UNIT 7

Holidays and Traditions

Warm-Up



Can you name a holiday from your country for each type below?

PRONUNCIATION | Types of holidays | Listen and repeat.



UNIT 7 COMMUNICATION GOALS

Lesson 1
Exchange holiday greetings

Lesson 2
Ask about local traditions

Lesson 3
Compare holidays

Lesson 4
Describe wedding customs

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Topic Warm-Up

A HOLIDAY CUSTOMS | Complete the self-test.

Write the name of a holiday in which . . .

most offices, businesses, and schools are closed.



people do a lot more shopping than usual.



it's traditional to do a lot of cleaning.



people give gifts.



people travel to get together with their families.



people fast—that is, they stop eating.



people visit or clean the graves of their loved ones.



people sing traditional songs.



people wear a traditional type of clothing.



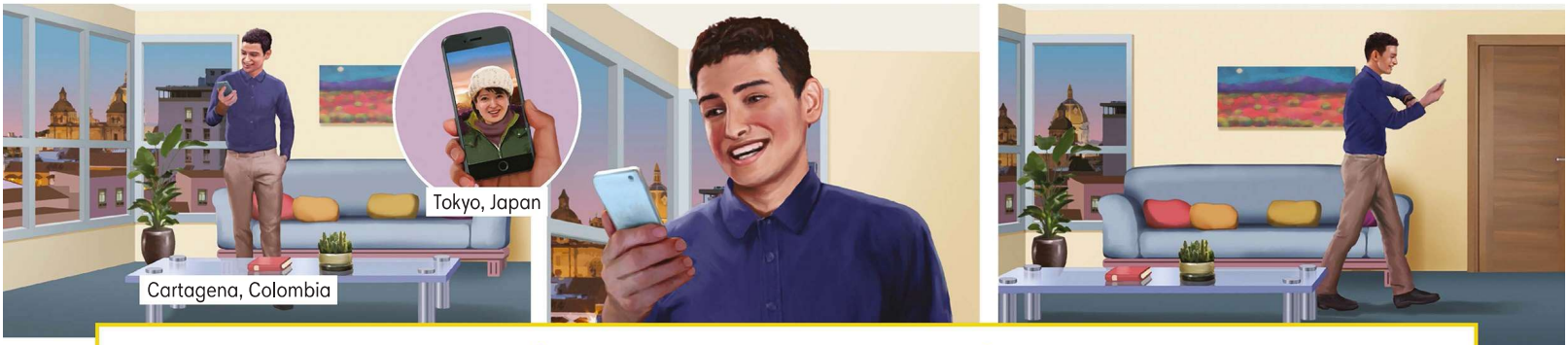
B PAIR WORK | Compare your responses on the self-test. What are some other typical holiday customs you are familiar with?

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Language Warm-Up

A ZOOM-IN | Read and listen to a conversation on a video call. Notice the featured words and phrases.

UNDERSTAND A VARIETY OF ACCENTS
Leon = Spanish
Mieko = Japanese



Leon: Hey, Mieko! What a nice surprise!

Mieko: Happy New Year, Leon!

Leon: Is it already New Year's there? We still have hours to go.

Mieko: Actually, it's 7 A.M.

Leon: Wow! Have you been up all night?

Mieko: Ha! No. I got up super early. It's a Japanese tradition to see the year's first sunrise. It's supposed to bring you good luck for the new year.

Leon: Then I wish you a happy—and lucky—new year!

Mieko: Thanks, Leon!

Leon: So, what did you do on New Year's Eve?

Mieko: Last night? I got together with my family for the last meal of the year.

Leon: Is that a Japanese tradition, too?

Mieko: It is. We always eat *soba*, a kind of noodle. But what about you? What are your plans for tonight?

Leon: Me? I'm meeting three old friends who I've known since middle school. We always get together to do something fun on New Year's Eve. It's become a tradition for us.

Mieko: So how are you going to celebrate this time?

Leon: We're going to a huge street party that's pretty popular here. Oops! Sorry, Mieko. I'm late. Gotta run!

Mieko: No problem. I hope you have a blast!

Leon: Thanks! Great hearing from you!

B UNDERSTAND FROM CONTEXT | Circle the correct answers.

1 When Leon says, "We still have hours to go," he means ..... .
   a he celebrated the new year hours ago
   b the new year hasn't come yet

2 When Leon asks Mieko if she's "been up" all night, he's asking if she ..... .
   a ever went to sleep
   b slept well all night

3 When Mieko says seeing the sunrise is "supposed to" bring you good luck, she means ..... bring you luck.
   a most people believe it will
   b it will definitely

4 When Mieko says she hopes Leon "has a blast," she means she hopes he ..... .
   a doesn't arrive late
   b has a lot of fun

C THINK AND EXPLAIN | Discuss the questions.

1 Why has Mieko already celebrated the new year, but Leon hasn't?
2 What's different about the traditions Mieko describes and the traditions Leon describes?

SPEAKING PAIR WORK | Complete the chart about what people do on your favorite holiday. Then compare charts with a partner.

My favorite holiday:	
Traditions and customs:	
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	



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1 COMMUNICATION GOAL Exchange holiday greetings

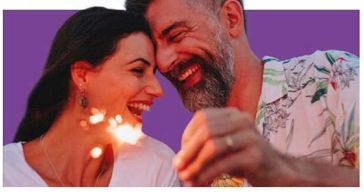
A VOCABULARY | Ways to celebrate or commemorate a holiday | Read and listen. Then listen again and repeat.


1 march in parades


2 put up decorations


3 remember the dead


4 set off fireworks


7 wish each other well


5 wear costumes


6 have picnics


8 pray

B LISTEN TO ACTIVATE VOCABULARY | Listen to three people talk about holidays. Use the Vocabulary to complete the chart.

	What do people do to celebrate?
Carnaval (Brazil)	
Independence Day (U.S.)	
Chuseok (Korea)	

C PAIR WORK | Discuss what people do on holidays you are familiar with.

> "Everyone puts up decorations a week before the holiday."

D COACH GRAMMAR | Adjective clauses with relative pronouns who and that

An adjective clause identifies or describes a noun.
Use that to introduce adjective clauses about nouns that describe things.
The dishes **that are popular for Thanksgiving** are made from seasonal vegetables.
The costumes **that are worn for Carnaval** can take thousands of hours to make.

Use who or that to introduce adjective clauses about nouns that describe people.
France's Bastille Day's a great holiday for people **who** (OR **that**) **love fireworks**.
The man **who's** (OR **that's**) **wearing a funny hat in this photo** is my brother.

Be careful!
An adjective clause should immediately follow the noun it identifies or describes.
Don't say: The costumes can take thousands of hours to make ~~that are worn for Carnaval~~.

Don't use a subject pronoun after the relative pronouns who or that.
Don't say: The man ~~who he's~~ wearing . . . .

GRAMMAR EXPANDER p. 136
- Adjective clauses: common errors
- Reflexive pronouns
- By + reflexive pronouns
- Reciprocal pronouns: each other and one another

E PRONOUNCE THE GRAMMAR | Listen and repeat the grammar examples.

F NOTICE THE GRAMMAR | Find two examples of adjective clauses in Zoom-In on page 75.

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G **UNDERSTAND THE GRAMMAR** | **Underline the adjective clause and circle the relative pronoun. Then draw an arrow from the relative pronoun to the noun or pronoun it describes.**

1 In Japan, the sweet rice cakes that are eaten to celebrate the new year are called *mochi*.
2 Mardi Gras attracts visitors who come to New Orleans from all over the world.
3 Bastille Day is a national holiday that commemorates the beginning of the French Revolution.
4 People who throw water at each other during Thailand's Songkran festival also wish each other well.

H **ERROR CORRECTION** | **Correct the error in the adjective clause in each sentence. Explain each correction to a partner.**

1 The costumes ~~who~~ that are worn in the Mardi Gras parade in New Orleans are fun to see.
2 The experts who they set off the fireworks have to plan the event in advance.
3 Most of us love the traditional dishes that they are served on our favorite holidays.
4 The woman is going to march in the parade who she is wearing that amazing dress.

> "Only use who for people."

I **GRAMMAR PRACTICE** | **Write five sentences with adjective clauses about holiday traditions you know.**

Thanksgiving is a seasonal holiday that takes place in November in the U.S. and in October in Canada.

COMMUNICATION ACTIVATOR

Now let's exchange holiday greetings.



A **CONVERSATION MODEL** | **Read and listen.**

A: Did you know that there's a holiday next week?
B: No, I didn't. What holiday is that?
A: Independence Day. It's a national holiday that always takes place on July 4th.
B: So, what do people usually do on that day?
A: Well, during the day, we have picnics or watch parades. And in the evening, we set off fireworks.
B: Sounds like fun! Well, have a great holiday!
A: Thanks! Same to you!

B **PRONUNCIATION PRACTICE** Listen again and repeat. Then practice the Conversation Model with a partner.

C **CONVERSATION PAIR WORK** | **Role-play a conversation with a visitor to your country. Ask about and describe a holiday and exchange greetings. Then change roles.**

A: Did you know that there's a holiday ..... ?
B: No, I didn't. What holiday is that?
A: ..... . It's a(n) ..... holiday that takes place ..... .
B: So, what do people usually do on ..... ?
A: Well, ...
B: Sounds ..... ! Well, ... !
A: Thanks! ..... !

D **CHANGE PARTNERS** | **Exchange greetings for another holiday.**

Social language
To exchange holiday greetings and wish each other well, say:
- Have a [good / nice / wonderful / happy] holiday!
- Best wishes for the holiday!
- Enjoy yourself on [the Fourth of July]!
- Same to you! / You too!

KEEP TALKING!

Ask and answer more questions.
What else do people do?
Do people [give gifts]?
What kinds of food do people eat?
Where do people celebrate?

Watch the video for ideas!

RECYCLE THIS LANGUAGE
It's supposed to bring you good luck.
They get together with [their families].
It's a tradition.
Have a blast!

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2 COMMUNICATION GOAL Ask about local traditions

A GRAMMAR | Adjective clauses: subject and object relative pronouns

The relative pronouns who and that can function as the subject or object in an adjective clause.

"that" = subject of the clause
It isn't customary to thank the person **that gave the gift**. (The person gave the gift.)

"that" = object of the clause
The gifts **that people give** are usually not very expensive. (People give the gifts.)

Be careful!
When the relative pronoun who or that is an object, it is optional and can be omitted. However, a subject relative pronoun cannot be omitted.
The holiday **(that) I love the most** is the Dragon Boat Festival.
Don't say: It's unnecessary to thank the person ~~gave the gift~~.



In formal spoken and written English, whom is often used as an object relative pronoun for people. However, it is rarely used in informal speech.
INFORMAL: The person (**who** OR **that**) you invite should bring a gift.
FORMAL: The person **whom** you invite should bring a gift.

GRAMMAR EXPANDER p. 137
• Adjective clauses: whom in formal English

B UNDERSTAND THE GRAMMAR | Check the sentences that are correct. If the sentence needs a relative pronoun, add one.

- ☐ 1 Canada Day is a national holiday that takes place on July 1st and celebrates its birthday.
- ☐ 2 I paid a lot for the gifts I gave my nieces and nephews for Christmas.
- ☐ 3 The kids sang the song today were practicing for the holiday party next week.
- ☐ 4 On the Day of the Dead, Mexicans clean the graves of family members have died.
- ☐ 5 The purpose of the red flower everyone is wearing today is to remember the people who died in the war.

C GRAMMAR PRACTICE | Complete the adjective clause in each sentence, using the prompts. Omit the relative pronoun when possible.

1 The traditional Korean outfit ..... (She's wearing it.) ..... is called a hanbok.
2 Memorial Day is a U.S. holiday ..... (People celebrate it.) ..... to remember soldiers who died in wars.
3 Tourists ..... (They plan to visit another country.) ..... should research local customs on the Internet.
4 Children ..... (They receive red envelopes.) ..... during the Chinese New Year celebration are happy to find money inside.
5 The "mooncakes" ..... (People eat them during the Harvest Moon Festival.) ..... are best eaten with tea.



D PRONUNCIATION | Thought groups | Notice how sentence rhythm clarifies how thoughts are grouped. Read and listen. Then listen again and repeat.

1 The colleagues we invited to the party were from Brazil.
2 The music they played for us this morning is from Mexico.
3 La Tomatina is a festival they celebrate in Spain by throwing tomatoes.
4 Anyone who plans to travel to another country should ask about local customs.

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COMMUNICATION ACTIVATOR

Now let's ask about local traditions.





A CONVERSATION MODEL Read and listen.

A: I'm not familiar with the way people do things here. So I wonder if I could ask you a question about gifts.

B: Of course. What would you like to know?

A: If someone gives you a gift, is it OK to open it right away?

B: That's not something we would normally do. We usually wait till later.

A: Thanks. That's really helpful.

B: But I wouldn't worry. Most people understand that you're not from here.

Social language

To reassure someone that it's OK not to know about local customs, say:

I wouldn't worry.
It's no big deal.
It's really not a problem.

B PRONUNCIATION PRACTICE Listen again and repeat. Then practice the Conversation Model with a partner.

C TALKING POINTS | Complete a question about each topic. Use the ideas.

Holiday traditions



1 On ..... , name of holiday ..... ?

Table manners



2 If I'm in a restaurant and I have to sneeze, ... ?

Meeting people



3 When I'm introduced to someone, ... ?

Invitations



4 If someone invites me to dinner at a restaurant, ... ?

Ideas

- is it OK to . . . ?
- should I . . . ?
- would it be better to . . . ?
- is it customary to . . . ?
- would it be offensive to . . . ?
- is it a good idea to . . . ?

"On New Year's Eve, is it customary for people to hug at midnight?"

D CONVERSATION PAIR WORK | Change the conversation, using your Talking Points to ask about other traditions. Then change roles.

A: I'm not familiar with the way people do things here. So I wonder if I could ask you a question about ..... .

B: ..... . What would you like to know?

A: If ..... , is it OK to ..... ?

B: ..... .

A: Thanks. That's really helpful.

B: But ..... . Most people understand that you're not from here.

KEEP TALKING!

- Ask more questions.
- Explain other customs.

Watch the video for ideas!

E CHANGE PARTNERS | Change the conversation again.

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3 COMMUNICATION GOAL Compare holidays

A VOCABULARY | Describing the purpose of an event | Read and listen. Then listen again and repeat.



a celebration (n) an event, usually a happy one, in which people do something special to acknowledge a particular occasion; **celebrate** (v)



a ceremony (n) a formal event that includes traditional actions and words



a commemoration (n) a ceremony in which words and actions remind people of the importance of an event; **commemorate** (v)

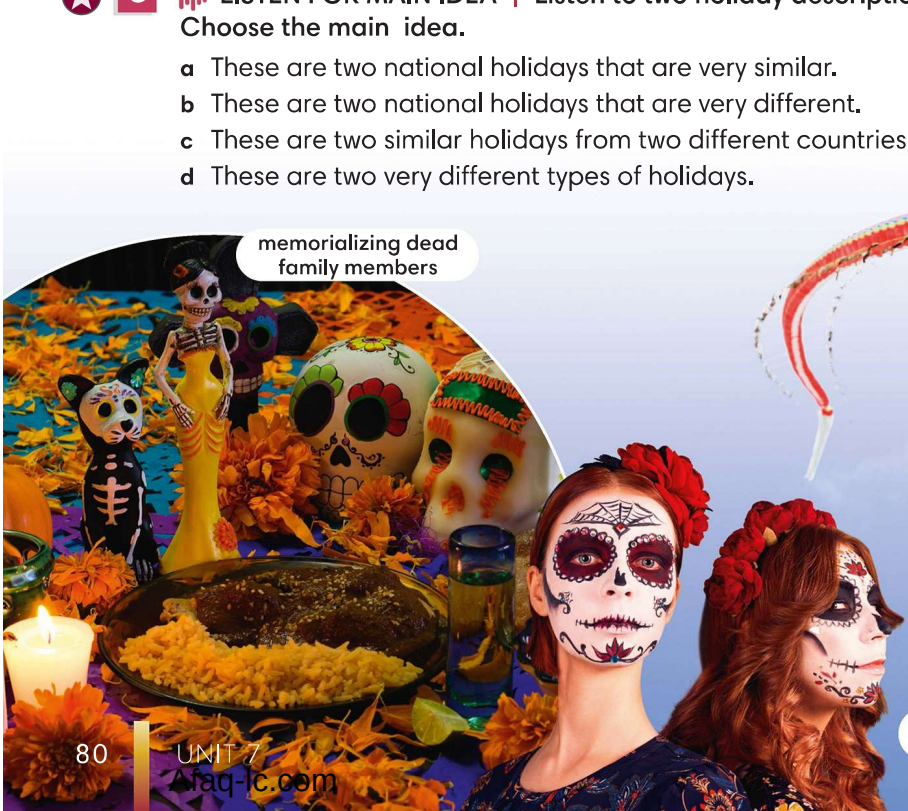
a memorial service (n) a ceremony for the purpose of remembering people who have died; **memorialize** (v)

B PAIR WORK | Provide examples you are familiar with for each type of event from the Vocabulary.

"On that day, we memorialize the people who died in the fight for our country's independence."

C LISTEN FOR MAIN IDEA | Listen to two holiday descriptions on a podcast. Choose the main idea.

a These are two national holidays that are very similar.
b These are two national holidays that are very different.
c These are two similar holidays from two different countries.
d These are two very different types of holidays.





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D LISTEN TO COMPARE AND CONTRAST Listen again and complete the chart, according to the speakers' descriptions.

	Day of the Dead	Qingming
When does this holiday take place each year?		
What do people do on this holiday?		
clean their relatives' graves	☐	☐
fly kites	☐	☐
have parades	☐	☐
have picnics	☐	☐
make traditional holiday dishes	☐	☐
participate in sports events	☐	☐
place "money" on their loved ones' graves	☐	☐
place photos of their loved ones on their graves	☐	☐
pray	☐	☐
put up decorations	☐	☐

E DISCUSSION | In small groups, answer the questions.

1 Why do you think people play in sports events and fly kites during Qingming?
2 Why do you think people—for both holidays—place food on their loved ones' graves?
3 In what ways do you think each of these two holidays is a celebration of life rather than a commemoration of death?
4 Are similar holidays celebrated in other countries? If so, where?

COMMUNICATION ACTIVATOR

Now let's compare holidays.

A TALKING POINTS | With a partner, choose four types of holidays in your country. Discuss and complete the chart together.

Name of holiday:	..... (a national holiday)	..... (a religious holiday)	..... (a seasonal holiday)	..... (a family holiday)
Purpose				
Typical food				
Typical music				
Typical clothing				
Typical activities				
Other traditions				

B PRESENTATION | Choose two holidays from Talking Points and present your information to your classmates. Answer their questions.

RECYCLE THIS LANGUAGE

remember / celebrate / commemorate
[We] get together with ___.
It's customary to ___.

It would be offensive to ___.
___ is taboo.
It's traditional to ___.

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4 COMMUNICATION GOAL Describe wedding customs

A READING | Read a website about wedding customs around the world. How do the Polish and Indian customs differ? How are they similar?

Some WEDDING CUSTOMS *around the Globe*

A wedding is perhaps the most important "rite of passage" in a couple's life together, but what the bride and groom and their guests are expected to do varies greatly around the world. Compare these customs.





POLAND

A couple can choose between a traditional wedding in a church or religious institution, or a modern ceremony at a location of their choice. Most traditional weddings in Poland begin on a Friday evening with friends and family coming to the bride's home to break glass dishes outside. The bride and groom then have to clean the glass up while everyone sings. According to tradition, the more they sweep, the happier their marriage will be.

The actual wedding is then held on Saturday. As the newlyweds leave the wedding ceremony, friends and family throw coins at the couple and take pictures as the couple pick up the coins. Then the first thing the newlyweds do is visit their parents—and new in-laws—who welcome them with bread and salt.

That evening at the wedding reception, guests are invited to eat, sing, and dance till Sunday morning. Male guests at the reception pay to dance with the bride. The maid of honor (usually an unmarried female friend or relative) collects the money, which the bride and groom use to pay for their honeymoon—their first trip together after getting married.

INDIA

Wedding celebrations can last five days or longer. In fact, preparations begin at least a year before, when the couple get engaged. The date is chosen carefully, based on the couple's birthdays, to ensure good luck.

Two days before the wedding, musicians, relatives, and neighbors visit the groom's home, beginning as early as four o'clock in the morning. The groom is "washed" with oils, and an older relative drops by with a gift of money. At the bride's home on the day of the wedding, her relatives begin painting her face, arms, hands, and feet with red designs, which takes hours to complete.

When the bride and groom arrive for the ceremony that evening, there's lots of noise and music. Their feet are washed, and their relatives throw flowers and water on them. The couple sit beneath a wood and cloth structure, and the bride's parents "give her away." Then the couple walk for seven steps together as they recite their marriage vows, promising to support and love each other. Finally, they place flowers around each other's necks. One by one the guests come to wish the newlyweds well and throw rice grains at their heads. Then the reception begins—and everyone eats!

Other customs from around the globe . . .

In the U.S., a bride throws her bouquet to the unmarried female guests. The one who catches it is supposed to be the next to get married. At the reception, the bride and groom cut the first piece of the wedding cake together.





Click here for more.

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B UNDERSTAND FROM CONTEXT | Circle the correct answer.

1 A Polish bride chooses a friend or family member to be her (in-laws / maid of honor / groom) and help her during the wedding.
2 Polish newlyweds go on their honeymoon together (before / during / after) the wedding.
3 In both Poland and India, the (ceremony / reception / tradition) is a time for music and eating.
4 Marriage vows are part of a wedding (ceremony / reception / honeymoon).
5 At a wedding in the U.S., a (bride / groom / guest) tries to catch the bouquet.

C CLASSIFY | Write the name of the country or countries in which people follow each wedding tradition.

1 The ceremonies continue for at least three days. .....
2 The guests throw things at the newlyweds. .....
3 The bride throws something to some of the guests. .....
4 People visit the bride and groom before the wedding. .....
5 The bride and groom have to clean something up. .....

D RELATE TO PERSONAL EXPERIENCE | How are the customs on the website different from the wedding customs in your country? How are they similar?

COMMUNICATION ACTIVATOR

Now let's describe wedding customs.

A TALKING POINTS | With a partner, make a list of wedding customs in your country.

Getting engaged	Preparing for the ceremony
At the ceremony	After the ceremony

B PRESENTATION | Imagine you are describing your wedding customs to a group of visitors to your country. Present your description to your classmates.

OPTIONAL Underline new words or phrases in the Reading you can use in your Presentation. Example: "The ___ is then held on ___."

C DISCUSSION | Would you change any of your country's wedding customs if you could? What would you change?

> "I think people spend too much money on their weddings. I would definitely change this custom."

SOFT SKILLS BOOSTER p. 159

WRITING In two paragraphs, describe two holidays that are celebrated in your country. Include as many details as you can about each.

- What kind of holiday is it?
- When and how is it celebrated?
- What do people do / eat / wear, etc.?

WRITING HANDBOOK p. 149
- Descriptive details
- Guidance for this writing activity

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THE CLAUSE WHEEL

Play with a partner. Place your coins on start. Decide who goes first.

Take turns. With your eyes closed, touch a key on a smartphone keypad to highlight a number. For example, if you have touched "8," move eight spaces. You have 1 minute to use the cue to create a statement using an adjective clause.

If your statement is correct, you get 5 points. If it's not, your partner moves to your space and tries to create a correct statement for 5 points. The player who creates a correct statement takes the next turn. (If you land on a space a second time, you must create a different adjective clause to get your points.)

Continue around the wheel for 30 minutes. **The winner is the player who earns the most points.**



> A microwave is an appliance you can find in most modern kitchens.



PROGRESS SELF-CHECK

NOW I CAN

- ☐ Exchange holiday greetings.
- ☐ Ask about local traditions.
- ☐ Compare holidays.
- ☐ Describe wedding customs.

For more practice . . . Unit Review / *Connect TV* Test-Taking Skills Booster