

**SOLUTIONS UPPER-INTERMEDIATE 2**

**UNIT 3:**

**COSTUMES AND CULTURE**

**3H**


PEGAH BAHOJB GHASEMI

**3G**

Speaking

## Topic-based presentation

*I can talk about a cultural event or festival.*

- 1  1.19 Listen to a student doing the task below. Which of the four prompts (A–D) does she not mention?

Look at the pictures. Then talk for about one minute about how people in your country celebrate International Women's Day.

- A What is the history behind the celebration?
- B Do people usually give or receive gifts and/or cards?
- C Are there any other annual traditions?
- D Do you personally take part in any celebrations?




### **Speaking Strategy 1**

Make sure that you mention all of the prompts in the task.  
Learn some useful phrases for changing the subject or moving on to the next point.

**2 Read Speaking Strategy 1. Complete phrases 1–4 with the words below.**

far   now   something   subject

- 1 As \_\_\_\_\_ as the history of the event is concerned, ...
- 2 Turning \_\_\_\_\_ to the topic of ...
- 3 That brings me to the \_\_\_\_\_ of ...
- 4 There's \_\_\_\_\_ else I'd like to talk about: ...

3  1.19 Listen again. Match phrases 1–4 from exercise 2 with endings a–f below. There are two extra endings.

a \_\_\_ marches on International Women's Day.

b \_\_\_ home-made greetings cards.

c \_\_\_ national holidays.

d \_\_\_ gifts, the most common one is flowers.

e \_\_\_ I'm not really an expert.

f \_\_\_ celebrations at school.

### **Speaking Strategy 2**

When you don't know or can't remember the words you need, use phrases for paraphrasing so that you can explain what you mean in other words.

#### **4 Read Speaking Strategy 2. Match the sentence halves.**

- |                        |                                   |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1 It would be called x | a you (wear / eat / drink, etc.). |
| 2 It's like x,         | b kind of ...                     |
| 3 It's something       | c in my language.                 |
| 4 It's a               | d but (bigger / smaller, etc.).   |

5 Choose two things you can see in the photos on this page.  
Describe them using phrases from exercise 4.

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Look at the pictures. Then talk for about one minute about how people in your country celebrate New Year.

- A Does food or drink play a part in the celebration?
- B Do people usually give or receive gifts and/or cards?
- C Are there any other traditions?
- D What do you personally usually do to celebrate?



**6** Look at the task above. Make notes for each of the four prompts.

1 Does food or drink play a part in the celebration?

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2 Do people usually give or receive gifts and/or cards?

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3 Are there any other traditions?

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4 What do you personally usually do to celebrate?


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**7** Now do the task, using your notes from exercise 6.



**WHY DO PEOPLE  
CELEBRATE?**






**WHAT KINDS OF  
THINGS DO PEOPLE  
CELEBRATE?  
WHY IS CELEBRATING  
THESE THINGS  
IMPORTANT TO  
PEOPLE?**




**1 SPEAKING** Work in pairs. Discuss the questions.

- 1 Which local festivals happen in your area?
- 2 What happens there? Do you go to any?



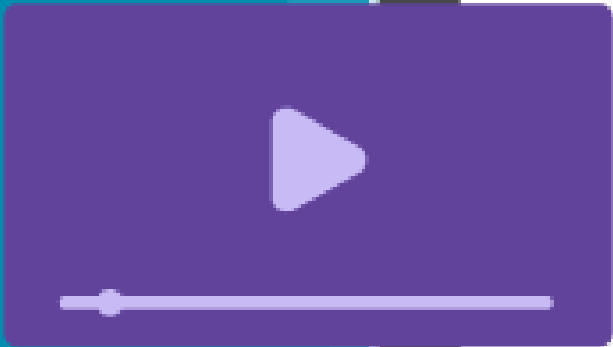
**IMAGINE THAT  
FESTIVALS ARE ALL  
BANNED OR THEY DON'T  
TAKE PLACE.  
HOW DO YOU FEEL?  
WHAT DO YOU DO TO  
PREVENT IT?**



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- The image features a stylized illustration of a laptop on a teal background. The laptop screen displays a document with several horizontal lines of text. To the left of the screen is a purple video player icon with a play button and a progress bar. To the right is a purple pencil icon. Below the laptop, there is a purple rectangular box containing three horizontal lines of text.
- any article, news piece, or guide that's published in the blog section of a website. A blog post typically covers a specific topic or query, is educational in nature, ranges from 600 to 2,000+ words, and contains other media types such as images, videos, infographics, and interactive charts.

# BLOG POST

- any article, news piece, or guide that's published in the blog section of a website. A blog post typically covers a specific topic or query, is educational in nature, ranges from 600 to 2,000+ words, and contains other media types such as images, videos, infographics, and interactive charts.





**2 Read the task and find the two elements that you are required to include in your blog post.**

Your local newspaper published an article suggesting that a local festival should no longer take place. Write a blog post outlining the advantages of the festival and describing a personal experience of it.

## **Writing Strategy**

Make a plan for your blog post so you allow enough space to include every element from the task instructions. Remember to include a good introduction and a summary.

- 3 Read the **Writing Strategy** and the blog post. In which paragraphs (1–4) does the writer cover the two elements from the task? How well does the writer follow the advice in the strategy?

## SAVE OUR FESTIVAL!

- 1 I was very surprised to read an article in my local newspaper suggesting that the Kingsbridge Festival should no longer take place. The article suggested that the festival costs the council too much money and causes too much disruption to traffic in the town centre. I'd like to outline some arguments against this view.
- 2 I strongly disagree with the suggestion that there is no value in continuing the festival. Firstly, it has become a local tradition. Kingsbridge has held an annual food and music festival for more than ten years. Secondly, it provides a wonderful opportunity for local producers and caterers to sell their food and drink to the public. And thirdly, after eating and drinking, visitors can stay to watch a variety of local musicians, so the festival is also a great showcase for local talent.
- 3 Last year's festival was a memorable experience. As families crowded around the food stalls, the music played non-stop. There was a lovely, friendly atmosphere, and as night fell, that didn't change. Having arrived later to hear the bands play, the local teenagers just mixed in with everybody else. Looking around, I could see young people, old people and parents with children on their shoulders, all dancing to the music.
- 4 In my view, rather than being inconvenient, festivals like this are good for local trade and advertising. They are also invaluable for bringing and keeping communities together. How can you put a price on that?





WHAT HAS  
HAPPENED?





# WHAT HAS HAPPENED?

Eat pasta

Read book



# WHAT HAS HAPPENED?

Eat pasta

Read book

Eating pasta, he read book.



# WHAT HAS HAPPENED?

Eat pasta

Read book

Eating pasta, he read book.

As he ate pasta, he read book.





WHAT HAS  
HAPPENED?



# WHAT HAS HAPPENED?

Eat pizza

Be full



# WHAT HAS HAPPENED?

Eat pizza

Be full

Having eaten the pizza,  
they were full.





## WHAT HAS HAPPENED?

Eat pizza

Be full

Having eaten the pizza, they were full.

After eating pizza, they were full.

- 4 Read the **Learn this!** box. Then find an example of each of the structures in the blog post.

**LEARN THIS!** Sequencing clauses for describing past events



- 1 For an action which comes before another action:

*having* + past participle

*Having played football, they went home.*

*after* + *-ing*

*After playing football, they went home.*

- 2 For two actions which happen at the same time:

a present participle

*Travelling home, they met Mary.*

*as* + past simple

*As they travelled home, they met Mary.*

Note: the subject of the participle clause must be the same as the subject of the main clause.

NOT ~~*After leaving the cinema, it started to rain.*~~ X

**5** In your notebook, join the sentences, beginning with the words in brackets.

1 I arrived at the airport. I checked in. (After ... / Having ...)

*After arriving at the airport, I checked in.*

*Having arrived at the airport, I checked in.*

2 We lay in the sun. We read magazines. (As ... / Lying ...)

3 The band played. The sun came out. (As ...)

4 They swam. They wrote postcards. (After ... / Having ...)

5 You watched the film. You fell asleep. (As ... / Watching ...)



- 6** Read the task below. Then make some notes for  
a) the advantages and b) your description.

The local newspaper published an article suggesting that schools should no longer have a long holiday over the summer. Write a blog post outlining the benefits of summer holidays and describing a long summer holiday you have enjoyed.



**7 SPEAKING** Work in pairs. Discuss ideas for each paragraph and compare the notes you made in exercise 6.

8 In your notebook, write your blog post.

### **CHECK YOUR WORK**



Have you ...

- written equally about both required elements?
- included sequencing clauses in your description?

# 3

## Functional Language Practice: Moving onto another topic and paraphrasing

- 1 Work in small groups. Look at the photo. Discuss the questions.



- 1 What can you see in the picture?
- 2 What are the people doing?
- 3 What festival do you think this is?

**2 Check your ideas in the text below. Then correct the underlined mistakes.**

I'd like to tell you about a festival from my country called Diwali. Diwali is the five-day Festival of Lights. During this time, all the houses, shops and public places put out 'diyas'. A diya is <sup>1</sup>kind of light or lantern. We put out these lanterns to welcome Lakshmi, the goddess of wealth. <sup>2</sup>As far for food is concerned, we eat special sweet snacks. <sup>3</sup>In my language, we'd say them 'mithai'. They're really delicious. <sup>4</sup>There's something other I'd like to talk about, and that's fireworks. We always have big fireworks displays to celebrate Diwali. <sup>5</sup>Turning now on the topic of decoration, we use coloured rice or powder to make patterns, called rangoli on the floor. <sup>6</sup>And that turns me to the subject of our houses. We always clean our house before the festival begins. <sup>7</sup>It's anything we do as a celebration of new beginnings.

**3** **SPEAKING** Work in pairs. Take turns to prepare a presentation and then perform it to your partner.

A group of aliens is visiting Earth. They want you to explain some of the strange habits and customs on your planet. Choose one of the topics below and prepare a presentation about it. Remember that your audience knows nothing about the subject.

- How to play football.
- How to make a cup of tea.
- How to use a public swimming pool.
- How to buy food at a supermarket.



**ASSIGNMENT:  
WORKBOOK 3H  
WRITING  
(PAMPHLET)**

DEADLINE: SATURDAY