3.8 Theme 2.2: Festivals and Traditions in the French-Speaking World: 10-minute Pack

AQA 8652 · about 10 minutes

Total Marks

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / _____

Section: reading comprehension. Write full English sentences for answers where requested. Time guidance: 10 minutes.

1 Text A: Short descriptive article about festivals in France and Québec

Les Français et les Québécois aiment les fêtes. En été, la Fête de la Musique a lieu partout en France le 21 juin: il y a des concerts gratuits dans les villes et les villages. Le 14 juillet, la Fête Nationale, on regarde des feux d'artifice et des défilés militaires à Paris et dans d'autres villes. À Noël et le Réveillon, les familles se réunissent, on mange un gros repas et on échange des cadeaux. Au printemps, le Carnaval de Nice a des chars et des parades colorées sur le bord de la mer. En hiver, le Carnaval de Québec est célèbre pour ses sculptures sur glace, ses promenades en traîneau et les grandes fêtes dans les rues quand il fait froid.

Match each festival below to the correct description from the article. Write the letter A to E next to each festival name.

Festivals:
1. Fête de la Musique
2. 14 juillet (Fête Nationale)
3. Noël et le Réveillon
4. Carnaval de Nice
5. Carnaval de Québec

Descriptions:
A. Fireworks and military parades
B. Concerts free for the public on 21 June
C. Ice sculptures and sled rides in winter
D. Large family meal and gift exchanges
E. Floats and colourful parades by the sea

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(Total for Question 1 is 5 marks)

2 Comparative short answer. Using Text A and Text C, give one similarity and one difference between music celebrations in France and the UK. Answer in English in two short sentences.

(Total for Question 2 is 2 marks)

3 Use Text A above. For each statement, write True, False or Not mentioned.

a) The Fête de la Musique is celebrated only in Paris.
b) The 14 juillet includes military parades.
c) The article says Carnaval de Nice happens in winter.
d) Families meet for a large meal at Noël.
e) The Carnaval de Québec uses fireworks as its main attraction.

(Total for Question 3 is 5 marks)

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Mark scheme · 3.8 Theme 2.2: Festivals and Traditions in the French-Speaking World: 10-minute Pack

Question 1

Q1 = B, Fête de la Musique = concerts gratuits le 21 juin	**B1**
Q2 = A, 14 juillet = feux d'artifice et défilés militaires	**B1**
Q3 = D, Noël = réunion familiale, gros repas, cadeaux	**B1**
Q4 = E, Carnaval de Nice = chars et parades sur le bord de la mer	**B1**
Q5 = C, Carnaval de Québec = sculptures sur glace et traîneaux	**B1**

Answer: 1 B; 2 A; 3 D; 4 E; 5 C

Question 2

one correct similarity: e.g. both have street concerts / both have public music events	**B1**
one correct difference: e.g. French events are often larger or on 21 June, UK concerts are usually smaller	**B1**

Answer: Similarity: Both countries have street concerts or public music events. Difference: In France the Fete de la Musique on 21 June often features large free concerts, while in the UK such events are generally smaller.

Question 3

a) False, article says 'partout en France' so not only Paris	**B1**
b) True, article mentions 'défilés militaires'	**B1**
c) False, Carnaval de Nice is mentioned as in spring, not winter	**B1**
d) True, Noël includes families reuniting and a big meal	**B1**
e) Not mentioned, article describes ice sculptures and sled rides for Québec carnival, not fireworks	**B1**

Answer: a) False; b) True; c) False; d) True; e) Not mentioned

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