



UNITED KINGDOM MAY DAY

Pedagogical Guide



May 1st

A2 Level
Secondary
Middle School



INTRODUCTION

Learning about public holidays expands our knowledge, cultural understanding and awareness of traditions, values, and important events. It also promotes inclusion and respect for diversity. In this regard, this learning guide invites students to describe a public holiday, celebration, or festival by creating and promoting a brochure. Students will develop an understanding of specific facts and information through the use of vocabulary and reading comprehension strategies.

- **Language Level:** A2
- **Aimed at:** Teachers or Students (for autonomous study)
- **Educational Level:** Secondary / Middle School
- **Duration:** 150 minutes

PRESENTATION OF THE GUIDE

This guide is made up of:

- 1. Five (5) activities** - Pre, During and Post Tasks
- 2. Formative assessment** - Check your Progress and peer-assessment
- 3. Answer key**

Image from:
www.geograph.org.uk/photo/738591

Learning Objectives		By the end of this lesson, students will be able:	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> to understand specific facts / information by using vocabulary about public holidays to practice reading comprehension strategies such as scanning and interactive use of English to describe a public holiday, celebration, or festival by creating and promoting a brochure 	
	Time	Activity Description	
Session 1 Approximately 1h	15 minutes	Pre – Task 1 Match the word	Ask your students to complete each public holiday, celebration or festival using the words in the box. Then, ask them to add their favorite one and share it with a classmate.
	25 minutes	During Task: Read the text and identify specific words/ information.	Ask your students to read the text/ brochure and identify specific words/ information to answer the questions.
	10 minutes	Post – Task 1: Identify signs and places	Ask your students to read the sign carefully and identify in which place they can find it.
Session 2 Approximately 2h	50 minutes	Post – Task 2: Create a project: Brochure	Note: Previous to session 2, ask your students to research at home about a public holiday or bring ideas to make up their own. Ask your students to think of a public holiday, celebration or festival and describe it by creating a brochure. They can choose one in Colombia or any other around the world. Or why not create their own?
	45 minutes	Post – Task 2: Present the project: Brochure	Ask your students to share their brochures in class and use the peer-assessment rubric.
	5 minutes	Assessment: Check your progress.	Ask your students to check their progress using the information described in the chart.

1. MATCH THE WORDS



Fun Fact!

Did you know that public holidays, celebrations, and festivals are a great way to understand our culture, traditions, and values?

What public holidays, celebrations or festivals do you recognize below? Use the words in the boxes to complete each gap. Remember to add and then share with a classmate your favorite one in number 6: **Now You.**

PUBLIC HOLIDAY	MONTH	COUNTRY
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Day of the Dead • The Black and White Carnival • May Day 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • August • January *(2) • May 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vietnam • Spain • Mexico

1.	2.	3.
Public holiday: _____	Public holiday: Lunar New Year	Public holiday: _____
Country: _____	Country: _____	Country: Colombia
Month: November	Month: _____	Month: _____
4.	5.	6. NOW YOU...
		1.
Public holiday: La Tomatina	Public holiday: _____	Public holiday: _____
Country: _____	Country: The UK	Country: _____
Month: _____	Month: _____	Month: _____

2. LET'S READ THE BROCHURE!

COME CELEBRATE MAY DAY IN THE UK!



Join us for a day of festivities and fun as we celebrate May Day on **May 1st**. This is a **public holiday** that you can celebrate and enjoy different traditions and activities, including **Maypole dancing, Morris dancing, May Day fairs, and workers' protests**. There is something for everyone at this vibrant and exciting event. *What are you waiting for?*

History
May Day was traditionally a time to celebrate fertility and the rebirth of nature. Over time, it became associated with labor movements and workers' rights.

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THINGS TO SEE

Maypole Dancing
Experience the magic of May Day by joining us for Maypole dancing. You can watch how people dance around a tall pole decorated with flowers and ribbons. You could even have a chance to join in and learn the steps! Are you in?

Morris Dancing
For another traditional folk-dance experience, don't miss Morris dancing! You can see how men dress in colorful costumes, dancing traditional music with sticks and handkerchiefs.

May Day Fairs
Enjoy a fun-filled day at the May Day fairs, which are community events



that feature music, food, and games. Try delicious local cuisine and participate in games and activities for all ages.

Workers' Protests
Join labor unions and political groups as they organize demonstrations to call attention to workers' rights and social justice issues. This is a chance to show your support for workers and to participate in a movement for change.


THINGS TO EAT

Local Cuisine
Here are some things you can eat: Simnel Cake, hot cross buns, gingerbread cookies, and roast lamb.




BOOK NOW!

3. LITERAL READING COMPREHENSION



Fun Fact!

Did you know that there is a public holiday to celebrate the blessings that come from the mountains in Japan? You heard well! Every year, Japanese people celebrate Mountain Day on August 11.

Reading Strategy: Scanning: When reading a text, read quickly to find specific facts or information. Pay attention to names, numbers, or dates. Expand your knowledge:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YmQnvkv1JWg>



Read the brochure about May Day on page 5 and, then, answer the following questions.

1. What do people use to decorate the Maypole?



- A. Flowers and feathers
- B. Music, food, and games
- C. Flowers and ribbons
- D. Flowers and ribbons

2. What is Day May currently associated with?



- A. The celebration of the end of winter
- B. The celebration of the start of spring
- C. The celebration of workers' rights and labor movements
- D. The celebration of summer

3. What is Morris Dancing?



- A. Traditional music
- B. A traditional folk dance
- C. A modern dance
- D. The name of a protest

4. What can you do at May Day fairs?



- A. Protest to support the workers' rights
- B. Eat delicious food and participate in games and activities
- C. Watch musical concerts
- D. Watch men dressed in colorful costumes

5. What is the purpose of the workers' protests?



- A. To celebrate May Day with a number of different traditions
- B. To dance around a Maypole
- C. To sample local cuisine
- D. To call attention to workers' rights and social justice issues

4. HIDDEN WORDS



Fun Fact!

Did you know that January 1st is the most popular public holiday around the world? That is right! Approximately 90% of people have that day off.

Interactive use of English: Read the sign carefully and underline keywords such as verbs or nouns. Remember that they can help you identify the context and place. Then, think of possible places you can find them and discard the options that are least related.

1. Where can you find this add?

- A. At a beach
- B. At a park
- C. At a protest
- D. In a website



2. Where can you find this add?

- A. At a shopping center
- B. At a bank
- C. At a restaurant
- D. At a shop



3. Where can you find this add?

- A. At a restaurant
- B. At a place of work
- C. At a park
- D. At a parade



4. Discover the sign

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nerter



5. PROJECT

In this section, you will create a **brochure** inviting people to your favorite **public holiday, celebration, or festival**. You can choose one in Colombia or any other around the world. Or why not create your own?

To create your brochure, remember to answer: Why do I want people to celebrate this holiday? / What do I want people to learn about his public holiday, celebration or festival?

Let's take a look on the following example about May Day in the UK:

PUBLIC HOLIDAY	LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	THINGS TO SEE	THINGS TO EAT
May Day	The UK	This is a public holiday that is celebrated with a number of different traditions. May Day was traditionally a time to celebrate fertility and the rebirth of nature. Over time, it became associated with labor movements and workers' rights.	Maypole dancing, Morris dancing, May Day fairs, and workers' protests.	Simnel Cake, hot cross buns, gingerbread cookies, and roast lamb.

You can use language to invite people to your celebration such as:



YOUR TURN!

- 1. Think of a place** you want your friends to visit.
- 2. Research or invent** what public holidays, celebrations or festivals people celebrate there.
- 3. Use the chart** to create your brochure. **You can use the template attached if you like.**

PUBLIC HOLIDAY	LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	THINGS TO SEE	THINGS TO EAT

4. Share your brochure in class!

Follow these instructions:

1. Divide the students in 2 groups.

- **Group 1:** students will present the brochure.
- **Group 2:** students will be the tourists.

2. In turn, each group will share their brochures. One group presents and the other actively listens.

3. Finally, each group will choose the most interesting public holiday(s). You can use the peer-assessment rubric if you want.

CHECK YOUR PROGRESS

Read the statements below and let us know how much you have learned.

Now I can...	Very well	Quite well	Needs improvement
Read to identify specific information			
Understand vocabulary about public holidays, celebrations and festivals			
Use different information sources to describe a public holiday by creating a brochure			
Interact with classmates promoting a public holiday/celebration or festival			

ANSWER KEY

1. Match the words

	PUBLIC HOLIDAY	COUNTRY	MONTH
1	Day of the Dead	Mexico	November
2	Lunar New year	Vietnam	January
3	The Black and White Carnival	Colombia	January
4	La Tomatina	Spain	August
5	May Day	The UK	May

2. Literal Reading Comprehension

ANSWERS		
1	C.	Flowers and ribbons
2	C.	The celebration of workers' rights and labor movements.
3	B.	A traditional folk dance.
4	B.	Eat delicious food and participate in games and activities.
5	D.	To call attention to workers' rights and social justice issues.

3. Hidden word

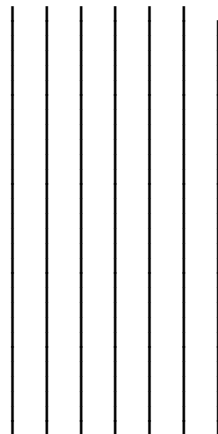
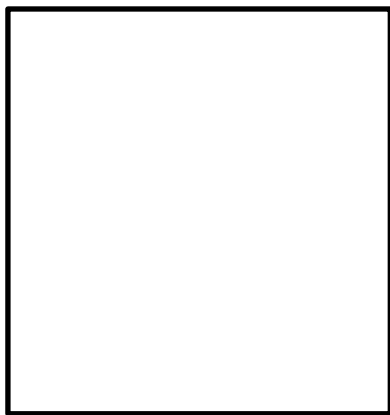
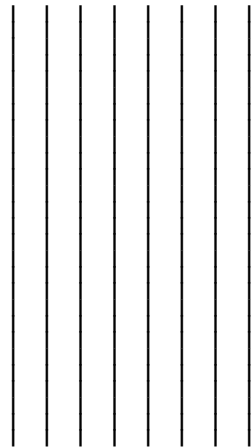
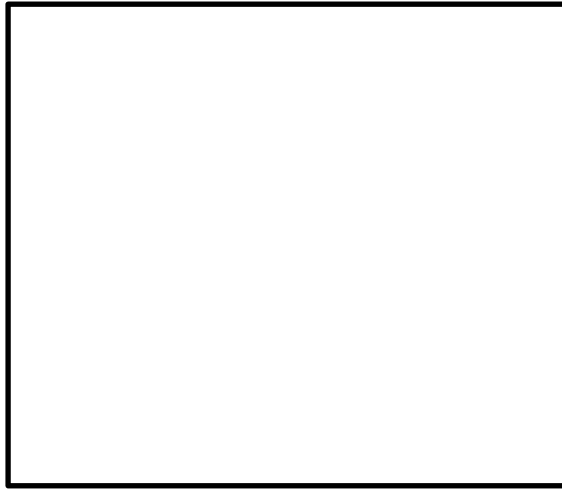
ANSWERS		
1	D.	In a website
2	B.	At a bank
3	B.	At a parade
4		Do not enter

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