

Independence Day

Intermediate level

Task 1 - Warm-up

**Look at the picture.
What statue is it?
Where is it situated?
What does it
symbolize?**



Task 2- Lead - in

Discuss the questions.

1. Brainstorm your associations to the word “Independence”.
2. Do you know when the USA celebrates its Independence day?
3. How important is it to have a special holiday dedicated to the Independence Day? Why do you think so?



Task 3: Match the words with the definitions.

- | | |
|-------------------------|---|
| 1. to dampen excitement | A. the quality of being important |
| 2. to fade | B. to show respect |
| 3. to reign | C. characterized by extravagance and profusion. |
| 4. to pay homage | D. become less clearly visible or distinguishable; |
| 5. to go ahead | E. to do something to show you remember an important person or event in the past with respect |
| 6. to adopt | F. to show respect |
| 7. significance | G. to take place |
| 8. lavish | H. to make it less lively or intense. |
| 9. to commemorate | I. have sovereign power. |
| | J. to accept or start to use something new. |

Task 4: Complete the sentences with the words (to dampen excitement, to fade, to reign, to pay homage, to go ahead, to adopt, significance, lavish, to commemorate)

1. Armenia is the first country that ____ Christianity as a state religion.
2. The President ____ to the soldiers who had fought bravely in the battle.
3. Even the news about the car accident didn't ____ her ____ and mood.
4. This monument and the museum ____ the Holocaust.
5. The large cathedral in the city centre is of great ____ for the local Christians.
6. The event will ____ as planned in Sheffield next summer.
7. Henry VIII ____ for a long time and was respected by the country.
8. The colours of the photograph ____ from being kept in bright light.
9. Though he has been unemployed for the last two months, he is going to organize a ____ party at the weekend.

Task 5 - Read the text. Since when have Americans celebrated the Independence Day? How do they commemorate it?

History of the 4th of July

The Independence Day celebrates the birth of the nation . In 1776, the 13 American colonies were in the midst of their Revolutionary War against Great Britain. On the 4th of July of that year the Continental Congress **adopted** the Declaration of Independence – a document which declared the colonies free and independent states. It is the signing and the **significance** of this document that Americans remember on July 4th on this date in 1976 American celebrated with **lavish** festivities the 200th anniversary of this historic document.

The Declaration of Independence was written by Thomas Jefferson who later became the young nation's third president. Since Independence Day is a summer holiday and a day off from work for almost everyone, many families enjoy picnics or beach outings on that day. The occasion is also **commemorated** by colorful and noisy fireworks, parades and, in some communities, patriotic speeches. The flag is flown, and red, white and blue ribbons are used for decoration at public ceremonies. Throughout the nation, church bells ring in memory of the Philadelphia Liberty Bell first announced American Independence.

Task 6

Watch the video. How does President Trump congratulate Americans on the Independence day?



Task 7 - Watch the video again and match the speakers with what they say. There are 2 odd statements.

a



b



c



d



e



1. We love America and we're so proud to be Americans.
2. What's better than being around tens of thousands of Americans, supporting freedom loving Americans in the rain?
3. To celebrate the 4th of July with all these patriots that are just super excited about being here to support our President.
4. I would say both. We are all Americans.
5. I am here to watch the Parade and support our President.
6. July 4 is bigger than one man, it is bigger than President.
7. What is better than being here to support each other?

Task 8: Discuss the questions in pairs.

1. Should the history of a holiday such as the 4th of July be highlighted more?
2. Do you think people from the US have more pride for their country than others? Why (not)?
3. Is it important to continue celebrating independence days?
4. Do you think that the US is really an independent and free country? Explain your answer.
5. How do you think the USA will celebrate its Independence this year?
6. Does your country celebrate Independence day? How important is it for your nation?



Hometask

Choose your homework:

- Find out how the US is going to celebrate Independence day this year (if the lesson is conducted before 4th of July)
- Find out how it was celebrated (if the lesson is conducted after the 4th of July) and make a short report on the news.

Words to use: *to dampen excitement, to fade, to reign, to pay homage, to go ahead, to adopt, significance, lavish, to commemorate.*



Keys:

Task 1

It is the statue of Liberty and is situated in the USA. It symbolises liberty and independence.

Task 3

- 1 - H
- 2 - D
- 3 - I
- 4 - F
- 5 - G
- 6 - J
- 7 - A
- 8 - C
- 9 - E

Task 4

- 1 - adopted
- 2 - paid homage
- 3 - dampen her excitement
- 4 - commemorate
- 5 - significance
- 6 - go ahead
- 7 - reigned
- 8 - have faded
- 9 - lavish

Task 5

Since 1776. The occasion is commemorated by colorful and noisy fireworks, parades and, in some communities, patriotic speeches. The flag is flown, and red, white and blue ribbons are used for decoration at public ceremonies...

Task 6

He says that the spirit of American Independence will never fade, never fail but will reign forever.

Task 7

- A - 4
- B - b
- C - 6
- D - 2
- E - 3