

A

A fireworks display

The Sydney **fireworks**¹ **display**² is **held**³ every year, and more than one million people **gather**⁴ at Sydney **harbour**⁵ on New Year's Eve to **celebrate**⁶ the new year. All age groups are **involved**⁷ in the event. At 9 pm there is 'Family fireworks' for families with younger children. After that a large number of boats **parade**⁸ around the harbour. Finally, at midnight, there is a **spectacular**⁹ fireworks display for almost fifteen minutes in which more than 4,000 kilograms of fireworks light up the night sky.

¹ (see picture)

² a show for people to watch

³ organised

⁴ come together

⁵ area of water where ships are kept and are safe from the sea

⁶ do something enjoyable on a special day

⁷ included (in an event or activity)

⁸ move around as part of a group, often to celebrate something (*parade* is also a noun)

⁹ looking extremely good or exciting



B

An arts festival

The Edinburgh **Festival**¹ is an **annual**² event, and is the largest arts festival in the world. It **consists of**³ at least six different festivals which **take place**⁴ in the city and **last**⁵ for almost six weeks during August and early September. The most **popular**⁶ festival is The Fringe, which has **up to**⁷ 500 daily performances in dance, music, drama and comedy in 180 places across the city.

¹ a number of special events often continuing for several days

² happening once a year

³ is made of

⁴ happen

⁵ continue

⁶ liked by many people

⁷ the maximum (is 500)

C

The Chinese Spring Festival

The Spring Festival (or Chinese New Year) is the biggest **traditional** festival in China. It has been celebrated for about 4,000 years, and takes place every year at some point between 21 January and 20 February. On the day before the festival starts, people from **all over**¹ China return to their family homes and gather for a big meal. The next day, many people **dress up**², and children receive money from their parents in red envelopes to **bring them luck**. Another popular **custom** is to put two-line poems on the gates outside each home.

¹ everywhere (in China)

² wear special clothes

Language help

A **custom** is something that people usually do. A **tradition** is a very old custom that has continued for a long time. The adjectives are **traditional** and **customary**.

*It is **traditional** to give each other presents.*

*It is **customary** to take your shoes off before you enter a mosque.*

*We went to a **traditional** Greek wedding (NOT a Greek-traditional wedding).*

Exercises

45.1 Complete the definitions.

- 1 A display is a show for people to *watch*
- 2 If you are involved in an activity, you are in it.
- 3 If you can have up to 25 people, 25 people is the
- 4 If an event is spectacular, it looks very good or
- 5 A harbour is a place where are kept.
- 6 If people parade round the streets, they round the streets in a group.

45.2 Rewrite the sentences using the word in capitals. Keep a similar meaning.

- 1 The festival happens in the summer. TAKE *The festival takes place in the summer.*
- 2 The children wear special clothes. DRESS
- 3 People come from everywhere in Japan. ALL
- 4 They hold the event every year. HELD
- 5 Do you do anything special for your birthday? CELEBRATE
- 6 The festival happens every year. ANNUAL

45.3 Complete the text.

FESTIVALS ATTRACTIONS TRANSPORT



THE FALLAS

The Fallas is a ¹ *traditional* ² in Valencia, Spain, which ³ for five days and finishes on March 19th. The Fallas ⁴ place right across the city, and it ⁵ St Joseph, as well as the end of winter and the birth of spring. The festival ⁶ of music, dancing, cooking (the famous paella) and parades, and each area in the city produces a falla, which is a figure made of paper, cardboard, wood, etc. that is burnt on the final day. The fallas are very important, and artists spend months making them.

But the festival is also famous for ⁷ fireworks displays. Every day crowds ⁸ in different parts of the city at 2 pm, when loud firecrackers are set off. ⁹ displays continue every night, and on the final night, there is a huge display when all the fallas are burned. This is called the Crema.

45.4 Over to you

Think about a festival you know and answer the questions. If possible, ask someone else.

- 1 What kind of festival is it? Is it an arts festival or a traditional festival?
- 2 How often is it held?
- 3 When and where does it take place?
- 4 How long does it last?
- 5 What does it consist of?
- 6 Are there any special traditions or customs as part of the festival?

- 43.3** 2 entertainment 5 acting 8 director
 3 actors 6 entertainer
 4 poem 7 reviewer
- 43.4** 2 latest 4 (film) director 6 on 8 novel
 3 directed 5 complicated 7 comedies 9 fancy

43.5 *Possible answers:*

- 1 I don't read poetry but I read lots of novels. I enjoy thrillers and I like the English writer William Boyd.
- 2 Yes, I go to the cinema quite a lot. There are certain directors whose films I always see, but usually I go and see films that have had good reviews, or films that friends recommend.
- 3 I read reviews in the Sunday paper.
- 4 My favourite films are Godfather 1 and 2, and part of the reason I like them is that they have three of my favourite actors: Robert De Niro, Al Pacino and Marlon Brando.

Unit 44

- 44.1** 2 e 3 a 4 f 5 b 6 d
- 44.2** 2 single 3 album; comes 4 live 5 recorded 6 advertised

44.3 *Suggested answers:*

Ballet is a form of **dancing** that tells a story to music.

Audiences listen to **concerts**.

Albums are made in a **recording studio**.

The **conductor** stands in front of an **orchestra**.

A **composer** is someone who writes **classical music**.

- 44.4** 2 orchestra; conductor 5 album 8 composer
 3 opera singers (tenors) 6 guitarist 9 operas
 4 single 7 cellist 10 solo; Michael Jackson

- 44.5** 1 I like rock music, pop and R&B. My taste in music is very different from my parents – they hate rock music!
 2 My favourite artist is Beyoncé. I really like her song, *Formation*.
 3 I bought Iggy Azalea's latest album earlier this year.
 4 The last time I saw someone perform live was last year.
 5 I'm interested in both the tune and the lyrics.
 6 I play the guitar, but very badly!

Unit 45

- 45.1** 2 included 3 maximum 4 exciting 5 ships/boats 6 move/walk
- 45.2** 2 The children dress up.
 3 People come from all over Japan.
 4 The event is held every year.
 5 Do you celebrate your birthday? OR Do you do anything (special) to celebrate your birthday?
 6 The festival is an annual event. OR The festival happens annually.
- 45.3** 2 festival 5 celebrates 8 gather
 3 lasts 6 consists 9 Firework
 4 takes 7 spectacular
- 45.4** *Your own answers*