.
→ _____

Rio Carnival → Introduced by African colonists, the Rio Carnival originally started as a quiet religious custom.
→ _____

Holi → Holi is a festival in India that marks the end of spring and the arrival of summer.
→ _____

After you read

C. Think and Talk

Which of the three festivals (Songkran, Rio Carnival, or Holi) would you most like to participate in? Share your ideas with your partner.



ex.

- Songkran
because playing with water guns looks like fun.
- Rio Carnival
because I love energetic music and dancing.
- Holi
because throwing colored powder sounds exciting.