

Matt is looking at a web page about some festivals. Read the web page.

http://www.travelsmart.com/festivals

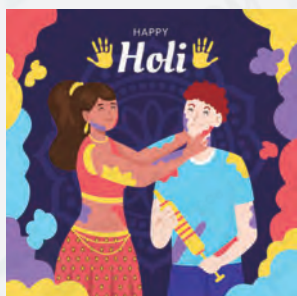
## Festivals Around the World

By Kevin Li & Tania Ko

Do you know some unique festivals which are celebrated in different countries? You may be surprised by how and why people celebrate the following festivals. Visit these places and join their celebrations if you have the chance!

### Saint Patrick's Day – Ireland

Celebrated in March, Saint Patrick's Day is a festival that lasts for five days and five nights. This **religious** festival is to remember Saint Patrick and celebrate Irish heritage and culture. During the festival, there are many music performances and art shows across the country. People usually dress in green. They dance and drink at pubs. They also eat festive dishes like **shepherd's** pies, which are made with beef, onions and mashed potatoes.



### Holi Festival – India / Nepal

Holi Festival is known as the 'Festival of Colours'. It is celebrated in February or March in India and Nepal. People throw coloured powder at one another on the streets. They do this to wish for good luck and show their love and respect to others. At night, people sing and dance around a bonfire. Many people like to travel to India to celebrate this festival with the locals.

### Nozawa Onsen Fire Festival – Japan

This Japanese festival takes place at the famous Nozawa Onsen Village on 15<sup>th</sup> January every year. During the festival, men who are 25 and 42 years old come together to burn an 18-metre-tall wooden **shrine** to wish for good luck, because 25 and 42 are thought to be unlucky ages in Japanese culture. This shrine is built months before the festival using wood from trees on a mountain near the village. The **duration** of the entire shrine burning can take up to four hours.



A **shepherd (n.)** is a person whose job is to take care of sheep and guide them from one place to another.  
e.g. Dan is a **shepherd (n.)**. He **shepherds (v.)** the sheep towards the farm.



10 mins

DATE

Choose the best answers by blackening the circles.

1. The web page \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. is written by bloggers Kevin Li and Tania Ko
  - B. only introduces special western festivals
  - C. tells readers about what to eat at special festivals
  - D. introduces some special festivals from around the world



2. Which of the following is TRUE about Saint Patrick's Day?
- A. It doesn't have a dress code.
  - B. It originated in Asia.
  - C. It celebrates the birth of Jesus.
  - D. It lasts for almost a week.

3. People \_\_\_\_\_ when they celebrate the Holi Festival.
- A. are covered in powder
  - B. wear colourful costumes
  - C. drink at pubs
  - D. dance for four hours

4. What do the Japanese do for the Nozawa Onsen Fire Festival?
- A. wish for good luck at a shrine
  - B. build a wooden shrine for burning
  - C. cheer for men who have turned 25
  - D. hike up to a mountain near the village during the festival



Tip  
Q3: Do not mix up facts about different festivals.

Answer the questions in complete sentences.

5. Why is the Holi Festival celebrated?

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6. Who should join the Nozawa Onsen Fire Festival? Why?

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Read the sentences. Put a 'T' (True) or 'F' (False) in each box.

- 7. Shepherd's pies are served during Saint Patrick's Day.
- 8. Only Indians and Nepalis celebrate the Holi Festival.
- 9. It takes four hours to build the wooden shrine.