



Lesson Plan 2: Festivals of the



Traditional Mediterranean

Objective

Students will learn about traditional festivals from Greece, Turkey, Italy, and Spain. They will develop vocabulary related to celebrations, traditions, and seasonal events, while improving their reading comprehension, speaking, and writing skills.

Intangible Heritages Featured

- Greece: Carnival (Apokries)
- Turkey: Hıdırellez Festival
- Italy: Venice Carnival
- Spain: La Tomatina

1. Lesson Introduction – Festival Photo Guessing Game

Show images or short clips of traditional festivals (without names). Students guess:

- What is happening?
- Which country is it from?
- What time of year might it be?

Use vibrant photos showing costumes, dancing, crowds, or colors.

2. Reading: Celebrating the Seasons

All around the Mediterranean, people celebrate the seasons with festivals full of color and joy. In Greece, Apokries is the Greek Carnival, where people wear costumes and throw confetti before Lent. In Turkey, the Hıdırellez Festival welcomes spring with music, dancing, and wishes for good luck. Italy's Venice Carnival is famous for its elegant masks and costumes, celebrating history and art. In Spain, La Tomatina is a fun and messy festival where people throw tomatoes at each other in the streets. These celebrations bring communities together and show how people express culture through joy.

3. Comprehension Questions (True/False)

1. Hıdırellez is a winter festival in Turkey. (False)
2. People wear masks during the Venice Carnival. (True)

3. La Tomatina is a quiet and serious festival. (False)
4. Apokries happens before Lent in Greece. (True)
5. All of these festivals bring people together. (True)

4. Vocabulary Practice

Word List: mask – costume – confetti – celebration – crowd – tradition – luck – welcome – spring – festival

A. Fill in the Blanks:

1. People wear a _____ during the Venice Carnival.
2. Apokries includes lots of _____ and dancing.
3. Hidirellez is a _____ that celebrates the coming of spring.
4. La Tomatina takes place in a big _____ of people.
5. Some people believe Hidirellez brings good _____.

B. Match the Words with Their Meaning:

Word	Meaning
Mask	a. Something you wear on your face for a festival
Tradition	b. A cultural activity passed from generation to generation
Luck	c. Success or good things by chance
Crowd	d. A large group of people

5. Speaking Activity: Festival Fun

In small groups, students choose one festival and discuss:

- What is it about?
- When does it happen?
- What do people wear or do?
- Would you like to take part in it? Why or why not?

6. Writing Assignment (Homework)

Write about a festival in your country or one you learned today. Include where it takes place, what people do, and why it is special. Use at least 5 vocabulary words.