


LESSON C: FESTIVALS & THINGS
VAGUE EXPRESSIONS LESSON D:
TRADITIONS PREPOSITIONS OF
TIME: ON, AT, FOR, SINCE

Unit 4

Celebrations

In Unit 4, you learn how to . . .

- use *going to* and the present continuous to talk about the future.
- use indirect object pronouns.
- talk about birthdays, celebrations, and favorite holidays.
- use "vague" expressions like *and everything*.
- give "vague" responses like *Maybe* and *It depends*.



Lesson C Festivals and things


1 Conversation strategy "Vague" expressions

A What do you think the underlined expression means? Check (✓) two ideas.

There are lots of sports and stuff like that.

☐ games ☐ matches ☐ holidays

Now listen. What happens during the sports event?



Thomas Are you going to the big sports event next week?

Omar I don't know. It depends. What exactly?

Thomas Well, it's just, um ... it's a sports festival. There are lots of sports and stuff like that. Everybody goes for at least one day, you know ...

Omar You mean it lasts several days?

Thomas Yeah. There are sports activities for children too, so all the families can go and everything.

Omar Uh-huh. I'm not big on sports, actually.

Thomas And there's good food. You can get all kinds of good food, burgers and things. Do you want to go?

Omar Hmm. Well, maybe.

Notice how Thomas uses "vague" expressions like *and everything* and *and things (like that)*. He doesn't need to give Omar a complete list. Find examples in the conversation.

You can get all kinds of good food, burgers and things.

Why we use "Vague" Expressions?

People use vague expressions like:
and everything
and things like that
and that sort of thing

When they expect the listener to know what they're referring to

B What do the "vague" expressions mean in these conversations? Choose two ideas from the box for each one. Then practice with a partner.

anniversaries	art exhibits	painting	✓ holidays	fruit salads
ice cream	cultural events	sculpture	see old friends	spend time at home

- ① A Do you go to a restaurant to celebrate special occasions *and stuff*? holidays
 B Yeah, we know a nice place. They bring out cakes *and everything*. Ice cream
- ② A Are you into art *and stuff like that*? Painting, sculpture
 B Yeah, we have a lot of museums *and things like that* around here. Art exhibits
- ③ A What are you doing this weekend?
 B I'm staying home. I really want to see my family *and everything*. See old friends

Strategy plus "Vague" responses

You can use responses like these if you're not sure about your answer:

I don't know.
I'm not sure.
Maybe.
It depends.

Are you going to the big sports event next week?



I don't know. It depends. What is it exactly?

In conversation . . .

I don't know and *I'm not sure* are more common responses than *Maybe* and *It depends*.

I don't know.

I'm not sure.

Maybe.

It depends.

3 Scrambled conversation

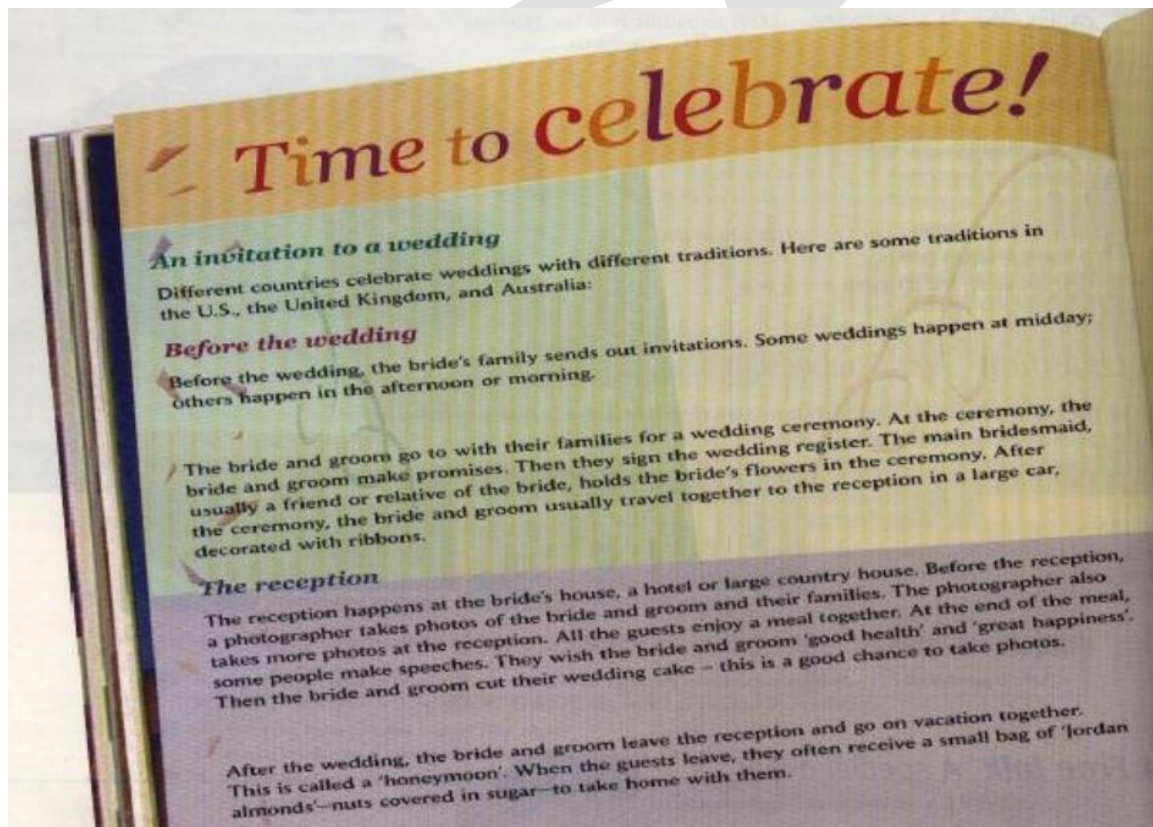
Conversation strategies

Number the lines of the conversation in the correct order.

- 7** But you can also shop for cool Chinese gifts and things.
- 1** Would you like to go to a Chinese festival?
- 4** OK. So, what do people do?
- 10** There's going to be free food? Great, I'd love to go.
- 6** Well, I don't know. I'm not big on dances and stuff like that.
- 9** Well, at least the food is great, and it's free.
- 8** Uh, maybe, but I don't have money for shopping right now.
- 3** It's for Chinese New Year.
- 5** Lots of things, like lion dances and everything!
- 2** I'm not sure. What kind of festival is it exactly?

Vocabulary

- **An Invitation:** when someone is asked to go to an event
- **Traditions:** way of acting which people in a particular society group have continued to follow for a long time.
- **Bride:** a woman who is about to get married.
- **Groom:** a man who is about to get married or has just got married.
- **Sign:** to write your name, usually on a written or printed document, to show that you agree with its contents.
- **Register:** a book or record containing a list of names.
- **Bridesmaid:** a girl or woman who during the marriage ceremony helps the woman who is getting married.
- **Ribbons:** a long narrow strip of material used to tie things together or as a decoration.
- **Honeymoon:** a holiday taken by a man and a woman immediately after their marriage.
- **Nuts:** they are dry fruit of particular trees which grows in a hard shell and can often be eaten.



A Read the article. Then add the correct heading to each paragraph.

Traditional ways to celebrate
Ideas for Father's Day

History of the holiday

✓ Why people celebrate Father's Day

When is Father's Day?

Father's Day

Why people celebrate Father's Day

In many countries, there is a special day of the year when children of all ages celebrate their fathers. On this day - Father's Day - children tell their fathers that they love them, and thank them for their love and care.

History of the holiday

Father's Day is not a new celebration. Historians say a boy left a Father's Day message on a card made of clay about 4,000 years ago. The modern festival of Father's Day came from the United States when Sonora Louise Smart Dodd first thought of having a Father's Day celebration in 1909 to show her love for her father. In the United States, Father's Day became an official holiday in 1966.

When is Father's Day?

People in different countries celebrate Father's Day on different days. In the United States and the United Kingdom, it's on the third Sunday in June, whereas in Russia, it's in the the month of February.

Traditional ways to celebrate

Although many countries celebrate Father's Day at different times of the year, the holidays have one purpose in common - to show love and appreciation for fathers. For example, on Father's Day morning, some children bring their fathers breakfast in bed. Others give their fathers gifts they made especially for this holiday. And adults send their fathers cards.

Ideas for Father's Day

What are you going to do next Father's Day? Maybe you can use some of these ideas to make your fathers feel special.

- make or buy your father a beautiful card
- write him a letter telling him why you appreciate him
- do a special chore for him
- make him a special meal or bake a cake
- buy him his favorite candy
- plant a flower or tree somewhere he can see it

Look at the pictures. Write the special event. Then complete the descriptions with the expressions in the box.

decorate their cars

exchange rings

get a diploma

give meat to the poor

go to a street parade

✓ travel to Mecca

give gifts

give meat to the poor

offer up a sheep or goat
exchange promises

✓ wear a cap and gown
stay in a tent



graduation day



Hajj



National Day

1. Ana and her classmates are going to wear a cap and gown. When they call her name, Ana's going to get a diploma.

2. People are going to travel to Mecca. People are going to stay in a tent.

3. People are going to decorate their cars and go to a street parade.



Eid al-Fitr

4. Hassan and Mahmoud are going to give gifts and give meat to the poor.



Wedding day

5. Ahmad and Keisha are going to get married. During the wedding, they're going to exchange rings and exchange promises.



Eid al-Adha

6. People are going to offer up a sheep or goat and give meat to the poor.

Dates & Months

Months ▼

January
February
March
April

May
June
July
August

September
October
November
December

Cardinal Numbers

1 one	17 seventeen
2 two	18 eighteen
3 three	19 nineteen
4 four	20 twenty
5 five	21 twenty-one
6 six	22 twenty-two
7 seven	23 twenty-three
8 eight	24 twenty-four
9 nine	25 twenty-five
10 ten	26 twenty-six
11 Eleven	27 twenty-seven
12 twelve	28 twenty-eight
13 thirteen	29 twenty-nine
14 fourteen	30 thirty
15 fifteen	31 thirty-one
16 sixteen	

Days of the month ▼

1st first	17th seventeen
2nd second	18th eighteen
3rd third	19th nineteen
4th fourth	20th twentieth
5th fifth	21st twenty-first
6th sixth	22nd twenty-second
7th seventh	23rd twenty-third
8th eighth	24th twenty-fourth
9th ninth	25th twenty-fifth
10th tenth	26th twenty-sixth
11th eleventh	27th twenty-seventh
12th twelfth	28th twenty-eighth
13th thirteenth	29th twenty-ninth
14th fourteenth	30th thirtieth
15th fifteenth	31st thirty-first
16th sixteenth	

Prepositions of Time

ON

◊ Days

on Saturday – on Monday

I visit my grandparents on Friday.

◊ Dates

on 26th of November – on September 13

I was born on September 13th.

◊ Weekends and Weekdays

I don't work on weekends.

I only work on weekdays.

AT

◊ Part of the day (exception)

at night

I always watch TV at night

◊ Specific Time

at 8 a.m. - at midday - at midnight

I often wake up at 6 a.m.

My break starts at midday.

Prepositions of Time

for

◊ Duration of time

3 hours – 6 days – a year ...etc.

I lived in the Manchester **for** 7 years.

I waited **for** them **for** an hour

Since

◊ A specific time

2005 – 7:30 – Saturday – July

I lived there **since** 2003.

Try to fill the spaces with a preposition:

- The shop closesmidnight.
- Fahad went homelunchtime.
- They often travelweekends.
- Do you workMondays?
- I have a meeting9am.
- Her birthday is20 November.
- He has been a teacher 3 years.
- I live in Dammam 2002.