

Lesson 1: Listening

Top Ten Most Interesting Traditions Around the World

A. Prepare to Listen

You are going to listen to part of a video-clip called *'10 Interesting Traditions around the World that are still practiced today'*. Read the information about the videoclip and write True (T) or False (F) next to sentences 1-3.

Bring Me by Buzz Feed is an official YouTube channel, celebrating different lifestyles, cultures, traditions and food from around the world. In this programme, Jasmine presents ten most interesting traditions around the world that are still very popular today. At the end of the videoclip Jasmine invites the viewers to share any traditions they might know about, by leaving a comment in the comments section.

For more information viewers can subscribe to **BuzzFeed Bring Me:**
<https://bzfd.it/2FUXzwU>

1. Bring Me by Buzz Feed is a news bulletin.
2. In this videoclip, Jasmine presents different foods from around the world.
3. Viewers can share their own experiences of traditions, by writing a message in the comments box.

Look at the photos. What two traditions are you going to hear about?



B. While-Listening

Task 1. Listen to the description of the first two traditions. Answer these questions on your own. Compare answers and discuss in small groups.

1. The Obon festival celebrations last
 - a. five days.
 - b. two days.
 - c. three days.

2. Traditionally, lanterns are hung in front of houses
 - a. to guide the ancestors' spirits.
 - b. to light the way for tourists.
 - c. to make the streets attractive and cheerful.

3. Songkran is renowned throughout the world for
 - a. its festive water celebrations.
 - b. its traditional dancing and musical performances.
 - c. its religious practices.

4. As part of the festivities, people make offerings of food and robes to
 - a. friends living abroad.
 - b. Buddhist monks.
 - c. elderly relatives.

Task 2. Listen again. Think of a suitable answer to Questions 1 – 4 below. Compare your answers with a partner. If necessary, listen again to check.

1. Why are family graves visited during the Obon festival?
2. How did the Obon festival originate?
3. According to Thai culture what does the pouring of water symbolise?
4. Why do you think Songkran is so popular with tourists?

Task 3 Review

Discuss the following questions in pairs or in a small group.

- a. Would you like to listen to the rest of the top ten most interesting traditions around the world? Why? Why not?
- b. Is there a tradition that you follow or practice? What is it?

Link to Videoclip

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j5da1f7NT4Q>