

Oktoberfest

Intermediate level

Task 1: Warm-up

Look at the pictures. What do you see there? Which country and festival do you associate these pictures with?



Task 2: Lead - in

Answer the questions.

1. What is the very first thing that springs to your mind when you hear the country Germany/Bavaria?
2. What German/Bavarian festivals do you know?
3. Have you ever heard about Oktoberfest? If so, what do you know about this festival?
4. Do you have any big festivals in your country? When and how do they take place?
5. Has the pandemic influenced on this year festivals? How?



Task 3: Vocabulary presentation

Complete the definitions with the appropriate words. If necessary, use your dictionary (*trot, dignitary, keg, kick off, float, fairground, brewery, head toward, reveller*).

1. ____ means to commence, to start officially.
2. An open area for holding fairs or exhibitions or circuses is called a ____.
3. When you ____, you start physically moving toward someone or something.
4. A ____ is a plant where beer is brewed by fermentation.
5. A ____ is a person who is enjoying themselves in a lively and noisy way.
6. A large vehicle with a flat surface that is decorated and used in festivals is called a ____.
7. If a horse ____, it runs at its slowest speed.
8. A ____ is a small cask or barrel.
9. An important or influential person is called a ____.

Task 4: Vocabulary practice

Paraphrase the sentences using the new words (*trot, dignitary, keg, kick off, float, fairground, brewery, head toward, reveller*).

1. Peter arrived too late and the race had already **started**.
2. There is enough place for the roller coaster on this **open area**.
3. More than 50 of the district's **leading influential people** are on the guest list.
4. The horse's name was Prince and he was gentle and liked to **run at its slowest speed**.
5. I hopped in the car and **drove toward** the parade.
6. A new **beer plant** is being built in the north district of the city.
7. Drunken **people from the party** brawled in the town centre in the early hours.
8. Scott ordered a **barrel** of beer and that was that.
9. I saw a large **vehicle** decorated with different flowers moving toward the square.

Task 5: Quiz

What do you know about Oktoberfest? Let's test your knowledge in this quiz. You will find out the answers in the next step. Mark the sentences true/false.

1. Oktoberfest originated in 1700s with the coronation of King Ludwig the first.
2. The festival lasts for two weeks from the first to the 14th of October.
3. 16 huge tents are set up there and several thousand beer drinkers can sit.
4. The celebrations kicks off with drinking beer.
5. Decorated horses, wagons and floats with kegs from the city's main breweries entertain the crowds.
6. Oktoberfest is all about dancing, music, beer, food, amusement and wedding celebrations.
7. You can see only the young generation at Oktoberfest.
8. A lot of sausages, radishes and pretzels are eaten at this festival.

Task 6: Watching a video

Watch the video (till 03:40) and check your guesses. How well have you done it?

Test results

0 - 3 - Oops, I see you didn't know much about this festival before the lesson.

4 - 6 - Quite good. It seems that you are aware of Bavarian culture and their traditions.

7 - 8 - Wow! That's amazing. You must have been to this festival.



Task 7: Watching a video

Watch the video (till 03:40) again and correct the false statements.

1. Oktoberfest originated in 1700s with the coronation of King Ludwig the first.
2. The festival lasts for two weeks from the first to the 14th of October.
3. 16 huge tents are set up there and several thousand beer drinkers can sit.
4. The festivities kick off with drinking beer.
5. Decorated horses and wagons and floats with kegs from the city's main brewery's entertain the crowds.
6. Oktoberfest is all about dancing, music, beer, food, amusement and wedding celebrations.
7. You can see only the young generation at Oktoberfest.
8. A lot of sausages, radishes and pretzels are eaten at this festival.

Task 8: Follow - up discussion

Discuss the questions.

1. Which fact from the video impressed you the most?
2. Why do you think so many people from different countries visit this festival?
3. If you had a chance, would you like to attend Oktoberfest? Why (not)?
4. Rank the ingredients of the festival from the most important to the least important in your opinion - food, amusements, parade, dancing, music or beer. Explain your point of view.
5. Oktoberfest 2020 has been cancelled because of the pandemic. Do you think it is a right decision? Why (not)?



Task 9: Let's speak

Choose the suitable topic and prepare 2 minute speech on it.

Words you might use: *trot, dignitary, keg, kick off, float, fairground, brewery, head toward, reveller.*

- **World most famous food festivals**
- **National festivals in my country**
- **My favourite festival**
- **Invent a festival for a specific calendar event**



Keys:

Task 1

Germany (Bavaria),
Oktoberfest.

Task 3

1. Kick off
2. Fairground
3. Head toward
4. Brewery
5. Reveller
6. Float
7. Trots
8. Keg
9. dignitary

Task 4

1. Kicked off
2. fairground
3. Dignitaries
4. Trot
5. Headed toward
6. Brewery
7. Revellers
8. Keg
9. Float

Task 5, 6, 7

1. False - It originated about 200 years ago with the wedding reception of King Ludwig the first.
2. False - The festival lasts for two weeks from late September into October.
3. True.
4. False - The festivities kick off with grand parades through Munich heading toward the fairgrounds.
5. True.
6. False - It is not about wedding celebrations.
7. False - There are quite different people at the festival, both young and old.
8. True.