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Festivals Around the World

When talking about celebration, festivals have much to offer. Here are some festivals that are worth experiencing during your lifetime.

Dia de los Muertos (Mexico)

Beginning at the midnight of October 31 and lasting through November 2, it is a festival when families gather together to remember those loved ones who have died, aiming to help them on their spiritual journey. To honor the deceased, Mexican families prepare private altars (祭坛) in their homes. On top of them they'll put photos of the dead and their favorite food. They also visit the graves of their beloved ones and place offerings there to pay their respects to the dead.

Holi (India)

Holi, popularly known as "the festival of colors", is an ancient Hindu festival which signifies the end of winter and the victory of good over evil. Celebrated mostly in India usually in March, the festival lasts for a night and a day.

During the festival, people wet each other with water balloons and water guns, then they throw colored powder on one another. The celebration is also filled with marching bands, dancing, food and drink, and much laughter. A great number of people are infected by its playful and childlike atmosphere.

La Tomatina (Spain)

As a big food fight, it is possibly the most chaotic festival.

According to records, the festival dates back to a parade in which some naughty teenagers knocked one performer off his stilts (高跷) and caused a fight of throwing vegetables accidentally. It was once banned until 1957 when the locals held a protest with a mock funeral. They carried a coffin containing a huge tomato as bands played a funeral march. Finally, in the following decades, La Tomatina has become a popular event which attracts lots of tourists to have fun.

If you join the event, be aware that you squash the tomato before throwing it. Have a great time but avoid causing any injury.

Section one Check your understanding

- Which festival in China is similar to Dia de los Muertos in purpose?

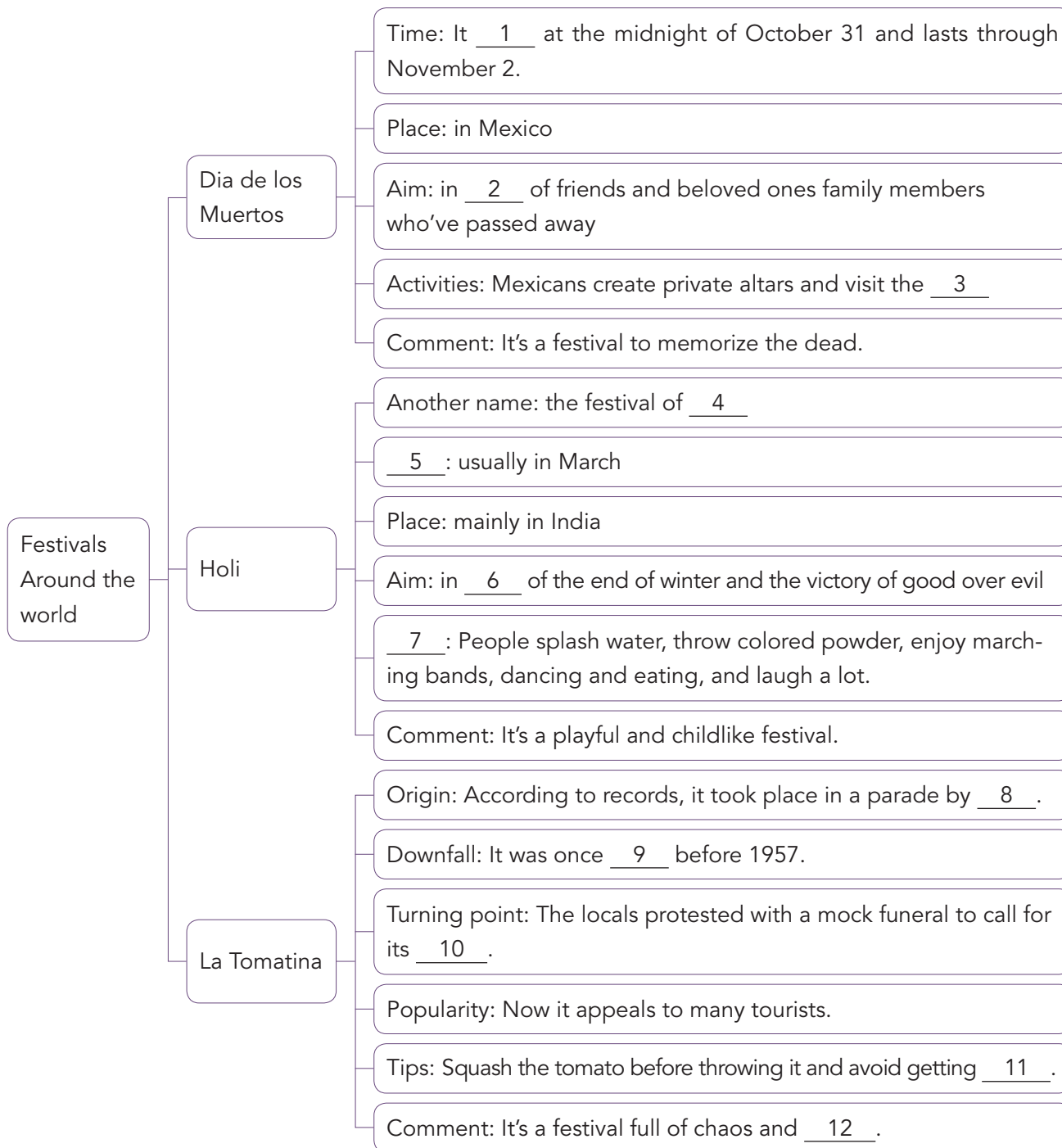
A. Lantern Festival.	B. Mid-autumn Festival.
C. Dragon Boat Festival.	D. Qingming Festival.
- Which of the following best describes Holi and La Tomatina?

A. Enjoyable but risky.	B. Messy but playful.
C. Religious and legendary.	D. Worldwide and meaningful.
- What do we know about La Tomatina?

A. It's a crazy tomato fight.	B. It usually causes injury.
C. It originated from a funeral.	D. It was canceled by locals in 1957.

Section two Understand globally

请根据文章信息及语篇知识，完成语篇结构图。每空限填一词。



- | | | |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 2. _____ | 3. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 5. _____ | 6. _____ |
| 7. _____ | 8. _____ | 9. _____ |
| 10. _____ | 11. _____ | 12. _____ |

Section three Build your vocabulary

1. 观察下面的句子，判断划线的动词在句子中为及物动词还是不及物动词，并总结其规律。

- It is a festival when families gather together to remember those loved ones who have died.
- According to records, the festival dates back to a parade.
- They carried a coffin containing a huge tomato as bands played a funeral march .

通过观察上述句子，我发现：

- 1) 在以上句子中，_____为及物动词，_____为不及物动词。在不同的语境和意义上，有些动词既可以作及物动词，又可以作不及物动词，如上句中的_____。
- 2) 在以上两类动词中，可以直接后接宾语的动词为_____；不能直接后接宾语的动词为_____，如需后接宾语，其需要跟_____或_____搭配，构成动词短语。

2. 阅读下面的短文，在空格处填入括号中动词的正确形式，必要时可搭配恰当的介词。

Held annually in mid-April, Thai New Year, or Songkran festival, is 1) _____ (root) the distant past. Traditionally the holiday 2) _____ (focus) renewal. It begins by cleaning out houses, shops and schools to get rid of bad luck over the past year. Water is usually thought to 3) _____ (contribute) the feeling of purification and freshness, so splashing water on each other is a light-hearted custom of the celebration. Kids 4) _____ (fire) super-powered water guns; a young man 5) _____ (pour) fragrant water on his grandparents to bless them. It's a time to cleanup and 6) _____ (relax) in some of the world's wildest water fights.

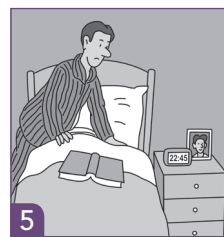
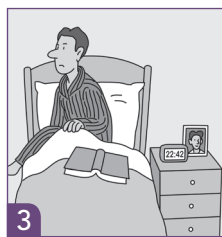
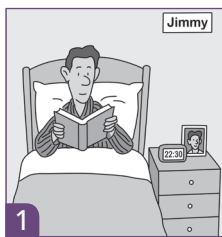
Section four Enhance your grammar competence

1. 观察下面的句子，分析句子结构和成分，并总结其规律。

- Mexican families prepare private altars in their homes.
- ① ② ③ ④
- They place offerings to pay their respects to the dead.
- ① ② ③ ④

通过观察上述句子，我发现：

- 1) 两个句子中标注为①的部分充当句子的_____，标注为②的部分充当句子的_____，标注为③的部分充当句子的_____，标注为④的部分充当句子的_____。
 - 2) 这些句子的结构为_____，其谓语动词为_____动词。
2. 请展开想象，根据图片中的信息和提示写一则小故事，尽可能用上前面所学的句子结构。





Tips

- What was he doing?
- What might happen to him?
- How would he feel?
- What was the possible result?
