

Warmer – Festivals

Many towns and cities have festivals. These are special days when people celebrate something. What festivals do you have in your country or city?

Task 1 – Two London festivals: vocabulary for descriptions

Do you know these two London festivals? What do you know about them?

(a) Notting Hill Carnival



(b) The Lord Mayor's Show



Which of these things can you see in the pictures?

1. a mayor (the leader of a town or city)
2. Afro-Caribbean people (people from the Caribbean or West Indies)
3. fantastic costumes
4. a 350-year-old gold coach
5. carnival (where people wear special clothes and sing and dance in the street)

Work with a partner and describe the pictures.

Task 2 – Grammar: questions

Make questions by putting the words in order.

1. festival is month Which the in ?
2. did begin the When festival ?
3. What people at the do do festival ?
4. people How the watch many festival ?
5. time the What does festival start ?

Check your answers with a partner.

Task 3 – Jigsaw reading

Read the text.

The Lord Mayor's Show

If you want to see The Lord Mayor's show, come to London on the second Saturday in November. The show starts in the old City of London and goes to Westminster. Then it returns to the city.



The Lord Mayor's coach

This show is very old. It began in 1215, just before the Magna Carta. King John wanted to get support from the people of London, so he said that they could choose a mayor every year. The King made the new mayor march across London to promise to be loyal to him, and the new mayor has done so ever since.

The mayor rides in a 350-year-old gold coach and waves at the people along the road. Adults and children from many groups join the show. They walk or dance and play music. Soldiers wear their best uniforms and ride horses.

About half a million people come to enjoy the show and many others watch it on TV. The show starts at 11 a.m. and finishes at about 2.30 p.m. Because it is November, it may be cold and wet, so wear warm clothes!

Task 4 – Information exchange

- a. *Work with a partner. Ask the questions from **Task 2** about Notting Hill Carnival. Answer questions about The Lord Mayor's Show.*

- b. *Tell your partner which festival you would like to go to – The Lord Mayor's Show or Notting Hill Carnival. Say why.*

Task 5 – Presentation

Work in small groups. Tell your group about a festival you enjoy. Say why you enjoy it. If you have an internet connection, find some pictures and show them to your group.