



FR.TR12 Food, Family Celebrations and Regional Customs

AQA 8652 • Calculators not allowed • about 40 minutes

Total Marks

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Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / ____

Write full sentences where asked. Note: accents have been omitted from French text for print compatibility; write accents correctly in your answers where required. Complete all questions in approximately 40 minutes.

- 1** Vocabulary warm-up: Match the French words for foods and items used at family celebrations (context: domestic celebrations such as Noel, anniversaires, mariages). For each numbered French word choose the best English definition A-C. (1)
- (1) la galette des rois (1)
- ☐ A. king cake traditionally eaten on Epiphany
- ☐ B. a savoury meat pie
- ☐ C. a type of soup
- (2) le couscous (1)
- ☐ A. a North African dish of semolina with meat and vegetables
- ☐ B. a sweet layered dessert
- ☐ C. a type of cheese
- (3) le reveillon (1)
- ☐ A. the late festive meal on the eve of a holiday, for example Christmas Eve
- ☐ B. a baptism ceremony
- ☐ C. a wedding reception
- (4) le baptême (1)
- ☐ A. birthday
- ☐ B. baptism
- ☐ C. engagement
- (5) offrir (1)
- ☐ A. to offer / to give as a present
- ☐ B. to cook
- ☐ C. to decorate
- (6) la fondue (1)

- ☐ A. a melted cheese dish for dipping bread or potatoes
- ☐ B. a sweet cake
- ☐ C. a fish stew

(Total for Question 1 is 6 marks)

2 Grammar warm-up: Correct the mistake in each short French sentence about family celebrations and write the corrected version. Context: pronoun placement and agreement. Provide one corrected sentence for each part.

(a) Sentence 1: "Ma mere le offre un cadeau." (mother gives him a present) (1)

(b) Sentence 2: "On leur le offre apres le repas." (we give it to them after the meal) (1)

(c) Sentence 3: "Elle nous le sert hier soir." (she served it to us last night) (1)

(Total for Question 2 is 3 marks)

3 Grammar multiple choice: Choose the correct French phrase to complete the sentence about a habitual custom in the past. Context: using the imperfect tense for traditional habits.

(a) When I was a child we used to have family dinners every Sunday: "Quand j'etais petit, nous ____ le dimanche." (1)

- ☐ A. avons dinee
- ☐ B. dinions
- ☐ C. dinerons

(b) They used to give a small cake at baptisms: "On ____ un petit gateau au bapteme." (1)

- ☐ A. offrait
- ☐ B. a offert
- ☐ C. offrira

(c) In that region they always used to serve couscous on Sundays: "La bas, on ____ toujours du couscous le dimanche." (1)

- ☐ A. servait
- ☐ B. sert
- ☐ C. servira

(Total for Question 3 is 3 marks)

- 4 Short text translation into French. Traduisez le texte suivant en français. Context: short English passage describing a family Christmas evening and a typical dish. Write in natural French, using appropriate tense and pronouns. Passage (5 sentences): "At Christmas we always stay at my aunt's house. She used to make a big fondue for the whole family. We used to open presents after the meal. She gives everyone a small slice of cake. This year we are going to eat at our grandparents house."

(Total for Question 4 is 10 marks)

- 5 Short text translation into French. Traduisez le texte suivant en français. Context: description of a cousin's wedding customs in a Francophone African region. Passage (5 sentences): "At my cousin's wedding they always invited many neighbours. They used to prepare couscous and spicy stews. People used to dance until late. The family would offer sweets to the guests. Next month we will go to the wedding together."

(Total for Question 5 is 10 marks)

- 6** Short text translation into English. Traduisez le texte suivant en anglais. Context: French passage about a first communion and gifts. Passage (5 sentences): "Pour la première communion, la famille se réunissait à l'église. On lui offrait souvent une montre ou un chapelet. Après la cérémonie, il y avait un petit repas chez les grands-parents. Quand j'étais petit, je recevais toujours des vêtements en cadeau. Cette année, mes parents vont organiser un repas chez nous."

(Total for Question 6 is 10 marks)

- 7** Short text translation into English. Traduisez le texte suivant en anglais. Context: French passage comparing regional customs in Quebec and France about New Year food. Passage (5 sentences): "Au Québec, on mange parfois de la tourtière à la fin de l'année. En France, on préfère le foie gras ou les fruits de mer pour le réveillon. Les familles se retrouvaient souvent pour partager un grand repas. On offrait aussi des petits cadeaux aux enfants. L'année prochaine, nous irons au Québec pour voir ces traditions."

(Total for Question 7 is 10 marks)

- 8** Short grammar item: Give the correct French indirect object pronoun to complete the sentence.
Context: 'They offer him a present' = Ils _____ offrent un cadeau.

(Total for Question 8 is 1 mark)

- 9** Short vocabulary multiple choice: Which French word means 'slice' as in a slice of cake?
Context: describing serving portions at a birthday. Options: A. tranche B. morceau C. cuillère
- ☐ A. tranche
- ☐ B. morceau
- ☐ C. cuillère

(Total for Question 9 is 1 mark)

- 10** Short grammar multiple choice: Choose the correct French phrase to translate 'we used to give' as a past habitual. Options: A. nous avons donne B. nous donnions C. nous donnerons
- ☐ A. nous avons donne
- ☐ B. nous donnions
- ☐ C. nous donnerons

(Total for Question 10 is 1 mark)

- 11** Short correction: Fix the French sentence with pronouns. Context: describing a mother serving dessert: "Ma mere nous sert le dessert et le donne aux invites." Write the corrected version.

(Total for Question 11 is 1 mark)

- 12** Short translation into French: Translate the English sentence into French. Context: describing a family tradition. "My grandparents used to invite all the family for Epiphany each year."

(Total for Question 12 is 4 marks)

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Question 1

- (1) **B1** identify la galette des rois as A, king cake / Epiphany pastry
- (1) **Answer: A**
- (2) **B1** identify le couscous as A, North African semolina dish
- (2) **Answer: A**
- (3) **B1** identify le reveillon as A, the festive evening meal before a holiday
- (3) **Answer: A**
- (4) **B1** identify le bapteme as B, baptism
- (4) **Answer: B**
- (5) **B1** identify offrir as A, to give or present
- (5) **Answer: A**
- (6) **B1** identify la fondue as A, a melted cheese dish
- (6) **Answer: A**

Question 2

- (a) **B1** correct sentence with proper indirect object pronoun placement: Ma mere lui offre un cadeau.
- (a) **Answer: Ma mere lui offre un cadeau.**
- (b) **B1** correct pronoun order fixed, direct object before indirect object: On le leur offre apres le repas.
- (b) **Answer: On le leur offre apres le repas.**
- (c) **B1** correct past tense placement: Elle nous l'a servi hier soir. or Elle nous l'a servie hier soir. depending on gender of object
- (c) **Answer: Elle nous l'a servi hier soir.**

Question 3

- (a) **B1** select imperfect of diner for a repeated past habit: nous dinions
- (a) **Answer: B**
- (b) **B1** select imperfect offrait for a habitual past action
- (b) **Answer: A**
- (c) **B1** select imperfect servait for habitual past
- (c) **Answer: A**

Question 4

- **B1** At Christmas we always stay at my aunt's house: A correct French rendering using Noel / a Noel and rester / passer la nuit chez ma tante or rester chez ma tante with toujours
- **B1** She used to make a big fondue for the whole family: correct imperfect for used to make (faisait) and mention fondue pour toute la famille
- **B1** We used to open presents after the meal: correct imperfect ouvrons or on ouvrait and apres le repas
- **B1** She gives everyone a small slice of cake: present tense donne / offre a tous une petite part de gateau
- **B1** This year we are going to eat at our grandparents house: futur proche or present with nous allons manger chez nos grands-parents cette annee
- **B1** correct use of pronouns and possessives consistent with chosen subjects (ma tante, nous, elle, nos grands-parents)
- **B1** accurate vocabulary: fondue, cadeaux, repas, part de gateau, Noel, cette annee
- **B1** correct word order and basic agreement (petite part de gateau, toute la famille)
- **B1** coherent sentence structure and readable French with no major tense errors
- **B1** minor spelling errors tolerated if meaning remains clear, but accents must be supplied by candidate in final exam
- **Answer: A** model answer: **A Noel, nous restons toujours chez ma tante. Elle faisait une grande fondue pour toute la famille. Nous ouvrons les cadeaux apres le repas. Elle donne a tout le monde une petite part de gateau. Cette annee, nous allons manger chez nos grands-parents.**

Question 5

- **B1** They always invited many neighbours: correct imperfect or present according to English 'always' used with past habit, eg ils invitaient toujours beaucoup de voisins
- **B1** They used to prepare couscous and spicy stews: correct imperfect preparaient and mention le couscous et des ragouts epices / des plats epices
- **B1** People used to dance until late: correct imperfect with danser jusqu'a tard or tard le soir
- **B1** The family would offer sweets to the guests: correct conditional/imperfect rendering or offraient des bonbons aux invites
- **B1** Next month we will go to the wedding together: futur proche nous allons aller au mariage ensemble le mois prochain or nous irons au mariage ensemble le mois prochain
- **B1** accurate cultural vocabulary: voisin, couscous, bonbons, invites, mariage
- **B1** correct pronouns and agreement where needed (la famille, ils, on, nous)
- **B1** clear sentence boundaries and idiomatic phrasing
- **B1** appropriate register for a descriptive paragraph about family customs
- **B1** minor spelling errors tolerated if overall meaning clear
- **Answer: A model answer: Au mariage de mon cousin, on invitait toujours beaucoup de voisins. On preparait du couscous et des ragouts epices. Les gens dansaient jusqu'a tard. La famille offrait des bonbons aux invites. Le mois prochain, nous allons aller au mariage ensemble.**

Question 6

- **B1** Pour la premiere communion, la famille se reunissait a l'eglise: correct rendering 'For the first communion, the family used to gather at the church' or 'the family would gather at church'
- **B1** On lui offrait souvent une montre ou un chapelet: 'They often gave him/her a watch or a rosary' capturing indirect object
- **B1** Apres la ceremonie, il y avait un petit repas chez les grands-parents: 'After the ceremony there was a small meal at the grandparents house'
- **B1** Quand j'etais petit, je recevais toujours des vetements en cadeau: 'When I was little I always received clothes as presents' using past habitual
- **B1** Cette annee, mes parents vont organiser un repas chez nous: 'This year my parents are going to organise a meal at our house' using near future
- **B1** correct translation of reflexive/reunion forms and accurate sense for se reunissait (imperfect)
- **B1** capture of indirect object pronoun lui as 'him/her' where gender unspecified
- **B1** accurate translation of cultural terms: chapelet = rosary, repas = meal, la premiere communion = first communion
- **B1** natural English phrasing and tense consistency
- **B1** minor orthography or article differences tolerated if meaning clear
- **Answer: A model answer: For the first communion, the family used to gather at the church. They often gave him/her a watch or a rosary. After the ceremony there was a small meal at the grandparents house. When I was little I always received clothes as presents. This year my parents are going to organise a meal at our house.**

Question 7

- **B1** Au Quebec, on mange parfois de la tourtiere a la fin de l'annee: 'In Quebec, people sometimes eat tourtiere at the end of the year'
- **B1** En France, on prefere le foie gras ou les fruits de mer pour le reveillon: 'In France, people prefer foie gras or seafood for the reveillon' capturing preference
- **B1** Les familles se retrouvaient souvent pour partager un grand repas: 'Families used to meet often to share a large meal' using imperfect
- **B1** On offrait aussi des petits cadeaux aux enfants: 'They also gave small gifts to the children' capturing offrait
- **B1** L'annee prochaine, nous irons au Quebec pour voir ces traditions: 'Next year we will go to Quebec to see these traditions' using simple future or near future
- **B1** accurate translation of regional food terms: tourtiere, foie gras, fruits de mer
- **B1** correct tense rendering of imperfect for habitual past
- **B1** capture of reciprocal 'se retrouvaient' as 'met' or 'meet' in past sense
- **B1** clear English sentences with natural word order
- **B1** minor variant forms accepted if meaning preserved
- **Answer: A model answer: In Quebec, people sometimes eat tourtiere at the end of the year. In France, people prefer foie gras or seafood for the reveillon. Families used to meet often to share a large meal. They also gave small gifts to the children. Next year we will go to Quebec to see these traditions.**

Question 8

- **B1** correct pronoun 'lui' supplied: Ils lui offrent un cadeau.
- **Answer: lui**

Question 9

- **B1** select A tranche as correct translation of 'slice' when referring to cake or bread
- **Answer: A**

Question 10

- **B1** select imperfect nous donnions for past habitual 'we used to give'
- **Answer: B**

Question 11

- **B1** correct sentence with proper pronoun order and agreement: Ma mere sert le dessert aux invites. or Ma mere nous sert le dessert.
- **Answer: Accept: Ma mere nous sert le dessert. or Ma mere sert le dessert aux invites.**

Question 12

- **B1** correct subject and verb in imperfect: Mes grands-parents invitaient / recevaient
- **B1** include all the family: toute la famille or toute la famille
- **B1** correct reference to Epiphany: pour la fete de l'Epiphanie or pour la galette des rois
- **B1** correct expression each year: chaque annee or tous les ans
- **Answer: Mes grands-parents invitaient toute la famille pour la fete de l'Epiphanie chaque annee. (oe: Mes grands-parents recevaient toute la famille tous les ans pour la galette des rois.)**