



**Splendid  
SPEAKING**

## LANGUAGE

### Topic vocabulary

(The event) falls on/between date)  
It is held on/in (date)  
It takes place on/in (date)  
It celebrates/commemorates  
To symbolise/represent  
It's taken very seriously  
Typical festivities include  
It is customary to  
It is an opportunity to  
A family get-together  
It's a chance to meet up with  
Traditional dishes include  
Events are held (to celebrate)

### Signposting expressions

Looking at the scene here  
As you can see from this photo  
This photo shows  
Look closely at  
On the left/right you can see  
In the foreground/background  
On the horizon  
Along the top/bottom  
In the top right hand corner

## RECORDING

Listen to Solange from Brazil and Arturo from Italy talking on a similar subject. See the January archives (**Interview 11**) at: [splendid-speaking.com](http://splendid-speaking.com)

# Get Speaking!

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## SUPPORTING THIS TASK

**The Splendid Speaking Course**  
Volume 1 Unit 2 'Active Listening'

## Unit 11: National Festivals

Task: Taking Part in Discussions (3-4 minutes)

1. **Introduction:** Work in pairs. Find out more about an important cultural or religious festival in your partner's country.
2. **Planning:** You should both spend a minute or two making notes on the kind of questions to ask. Think about the following subjects:  
The name of the festival  
Its significance  
How it is celebrated/commemorated  
  
**Focus on asking open-ended questions which force the other person to give extended answers. Open-ended questions will often begin with:**  
Why ...  
Where ...  
What ...  
Tell me ...  
How ...
3. **Task Focus:** Show interest in what your partner is saying and help the conversation flow by responding to their comments with reply questions such as 'Do you?', 'Is it?' and statements such as 'Really?' or 'Seriously?'
4. **Language:** Tick any of the vocabulary on the left you want to use in your discussion.

Task: Presentation (5 -10 minutes)

**Prepare a short presentation introducing an important religious or other festival in your country. If you wish, organise it around the following:**

- The name of the festival
- Its significance
- When it is held
- How it is celebrated/commemorated

**Use visuals to support your presentation. If you have access to a projector and PC use software like PowerPoint to deliver your talk. Alternatively, create handouts with pictures or photographs which represent issues you refer to. Use the signposting words on the left to guide, direct and inform your audience when describing your visuals.**

**Avoid reading from a script. Make cue cards to prompt you if you think you'll need help remembering key points.**