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Oktoberfest in Germany



Let's Think

1. Which festival do you like the most? Do you know its history?
2. What do you do at this festival?

Listen!



You are Christy. You are reading an article in a travel guide to Germany.

Oktoberfest

There is a joyful festival celebrated in Germany every year—the Oktoberfest, with beer-drinking as the highlight.



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Beer is an important part of German food culture. To prepare for the occasion, brewers prepare an original beer. It looks darker than Germany's famous white beers, and has a higher alcohol content. Besides drinking, all participants enjoy the Bavarian food, including sausages and oxtails.

The Oktoberfest originated in Munich, Germany on 12th October 1810, on which day there was a royal marriage. Nowadays, the festival kicks off in late September and there's a different reason to celebrate—to enjoy the pleasurable weather before the autumn chill sets in. Since the festival has become tied to Germany's National Unity

15 Day, its length changes from year to year.



There are around six million people who take part in this festival annually and they consume nearly one hundred oxen and nearly half a million chickens. To add fun to the festival, the participants wear their best traditional Bavarian costumes and dance to live German music. Seeing the

20 massive popularity of the Oktoberfest, towns throughout Europe and North America have started to hold their own small-scale Oktoberfest.

(189 words)

Part A

Answer the following questions using the information from the article. Choose the **BEST** answer and blacken **ONE** circle only.

- Which of the following is irrelevant to the Oktoberfest?
 - beer
 - Bavarian sausages
 - black tea
 - oxen
- The original beer drunk at the Oktoberfest is _____.
 - the same as the white beers
 - better than the white beers
 - worse than the white beers
 - different from the white beers
- In line 17, the word 'consume' means '_____'.
 - use
 - spend
 - eat
 - destroy
- Every year, about _____ people take part in this festival.
 - one hundred
 - six thousand
 - half a million
 - six million
- Which of the following is **TRUE** about Oktoberfest?
 - People who join the festival can drink beer only.
 - Europeans and North Americans have their larger-scale versions of Oktoberfest.
 - Dancing in traditional Bavarian costumes is one of the festival's activities.
 - In the past, people celebrated it because they wanted to enjoy the nice weather together.

Grammar Corner

We can use 'There + is / are' to show that someone or something exists at present.

e.g. *There are around six million people who take part in this festival annually.*
(Line 16)

We can use 'There + was / were' to show that someone or something existed in the past.

e.g. *The Oktoberfest originated in Munich, Germany on 12th October, on which day there was a royal marriage.*
(Lines 9-10)

Part B

Answer the following questions using the information from the article. Write your answers in the spaces provided.

1. What does 'its' in line 15 refer to?

2. Find an adverb that means 'once every year'.

3. What are the two main differences between the white beers and the original beer consumed at the Oktoberfest in Germany?

(a) _____

(b) _____

4. Below is a page from a guide book about Germany. Fill in the blanks with the correct information.

Germany's Special Festival



The (a) _____ is a signature festival of Germany. Every year in (b) _____, close to (c) _____ people from all around the world flock to Munich in Germany to take part in the festival, which lasts about 16 days. While many know that (d) _____ is the highlight of the festival, few people know that its origin traces back to (e) _____ that took place in October in (f) _____. If you are to participate in the upcoming Oktoberfest, do not forget to gulp a glass of the (g) _____ prepared by local brewers!



Vocabulary Bank

The following are different festivals in the world. Match them with the correct pictures by writing the correct letters in the boxes. One of the words is not used.

- A. Pingxi Lantern Festival B. Harbin Ice and Snow Festival C. La Tomatina
 D. Day of the Dead E. Battle of the Oranges F. Rio Carnival
 G. Boryeong Mud Festival H. Balloon Fiesta I. Songkran J. Diwali

1. 

2. 

3. 

4. 

5. 

6. 

7. 

8. 

9. 



Let's Discuss

1. What Hong Kong festival would you like to introduce to the world? Why?
2. Is there any festival that you do not like? If so, what is it and why?