

Learning American Culture through Holidays

Answer with complete sentences (with a capital letter at the beginning, a complete thought, and punctuation at the end).

1. What is Culture?
2. What is Society?

	Brazil	America
Common Foods		
Religions		
Holidays		
Sports		
Clothes		

3. What is your culture like?
4. How would you explain your family to someone else?
5. How can we learn more about someone's culture through their holidays?
6. What are the holidays we are going to talk about in this module? Christmas, Valentine's day, Halloween, Easter, Weddings, Birthdays, Children's day, Independence day, New Year's Eve, Labor day, Thanksgiving, Martin Luther King Jr, Day, Mother's day, Father's day, St. Patrick's Day.
7. What are some differences between Brazilian and American culture?



New Years Eve

Answer with complete sentences (with a capital letter at the beginning, a complete thought, and punctuation at the end).

1. What would a PERFECT New Year's Eve celebration be like for you?
2. What is your favorite memory from all your New Year's Eve celebrations?
3. How does your family normally celebrate New Year's Eve?
4. Does your family celebrate like what is common in your country, or different?
5. Why?
6. How is New Year's Eve celebrated in America?

New Year's Eve Celebration	Brazil	America
Food		
Activities		
Clothes		
Other		

7. What are the biggest differences between how this holiday is celebrated in Brazil and in America?
8. What is the history of this holiday? It is a new year for everyone!
9. What are some other crazy ways people celebrate New Year's Eve around the world?
10. What can we learn about American culture from how they celebrate New Year's Eve?

Martin Luther King jr. Day

Answer with complete sentences (with a capital letter at the beginning, a complete thought, and punctuation at the end).

1. Martin Luther King Jr. Day is not a holiday in Brazil, but it is in the USA. What do you think it is about (before watching the videos) and what do you think American's do for this holiday?
2. Who is Martin Luther King jr?
3. What did he do?
4. What is the name of his famous speech?
5. When is MLK jr Day celebrated?
6. How is MLK jr Day celebrated in America?

MLK jr Day Celebration	
Food	
Activities	
Clothes	
Other	

7. Do they celebrate Martin Luther King jr. Day anywhere else beside the USA?
8. Why?
9. What can we learn about American culture from how they celebrate Martin Luther King jr Day?

Valentine's Day

Answer with complete sentences (with a capital letter at the beginning, a complete thought, and punctuation at the end).

1. Valentine's day in Brazil is called Dia dos Namorados. What would a PERFECT Dia dos Namorados celebration be like for you?
2. What is your favorite memory from all your Dia dos Namorados celebrations?
3. How does your family normally celebrate Dia dos Namorados?
4. Does your family celebrate like what is common in your country, or different?
5. Why?
6. How is Valentine's Day celebrated in America?

Valentine's Day	Brazil	America
Food		
Activities		
Clothes		
Other		

7. What is the history of Valentine's Day?
8. Why is the name and date different for this holiday in Brazil from America?
9. What are the biggest differences between how this holiday is celebrated in Brazil and in America?
10. What are some other crazy ways people celebrate Valentine's Day around the world?
11. What can we learn about American culture from how they celebrate Valentine's Day?

St. Patrick's Day

Answer with complete sentences (with a capital letter at the beginning, a complete thought, and punctuation at the end).

1. St. Patrick's Day is not a holiday in Brazil, but it is in the USA. What do you think it is about (before watching the videos) and what do you think American's do for this holiday?
2. Who was St. Patrick?
3. What did he do?
4. When is St. Patrick's Day celebrated?
5. How is St. Patrick's Day celebrated in America?

St. Patrick's Day Celebration	
Food	
Activities	
Clothes	
Other	

6. Do they celebrate St. Patrick's Day anywhere else beside the USA?
7. Why?
8. How is it different than how it is celebrated in the USA?
9. What can we learn about American culture from how they celebrate St. Patrick's Day?

Easter

Answer with complete sentences (with a capital letter at the beginning, a complete thought, and punctuation at the end).

1. Easter in Brazil is called Pascoa. What would a PERFECT Pascoa celebration?
2. What is your favorite memory from all your Pascoa celebrations?
3. How does your family normally celebrate Pascoa?
4. Does your family celebrate like what is common in your country, or different?
5. Why?
6. How is Easter celebrated in America?

Easter	Brazil	America
Food		
Activities		
Clothes		
Other		

7. What is the history of Easter?
8. What are the biggest differences between how this holiday is celebrated in Brazil and in America?
9. What are some other ways people celebrate Easter around the world?
10. What can we learn about American culture from how they celebrate Easter?

Mother's Day

Answer with complete sentences (with a capital letter at the beginning, a complete thought, and punctuation at the end).

1. What would a PERFECT Mother's Day celebration be like for you?
2. What is your favorite memory from all your Mother's Day celebrations?
3. How does your family normally celebrate Mother's Day?
4. Does your family celebrate like what is common in your country, or different?
5. Why?
6. How is Mother's Day celebrated in America?

Mother's Day		
Food		
Activities		
Clothes		
Other		

7. What is the history of Mother's Day?
8. What are the biggest differences between how this holiday is celebrated in Brazil and in America?
9. What are some other ways people celebrate Mother's Day around the world?
10. What can we learn about American culture from how they celebrate Mother's Day?

Father's Day

Answer with complete sentences (with a capital letter at the beginning, a complete thought, and punctuation at the end).

1. What would a PERFECT Father's Day celebration be like for you?
2. What is your favorite memory from all your Father's Day celebrations?
3. How does your family normally celebrate Father's Day?
4. Does your family celebrate like what is common in your country, or different?
5. Why?
6. How is Father's Day celebrated in America?

Father's Day	Brazil	America
Food		
Activities		
Clothes		
Other		

7. What is the history of Father's Day?
8. What are the biggest differences between how this holiday is celebrated in Brazil and in America?
9. What is the difference between Father's Day and Mother's Day?
10. What are some other ways people celebrate Father's Day around the world?
11. What can we learn about American culture from how they celebrate Father's Day?

Independence Day

Answer with complete sentences (with a capital letter at the beginning, a complete thought, and punctuation at the end).

1. Independence Day in Brazil is September 7. You also have Republic Day November 15. Why do you have two different holidays about one thing--becoming your own country?
2. What would a PERFECT Independence Day celebration be like for you?
3. What is your favorite memory from all your Independence Day celebrations?
4. How does your family normally celebrate Independence Day?
5. Does your family celebrate like what is common in your country, or different?
6. Why?
7. How is Independence Day celebrated in America?

Independence Day	Brazil	America
Food		
Activities		
Clothes		
Other		

8. What is the history of American Independence?
9. When is American Independence Day?
10. What are the biggest differences between how this holiday is celebrated in Brazil and in America?
11. What are some other ways people celebrate Independence Day around the world?
12. What can we learn about American culture from how they celebrate Independence Day?

Birthdays

Answer with complete sentences (with a capital letter at the beginning, a complete thought, and punctuation at the end).

1. Birthdays are celebrated most everywhere--can you think of a culture that doesn't celebrate birthdays? Why?
2. What would a PERFECT birthday celebration be like for you?
3. What is your favorite memory from all your birthday celebrations?
4. How does your family normally celebrate birthdays?
5. Does your family celebrate like what is common in your country, or different?
6. Why?
7. How are birthdays celebrated in America?

Birthdays	Brazil	America
Food		
Activities		
Clothes		
Other		

8. What is the history of birthdays?
9. What are the biggest differences between how this holiday is celebrated in Brazil and in America?
10. What are some other ways people birthdays around the world?
11. What can we learn about American culture from how they celebrate birthdays?

Weddings

Answer with complete sentences (with a capital letter at the beginning, a complete thought, and punctuation at the end).

1. Weddings are celebrated most everywhere--can you think of a culture that doesn't celebrate weddings?
2. What would a PERFECT wedding celebration be like for you?
3. What is your favorite memory from all the weddings you have been to?
4. How does your family normally celebrate weddings?
5. Does your family celebrate like what is common in your country, or different?
6. Why?
7. How are weddings celebrated in America?

Weddings	Brazil	America
Food		
Activities		
Clothes		
Other		

8. What is the history of weddings?
9. What are the biggest differences between how weddings are celebrated in Brazil and in America?
10. What are some other ways people do weddings around the world?
11. What can we learn about American culture from how they do weddings?

Labor Day

Answer with complete sentences (with a capital letter at the beginning, a complete thought, and punctuation at the end).

1. Labor Day, called dia do Trabalhador, is May 1st in Brazil. What is the history of Labor Day in Brazil?
2. What would a PERFECT Labor Day celebration be like for you?
3. What is your favorite memory from all your Labor Day celebrations?
4. How does your family normally celebrate Labor Day?
5. Does your family celebrate like what is common in your country, or different?
6. Why?
7. How is Labor Day celebrated in America?

Labor Day	Brazil	America
Food		
Activities		
Clothes		
Other		

8. What is the history of American Labor Day?
9. When is American Labor Day? Why is it a different day than Brazilian Labor Day?
10. What are the biggest differences between how this holiday is celebrated in Brazil and in America?
11. What are some other ways people celebrate Labor Day around the world?
12. What can we learn about American culture from how they celebrate Independence Day?

Children's Day

Answer with complete sentences (with a capital letter at the beginning, a complete thought, and punctuation at the end).

1. What would a PERFECT Children's Day celebration be like for you?
2. What is your favorite memory from all your Children's Day celebrations?
3. How does your family normally celebrate Children's Day?
4. Does your family celebrate like what is common in your country, or different?
5. Why?
6. How is Children's Day celebrated in America?

Children's Day	Brazil	America
Food		
Activities		
Clothes		
Other		

7. What is the history of Children's Day?
8. When is Children's Day? Why is it different days all over the world?
9. What are some other ways people celebrate Children's Day around the world?
10. What can we learn about American culture from how they celebrate Independence Day?

Halloween

Answer with complete sentences (with a capital letter at the beginning, a complete thought, and punctuation at the end).

1. Halloween is not a holiday in Brazil, although some people do celebrate it. What do you think it is about (before watching the videos) and what do you think American's do for this holiday?
2. Finados (November 2) is closely related to Halloween: what do they have in common, and what is different?
3. Where does the name Halloween come from?
4. Why is Halloween such a controversial holiday?
5. When is Halloween celebrated? October 31
6. How is Halloween celebrated in America?

Halloween Celebration	
Food	
Activities	
Clothes	
Other	

7. Do they celebrate Halloween anywhere else beside the USA?
8. Why?
9. What are some ways other countries celebrate Halloween?
10. What can we learn about American culture from how they celebrate Halloween?

Thanksgiving

Answer with complete sentences (with a capital letter at the beginning, a complete thought, and punctuation at the end).

1. Thanksgiving is not a holiday in Brazil, although some people do celebrate it. What do you think it is about (before watching the videos) and what do you think American's do for this holiday?
2. What is the history of Thanksgiving?
3. When is Thanksgiving celebrated?
4. What has been a recent controversy about Thanksgiving?
5. How is Thanksgiving celebrated in America?

Thanksgiving Celebration	
Food	
Activities	
Clothes	
Other	

6. Do they celebrate Thanksgiving anywhere else beside the USA?
7. Why?
8. What are some ways other countries celebrate Thanksgiving?
9. What can we learn about American culture from how they celebrate Thanksgiving?

Christmas

Answer with complete sentences (with a capital letter at the beginning, a complete thought, and punctuation at the end).

1. What would a PERFECT Christmas celebration be like for you?
2. What is your favorite memory from all your Christmas celebrations?
3. How does your family normally celebrate Christmas?
4. Does your family celebrate like what is common in your country, or different?
5. Why?
6. How is Christmas celebrated in America?

Christmas Celebration	Brazil	America
Food		
Activities		
Clothes		
Other		

7. What are the biggest differences between how this holiday is celebrated in Brazil and in America?
8. What is the history of this holiday?
9. What can we learn about American culture from how they celebrate Christmas?
10. What are the most common Christmas songs?
11. What is your favorite Christmas song?
12. What are some of the best Christmas movies?
13. What is your favorite Christmas movie?

Christmas, part 2

1. What are common Christmas foods in Brazil?
2. What are common Christmas foods in America?
3. What are common Christmas foods in other countries around the world?
4. Choose one country in the world (Not Brazil or America) to study how they celebrate Christmas. What country do you choose?
5. Find 2 or 3 videos on YouTube that explain about how that country celebrates Christmas. Put the links here:
6. Next class, you will give a short presentation about how your country celebrates Christmas. Make sure you can answer the following:

What kind of traditions/activities they do:

What kind of food they eat:

How what they do is similar or different from what you do:

What you learn about their culture by how they celebrate Christmas:

Christmas Presentations

1. Make sure you are ready to give your presentation!!!!!! What is the country you chose, and what are the 2 or 3 videos you will show about it?
2. Listen to the presentations and fill out this chart:

Name of person presenting:	Country they talked about:	Something interesting in how that country celebrates Christmas:

3. We have talked a lot about holidays: why do we have them?
4. Please fill out this chart:

Holiday:	What does this holiday celebrate?	What does this holiday reveal about American culture?	What does how YOU celebrate this holiday reveal about your personal values/culture?
New Years			
Martin Luther King Jr. Day			
Valentine's Day			
St.Patrick's Day			
Easter			
Mother's Day			
Father's Day			
Independence Day			
Birthdays			
Weddings			
Labor day			
Children's day			
Halloween			
Thanksgiving			
Christmas			

5. For next class, each student will choose a holiday (besides one of the ones listed above that we covered already). It can be a holiday from Brazil, or from another country. What holiday do you choose?

6. Find 2 or 3 videos on YouTube about this holiday (they can't be the same videos we had in our classes) and put the links here:

7. Be able to answer these questions:
 What kind of traditions/activities do they do for this holiday?
 What kind of food do they eat for this holiday?
 What do you learn about the culture by how they celebrate this holiday?
 What is the purpose of this holiday?

Holiday Wrap up

1. Make sure you are ready to give your presentation!!!! What is the holiday you chose, and what are the 2 or 3 videos you will show about it?
2. Listen to the presentations and fill out this chart:

Name of the person presenting:	The holiday they talked about:	Something interesting about that holiday you learned:

3. Holidays are important for making memories, and special times with people we love. They also reveal a lot about what we really care about and value. In a culture, it shows (in general) what they think is important. Why do you think we did a whole module about American Holidays?
4. How do you think learning about American culture will help you with learning English?
5. What was the best part about learning about American holidays?
6. What was something you would change or do differently about learning about American holidays?
7. What was something you would add to (or a holiday you would add) learning about holidays?