

KWANZAA

<http://www.eslHolidayLessons.com/12/kwanzaa.html>

CONTENTS:

The Reading / Tapescript	2
Phrase Match	3
Listening Gap Fill	4
Listening / Reading Gap Fill	5
Choose the Correct Word	6
Multiple Choice	7
Spelling	8
Put the Text Back Together	9
Scrambled Sentences	10
Discussion	11
Student Survey	12
Writing	13
Homework	14

ALL ANSWERS ARE IN THE TEXT ON PAGE 2.

THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

Kwanzaa is a week-long holiday that is celebrated around the world. It takes place between December the 26th and January the 1st every year. The holiday celebrates African culture and history. Kwanzaa started in 1966 in the U.S.A. It was the first holiday just for African Americans. Ron Karenga, an African-American civil rights campaigner, created the seven-day holiday. He said it was to give Americans of African descent an opportunity to celebrate their unique heritage. He wanted a holiday that did not "simply imitate the practice of the dominant [white] society". The name Kwanzaa comes from the Swahili language and means "first fruits". Many Americans celebrate Kwanzaa alongside other holidays that take place at the same time. Ron Karenga said: "All people can share in the celebration of our common humanity."

Kwanzaa celebrates *Nguzu Saba*, which means "The Seven Principles of Blackness". Each of the seven days represents a different principle. The principles are unity, self-determination, working together, cooperating in business, building the nation, creativity, and faith. People who celebrate Kwanzaa light candles in a special candle holder called a *kinara*. People decorate their homes in African colours and put up pieces of African art. Some people attend a Kwanzaa ceremony that has African drumming and music. One of the most important parts of Kwanzaa is a special feast called a *karamu*. Family and friends get together and celebrate who they are. If you go to a *karamu*, you should say "*Habari gani*," which is Swahili for "What's news?"

PHRASE MATCH

Match the following phrases from the article.

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------|
| 1. a week- | a. the Swahili language |
| 2. the first holiday | b. other holidays |
| 3. Americans of African | c. long holiday |
| 4. The name Kwanzaa comes from | d. in the celebration |
| 5. Americans celebrate Kwanzaa alongside | e. just for African Americans |
| 6. All people can share | f. descent |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. a different | a. called a <i>kinara</i> |
| 2. cooperating | b. principle |
| 3. a special candle holder | c. celebrate who they are |
| 4. People decorate their homes | d. in business |
| 5. pieces of | e. in African colours |
| 6. friends get together and | f. African art |

LISTENING GAP FILL

Kwanzaa is a _____ that is celebrated around the world. It takes place between December the 26th and January the 1st every year. The holiday celebrates African culture and history. Kwanzaa started in 1966 in the U.S.A. It was the _____ African Americans. Ron Karenga, an African-American civil rights campaigner, created the seven-day holiday. He said it was to give Americans of African descent an opportunity to _____ heritage. He wanted a holiday that did not "simply imitate the practice of the dominant [white] society". The name Kwanzaa comes from the Swahili language _____ fruits". Many Americans celebrate Kwanzaa alongside other holidays that take place at the same time. Ron Karenga said: "All _____ the celebration of our common humanity."

Kwanzaa celebrates *Nguzu Saba*, which means "The Seven Principles of Blackness". _____ days represents a different principle. The principles are unity, self-determination, working together, _____ business, building the nation, creativity, and faith. People who celebrate Kwanzaa _____ special candle holder called a *kinara*. People decorate their homes in African colours and _____ African art. Some people attend a Kwanzaa ceremony that has African drumming and music. One of the most important parts of Kwanzaa is a _____ a *karamu*. Family and friends get together and celebrate who they are. If you go to a *karamu*, you should say "*Habari gani*," which is Swahili for "What's news?"

WHILE READING / LISTENING GAP FILL

Put the words into the gaps in the text.

Kwanzaa is a week-long holiday that is celebrated _____ the world. It takes place between December the 26th and January the 1st every year. The holiday celebrates African _____ and history. Kwanzaa started in 1966 in the U.S.A. It was the first holiday _____ for African Americans. Ron Karenga, an African-American civil rights campaigner, created the seven-day holiday. He said it was to give Americans of African _____ an opportunity to celebrate their unique heritage. He wanted a holiday that did not "_____ imitate the practice of the dominant [white] society". The name Kwanzaa comes from the Swahili language and _____ "first fruits". Many Americans celebrate Kwanzaa _____ other holidays that take place at the same time. Ron Karenga said: "All people can _____ in the celebration of our common humanity."

descent

culture

share

around

means

just

alongside

simply

Kwanzaa celebrates *Nguzu Saba*, which _____ "The Seven Principles of Blackness". Each of the seven days represents a different principle. The _____ are unity, self-determination, working together, cooperating in business, building the _____, creativity, and faith. People who celebrate Kwanzaa light candles in a special candle holder _____ a *kinara*. People decorate their homes in African colours and put up _____ of African art. Some people attend a Kwanzaa _____ that has African drumming and music. One of the most important parts of Kwanzaa is a special _____ called a *karamu*. Family and friends get together and celebrate who they are. If you go to a *karamu*, you _____ say "*Habari gani*," which is Swahili for "What's news?"

nation

means

should

pieces

feast

principles

called

ceremony

CHOOSE THE CORRECT WORD

Delete the wrong word in each of the pairs of *italics*.

Kwanzaa is a week-long holiday that is *celebration / celebrated* around the world. It takes place *between / in* December the 26th and January the 1st every year. The holiday celebrates African culture and history. Kwanzaa started in 1966 in the U.S.A. It was the first holiday *justly / just* for African Americans. Ron Karenga, an African-American civil rights campaigner, created the seven-day holiday. He said it was to *give / gave* Americans of African descent an opportunity to celebrate *their / there* unique heritage. He wanted a holiday that did not “simply imitate the practice of the dominant [white] *society / social*”. The name Kwanzaa comes from the Swahili language and means “first fruits”. Many Americans celebrate Kwanzaa *alongside / side* other holidays that take place at the same time. Ron Karenga said: “All people can *share / sharing* in the celebration of our common humanity.”

Kwanzaa celebrates *Nguzu Saba*, which *mean / means* “The Seven Principles of Blackness”. *Each / Both* of the seven days represents a different principle. The principles are unity, self-determination, working together, cooperating *on / in* business, building the nation, creativity, and faith. People who celebrate Kwanzaa *lite / light* candles in a special candle holder called a *kinara*. People decorate their homes in African *colour / colours* and put up pieces of African art. Some people attend a Kwanzaa ceremony that has African drumming *and musically / music*. One of the most important parts of Kwanzaa is a special feast called a *karamu*. Family and friends *getting / get* together and celebrate who they are. If you go to a *karamu*, you should say “*Habari gani*,” which is Swahili *by / for* “What’s news?”

MULTIPLE CHOICE

Kwanzaa is a week-long holiday that is (1) _____ around the world. It takes place between December the 26th and January the 1st every year. The holiday celebrates African culture and history. Kwanzaa started in 1966 in the U.S.A. It was the first holiday (2) _____ for African Americans. Ron Karenga, an African-American civil rights campaigner, created the seven-day holiday. He said it was to give Americans (3) _____ African descent an opportunity to celebrate their (4) _____ heritage. He wanted a holiday that did not "(5) _____ imitate the practice of the dominant [white] society". The name Kwanzaa comes from the Swahili language and means "first fruits". Many Americans celebrate Kwanzaa alongside other holidays that take place at the same time. Ron Karenga said: "All people can share in the celebration of our common (6) _____."

Kwanzaa celebrates *Nguzu Saba*, which (7) _____ "The Seven Principles of Blackness". Each of the seven days represents a different principle. The principles are unity, self-determination, (8) _____ together, cooperating in business, building the nation, creativity, and faith. People who celebrate Kwanzaa light candles in a special candle holder (9) _____ a *kinara*. People decorate their homes in African colours and put up pieces of African art. Some people (10) _____ a Kwanzaa ceremony that has African drumming and music. One of the most important parts of Kwanzaa is a special feast called a *karamu*. Family and friends (11) _____ together and celebrate who they are. If you go to a *karamu*, you should say "*Habari gani*," which is Swahili (12) _____ "What's news?"

Put the correct words from this table into the article.

- | | | | | |
|-----|----------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|
| 1. | (a) celebrate | (b) celebrated | (c) celebration | (d) celebrates |
| 2. | (a) just | (b) jest | (c) gist | (d) joust |
| 3. | (a) to | (b) at | (c) of | (d) in |
| 4. | (a) uniquely | (b) uniqueness | (c) queuing | (d) unique |
| 5. | (a) simple | (b) simpleton | (c) simplify | (d) simply |
| 6. | (a) humans | (b) humane | (c) humanity | (d) human |
| 7. | (a) means | (b) meaning | (c) mean | (d) meanie |
| 8. | (a) working | (b) work | (c) worker | (d) worked |
| 9. | (a) calling | (b) called | (c) calls | (d) caller |
| 10. | (a) attendance | (b) attention | (c) attend | (d) attendee |
| 11. | (a) be | (b) get | (c) do | (d) take |
| 12. | (a) of | (b) to | (c) at | (d) for |

SPELLING

Spell the jumbled words (from the text) correctly.

Paragraph 1

1. bdeareectl around the world
2. civil itgshr campaigner
3. give Americans of African ndctsee
4. celebrate their ieuqun heritage
5. celebrate Kwanzaa enldosagi other holidays
6. our common utihmany

Paragraph 2

7. Echa of the seven days
8. building the eonitn
9. People who celebrate Kwanzaa light nlascd
10. People rtaocdee their homes in African colours
11. edttna a Kwanzaa ceremony
12. a special efsat

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () Kwanzaa celebrates Nguzu Saba, which means "The Seven Principles of Blackness". Each of the seven
- () "first fruits". Many Americans celebrate Kwanzaa alongside other holidays that take place at the same
- () society". The name Kwanzaa comes from the Swahili language and means
- (**1**) Kwanzaa is a week-long holiday that is celebrated around the world. It takes place between December the 26th
- () and January the 1st every year. The holiday celebrates African culture and history. Kwanzaa started in 1966 in the
- () who they are. If you go to a karamu, you should say "Habari gani," which is Swahili for "What's news?"
- () most important parts of Kwanzaa is a special feast called a karamu. Family and friends get together and celebrate
- () of African art. Some people attend a Kwanzaa ceremony that has African drumming and music. One of the
- () candles in a special candle holder called a kinara. People decorate their homes in African colours and put up pieces
- () celebrate their unique heritage. He wanted a holiday that did not "simply imitate the practice of the dominant [white]
- () days represents a different principle. The principles are unity, self-determination, working
- () campaigner, created the seven-day holiday. He said it was to give Americans of African descent an opportunity to
- () time. Ron Karenga said: "All people can share in the celebration of our common humanity."
- () U.S.A. It was the first holiday just for African Americans. Ron Karenga, an African-American civil rights
- () together, cooperating in business, building the nation, creativity, and faith. People who celebrate Kwanzaa light

SCRAMBLED SENTENCES

With a partner, put the words back into the correct order.

1. holiday African and The celebrates culture history

2. Americans first just African the holiday for

3. unique an to their heritage opportunity celebrate

4. the at place take that holidays time same

5. the humanity common our of celebration

6. different seven principle days Each represents of a the

7. light in special holder candles a candle

8. in colours decorate homes African People their

9. up put art African of pieces

10. feast special a karamu a called

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

Copyright © www.ESL Holiday Lessons.com



DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

Copyright © www.ESL Holiday Lessons.com

THE KWANZAA SURVEY

Write five questions about Kwanzaa in the table. Do this in pairs/groups. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper.

Without your partner, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

Return to your original partner(s) and share and talk about what you found out. Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

HOMEWORK

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. INTERNET: Search the Internet and find more information about Kwanzaa. Talk about what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. MAGAZINE ARTICLE: Write a magazine article about Kwanzaa. Write about what happens around the world. Include two imaginary interviews with people who did something on this day.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

4. POSTER: Make your own poster about Kwanzaa. Write about will happen on this day around the world.