

Thanksgiving and Loi Krathong lesson plan

<p>Learning Objectives:</p> <p>The lesson objectives are taken from the Global Scale of English (GSE) Teacher Toolkit. Learn more: english.com/gse.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To derive the meaning of unknown words from short, familiar contexts 2. To report factual information <p>Skills: Reading, Speaking</p>	<p>Age/Level: Teenagers and adults / Intermediate (B1) and above</p> <p>Completion Time: 45 minutes</p> <p>Resources: Thanksgiving and Loi Krathong activity sheets (one of each per pair)</p>
---	---

Warm-up (15 minutes)

Write AUTUMN on the board and divide the class into small groups. Have the groups write as many words and phrases as they can think of associated with autumn. These could include types of weather (rainy, cold, wet), colors (green, brown, gold), food (turkey, pumpkin pie) etc.

After a few minutes, invite individuals from each group to share their ideas with the class and add them to the board.

Then write Thanksgiving and Loi Krathong on the board with the questions *When? Where? Why?*

Explain that Thanksgiving and Loi Krathong are two festivals which take place in autumn each year and ask students to work in pairs to share what they know about the two festivals.

After students have shared their ideas with the class, give each pair of students a copy of each of the texts: student A reads about Thanksgiving and student B reads about Loi Krathong. Have them scan their text quickly to find the answers, and share them with their partner and then with the class.

Key:

Thanksgiving: celebrated on the second Monday of October in Canada and the fourth Thursday of November in the US. In both countries it is a celebration of the harvest, though in the US it is also linked to the arrival of British pilgrims in the 17th century.

Loi Krathong: celebrated in Thailand to mark the end of the rainy season on the day of the full moon in November.

Activity 1 (15 minutes)

Have students read their text again and with their partner decide if the statements are referring to Thanksgiving, Loi Krathong or both.

Check the answers as a class.

Key:

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1. Both | 4. Both |
| 2. Thanksgiving | 5. Thanksgiving |
| 3. Loi Krathong | 6. Both |

Activity 2 (10 minutes)

Refer students to Activity 2. Have them take it in turns to read the definitions to their partners who should then find the correct word (in bold) from the text.

Key:

Student A

- | | |
|----------------|-------------------|
| 1. Handicrafts | 4. Trunk |
| 2. Meditation | 5. Biodegradable |
| 3. Monks | 6. Incense sticks |

Student B

- | | |
|--------------|-------------|
| 1. Discounts | 4. Feast |
| 2. Harvest | 5. Pilgrims |
| 3. Pumpkin | 6. Parades |

Follow up (5 minutes)

Have students discuss in pairs which of the two festivals they would like to celebrate and why. Invite individual students to share their opinions with the class.