

Do the preparation task first. Then read the article and do the exercises to check your understanding.

Preparation

Match the vocabulary with the correct definition and write a–e next to the numbers 1–5.

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|-----------------------|---|
| 1..... a new moon | a. rockets that shoot up into the sky and explode with bright lights |
| 2..... fireworks | b. something that holds oil or gas and burns, giving out light |
| 3..... a lamp | c. a beautiful flower that grows on water; the national flower of India |
| 4..... a henna tattoo | d. the moon when it is totally in the sun's shadow |
| 5..... a lotus flower | e. a design drawn on the body with black dye |

1. Check your understanding: true or false

Circle *True* or *False* for these sentences.

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|----|--|-------------|--------------|
| 1. | Diwali is one of the most important celebrations in India. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 2. | People celebrate Diwali in different places in Britain. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 3. | The Festival of Light is another name for Diwali. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 4. | A 'diya' is a small oil lamp used for decoration during Diwali. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 5. | Diwali is celebrated in November every year. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 6. | Christmas, Eid and Diwali are all celebrated at the same time of year in London. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 7. | London has the largest Diwali celebration outside of India. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 8. | The Golden Mile is a street in Leicester. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |

2. Check your vocabulary: gap fill

Complete the sentences with words from the box.

patterns	electric	Trafalgar Square	tattoos
lamps	shops	firework	moon

1. People celebrate Diwali with _____ displays.
2. _____ are drawn on the floor during Diwali.
3. Diwali means 'row of _____' in Sanskrit.
4. The exact date of Diwali depends on the _____.
5. People paint henna _____ on their hands.
6. There is Bhangra dancing in _____ at Diwali.
7. _____ stay open late in Leicester at Diwali.
8. Many people in Britain use _____ fairy lights instead of old-fashioned oil lamps.

3. Check your grammar: multiple choice – prepositions

Circle the correct preposition to complete the sentences.

1. Diwali is one **of / at / in** the biggest events in the Indian calendar.
2. The word Diwali comes **of / from / by** the Sanskrit language.
3. Diwali is celebrated every year on the darkest night of the month **at / on / in** October or November.
4. London is a multicultural city where people **at / of / for** different ethnic groups and religions live.
5. You can join in **with / to / by** celebrations for Diwali in London's Trafalgar Square.
6. Leicester has one of the largest Diwali celebrations outside **at / from / of** India.
7. There is a display of thousands of lights **along / to / under** Belgrave Road.
8. Instead **in / at / of** traditional gold and silver gifts, sometimes people give money.

Discussion

Do people celebrate Diwali where you live?