

Name: _____

Celebrating Diwali

By Kathryn Premo

What's your favorite holiday? In India, most children would answer Diwali. During Diwali, people light rows of diyas, or clay lamps. They put them around their

homes to show good winning over evil and light over darkness.



On the third day, people dress in



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days. Each day, something different happens.

The first day of Diwali is full of activity. People clean their homes to invite wealth and fortune into their lives. Gold, silver, or kitchen tools are bought on this day. This will bring them good fortune for the new year.

Small Diwali happens on the second day. People create pretty rangolis at the front of their houses. Rangolis are colorful patterns made on the floor. They are made out of flowers, powder, rice, or sand.

loved ones and give gifts on the fourth day. They give gifts to show

their thankfulness for everything they have in their life.

The last day of Diwali is for brothers to go visit their sisters. The sisters cook nice meals and they all eat together.

All the different religions and regions in India tell different stories and celebrate Diwali in different ways. But they all have one thing in common. They are all based in the belief of good over evil and light over darkness.

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- How many days is Diwali usually celebrated?
a. 7 b. 1 c. 5 d. 4
- What is the text structure used by the author?
a. comparison b. chronological
c. cause and effect d. problem and solution
- Reread the following sentence from the article.

Diwali is a lunar holiday based off the new moon.

The root word of *lunar* is **luna**. **Luna** is the Latin word for *moon*.

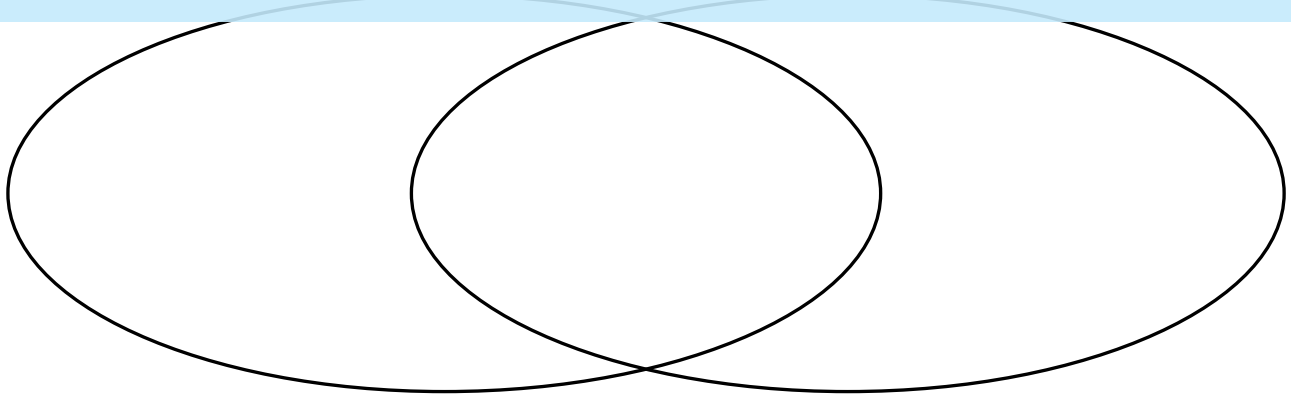


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Diwali

New Year's Eve



- Explain why Diwali is celebrated on a different date every year.
Use details from the text to support your answer.

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Celebrating Diwali

The following terms are vocabulary words from the article.
Match the vocabulary word with its correct definition by
writing the corresponding letter on the line.



1. ____ wealth

a. to eat a lot of food at a special meal

2. ____ lunar

b. colorful patterns made on the floor

3. ____

c. places of worship



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6. ____ rangolis

f. having to do with the moon

7. ____ temples

g. a five-day celebration of light
overcoming darkness

8. ____ Diwali

h. a large area

9. ____ thankfulness

i. clay lamps

10. ____ region

j. having luck or looking toward the future

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Celebrating Diwali

What is the main idea of the article, "Celebrating Diwali"?
Use details from the text to support your answer.



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ANSWER KEY

Celebrating Diwali

By Kathryn Premo

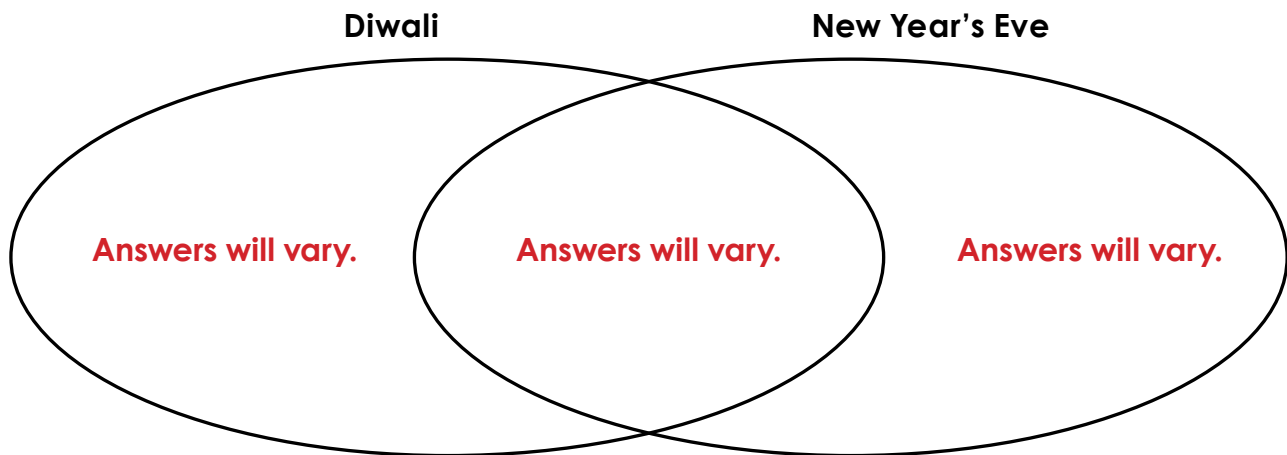


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a. 7 b. 1 **c. 5** d. 4
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- Reread the following sentence from the article.

Diwali is a lunar holiday based off the new moon.

The root word of *lunar* is **luna**. **Luna** is the Latin word for *moon*.
What is a lunar holiday?

- a. a festival based off the phases of the sun
b. a celebration whose date is based off the phases of the moon
c. the phases of the moon
d. a celebration in which the moon is worshiped
- Compare and contrast Diwali with New Year's Eve.



- Explain why Diwali is celebrated on a different date every year.
Use details from the text to support your answer.

Answers may vary. An example is: Diwali is celebrated on a different date every year because Diwali is a lunar holiday. The text states, "Diwali is a lunar holiday based off the new moon. This causes the date to be different every year."

ANSWER KEY

Celebrating Diwali

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