

# INDEPENDENCE DAY

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ALL ANSWERS ARE IN THE TEXT ON PAGE 2.

## THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

Independence Day in the United States is also known as the Fourth of July. It is a national holiday that commemorates the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776. This was the day the USA was born and became independent from Great Britain. The terms "Independence Day" and the "Fourth of July" are a well-known part of the USA's cultural language. People celebrate with national pride. There are fireworks, parades, sporting events and lots more. It is one of the biggest days on America's holiday calendar. Politicians make speeches celebrating America's history and traditions. In particular, attention turns to Thomas Jefferson's speech that declared the United States of America as an independent nation.

Independence Day is a red, white and blue affair. The whole of the country displays American flags and banners. There are many festivals that enact famous events from America's history. It is also a day when the nation gets outdoors. Picnics and barbecues with family and friends are the most popular ways to celebrate. In the evening, there are thousands of fireworks displays across the country. One of the most popular is the Macy's department store show on New York's East River. This is televised nationwide by the NBC TV channel. Also in New York, you can witness the Hot Dog Eating Contest on Coney Island. Indeed, American food is of course a big part of the day and millions of hot dogs, burgers and pizzas are eaten.

## PHRASE MATCH

Match the following phrases from the article.

### Paragraph 1

- |                                   |                              |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. also known as the              | a. cultural language         |
| 2. This was the day the           | b. and lots more             |
| 3. a well-known part of the USA's | c. Fourth of July            |
| 4. parades, sporting events       | d. nation                    |
| 5. attention turns to             | e. USA was born              |
| 6. America as an independent      | f. Thomas Jefferson's speech |

### Paragraph 2

- |                                       |                           |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. a red, white and blue              | a. gets outdoors          |
| 2. festivals that enact famous events | b. nationwide             |
| 3. It is also a day when the nation   | c. affair                 |
| 4. the most popular ways              | d. part of the day        |
| 5. This is televised                  | e. from America's history |
| 6. American food is of course a big   | f. to celebrate           |

**LISTENING GAP FILL**

Independence Day in the United States \_\_\_\_\_ the Fourth of July. It is a national holiday that commemorates the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776. \_\_\_\_\_ USA was born and became independent from Great Britain. The terms "Independence Day" and the "Fourth of July" are a \_\_\_\_\_ of the USA's cultural language. People celebrate with national pride. There are fireworks, parades, sporting events \_\_\_\_\_. It is one of the biggest days on America's holiday calendar. Politicians make speeches celebrating America's history and traditions. In particular, \_\_\_\_\_ Thomas Jefferson's speech that declared the United States of America as an independent nation.

Independence Day is a red, white \_\_\_\_\_. The whole of the country displays American flags and banners. There are many festivals \_\_\_\_\_ events from America's history. It is also a day when the nation gets outdoors. Picnics and barbecues with family and friends are the \_\_\_\_\_ to celebrate. In the evening, there are thousands of fireworks displays across the country. One of the most popular is the Macy's department store show on New York's East River. This is \_\_\_\_\_ by the NBC TV channel. Also in New York, you can witness the Hot Dog Eating Contest on Coney Island. Indeed, American food is of course \_\_\_\_\_ day and millions of hot dogs, burgers and pizzas are eaten.

## WHILE READING / LISTENING GAP FILL

**Put the words into the gaps in the text.**

Independence Day in the United States is also \_\_\_\_\_ as the Fourth of July. It is a national holiday that commemorates the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776. This was the day the USA was \_\_\_\_\_ and became independent from Great Britain. The terms "Independence Day" and the "Fourth of July" are a well-known \_\_\_\_\_ of the USA's cultural language. People celebrate with national pride. There are fireworks, parades, sporting \_\_\_\_\_ and lots more. It is one of the \_\_\_\_\_ days on America's holiday calendar. Politicians make speeches celebrating America's \_\_\_\_\_ and traditions. In particular, attention \_\_\_\_\_ to Thomas Jefferson's speech that declared the United States of America as an independent \_\_\_\_\_.

*biggest*

*born*

*events*

*nation*

*known*

*history*

*turns*

*part*

Independence Day is a red, white and blue \_\_\_\_\_. The whole of the country displays American flags and banners. There are many festivals that \_\_\_\_\_ famous events from America's history. It is also a day when the nation gets \_\_\_\_\_. Picnics and barbecues with family and friends are the most \_\_\_\_\_ ways to celebrate. In the evening, there are thousands of fireworks \_\_\_\_\_ across the country. One of the most popular is the Macy's department store show on New York's East River. This is \_\_\_\_\_ nationwide by the NBC TV channel. Also in New York, you can \_\_\_\_\_ the Hot Dog Eating Contest on Coney Island. Indeed, American food is of course a big part of the day and \_\_\_\_\_ of hot dogs, burgers and pizzas are eaten.

*displays*

*outdoors*

*millions*

*televised*

*affair*

*popular*

*witness*

*enact*

## CHOOSE THE CORRECT WORD

Delete the wrong word in each of the pairs of *italics*.

Independence Day in the United States is also known as the Fourth of July. It is a *national / nation* holiday that commemorates the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776. This was the day the USA was *born / birth* and became independent from Great Britain. The terms "Independence Day" and the "Fourth of July" are a well-known part of the USA's *culture / cultural* language. People celebrate with national *pride / proud*. There are fireworks, parades, sporting events and *lot / lots* more. It is one of the biggest days on America's holiday calendar. Politicians *making / make* speeches celebrating America's history and traditions. In particular, attention turns *off / to* Thomas Jefferson's speech that declared the United States of America as an independent *nation / nationality*.

Independence Day is a red, white and blue *affair / fair*. The whole of the country displays American flags and banners. There are many festivals that *enact / enacting* famous events from America's history. It is also a day when the nation *does / gets* outdoors. Picnics and barbecues with family and friends are the most popular ways *at / to* celebrate. In the evening, there are thousands of fireworks displays *across / cross* the country. One of the most popular is the Macy's department store show on New York's East River. This is *television / televised* nationwide by the NBC TV channel. Also in New York, you can *witness / witnesses* the Hot Dog Eating Contest on Coney Island. Indeed, American food is of course a big part of the day and millions of hot dogs, burgers and pizzas are *ate / eaten*.

## MULTIPLE CHOICE

Independence Day in the United States is also (1) \_\_\_\_\_ as the Fourth of July. It is a national holiday that commemorates the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776. This was the day the USA was (2) \_\_\_\_\_ and became independent from Great Britain. The terms "Independence Day" and the "Fourth of July" are a well-known (3) \_\_\_\_\_ of the USA's cultural language. People celebrate with national pride. There are fireworks, parades, sporting events and lots more. It is one of the biggest days on (4) \_\_\_\_\_ holiday calendar. Politicians (5) \_\_\_\_\_ speeches celebrating America's history and traditions. In particular, attention turns to Thomas Jefferson's speech that (6) \_\_\_\_\_ the United States of America as an independent nation.

Independence Day is a red, white and blue affair. The whole of the country (7) \_\_\_\_\_ American flags and banners. There are many festivals that enact famous events from America's history. It is also a day when the nation (8) \_\_\_\_\_ outdoors. Picnics and barbecues with family and friends are the most popular ways to celebrate. In the evening, there are thousands of fireworks (9) \_\_\_\_\_ across the country. One of the most popular is the Macy's department store show (10) \_\_\_\_\_ New York's East River. This is televised nationwide by the NBC TV channel. Also in New York, you can witness the Hot Dog Eating Contest on Coney Island. Indeed, American food is of (11) \_\_\_\_\_ a big part of the day and millions of hot dogs, burgers and pizzas are (12) \_\_\_\_\_.

### Put the correct words from this table into the article.

- |     |                 |              |                |               |
|-----|-----------------|--------------|----------------|---------------|
| 1.  | (a) called      | (b) named    | (c) known      | (d) said      |
| 2.  | (a) birth       | (b) born     | (c) birthing   | (d) burn      |
| 3.  | (a) part        | (b) partner  | (c) partnered  | (d) party     |
| 4.  | (a) America's   | (b) American | (c) Americas   | (d) Americas' |
| 5.  | (a) fake        | (b) take     | (c) make       | (d) rake      |
| 6.  | (a) declaration | (b) declares | (c) declaring  | (d) declared  |
| 7.  | (a) displaying  | (b) display  | (c) displayed  | (d) displays  |
| 8.  | (a) does        | (b) has      | (c) gets       | (d) takes     |
| 9.  | (a) display     | (b) displays | (c) displaying | (d) displayed |
| 10. | (a) on          | (b) under    | (c) in         | (d) with      |
| 11. | (a) because     | (b) course   | (c) cause      | (d) case      |
| 12. | (a) ate         | (b) eating   | (c) eats       | (d) eaten     |

## SPELLING

Spell the jumbled words (from the text) correctly.

### Paragraph 1

1. also kwonn as the Fourth of July
2. the USA's artulclu language
3. national ipdre
4. America's holiday earcldna
5. Politicians make hpeessec
6. an independent taonni

### Paragraph 2

7. a red, white and blue farafi
8. ltasfivse that enact famous events
9. Picnics and beescbrau
10. fireworks dipssaly
11. This is vieteelsd nationwide
12. noiilmIs of hot dogs



## PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

Number these lines in the correct order.

- ( ) the USA's cultural language. People celebrate with national pride. There are fireworks, parades, sporting events and lots
- ( ) the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776. This was the day the USA was born and became independent
- ( ) banners. There are many festivals that enact famous events from America's history. It is also a day when the nation
- ( ) celebrate. In the evening, there are thousands of fireworks displays across the country. One of the most
- ( **1** ) Independence Day in the United States is also known as the Fourth of July. It is a national holiday that commemorates
- ( ) American food is of course a big part of the day and millions of hot dogs, burgers and pizzas are eaten.
- ( ) more. It is one of the biggest days on America's holiday calendar. Politicians make speeches celebrating America's
- ( ) Independence Day is a red, white and blue affair. The whole of the country displays American flags and
- ( ) gets outdoors. Picnics and barbecues with family and friends are the most popular ways to
- ( ) popular is the Macy's department store show on New York's East River. This is televised nationwide
- ( ) by the NBC TV channel. Also in New York, you can witness the Hot Dog Eating Contest on Coney Island. Indeed,
- ( ) history and traditions. In particular, attention turns to Thomas Jefferson's speech
- ( ) that declared the United States of America as an independent nation.
- ( ) from Great Britain. The terms "Independence Day" and the "Fourth of July" are a well-known part of

## SCRAMBLED SENTENCES

With a partner, put the words back into the correct order.

1. on , the Independence 4 of July 1776 Declaration

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2. from born GB and the became USA independent was

---

3. language of cultural well-known part USA's a the

---

4. Politicians history America's celebrating speeches make

---

5. speech Jefferson's Thomas to turns attention

---

6. displays country the of whole The flags American

---

7. festivals many are There events famous enact that

---

8. are there displays fireworks of thousands

---

9. TV nationwide channel by This the is NBC televised

---

10. day American food is of course a big part of the

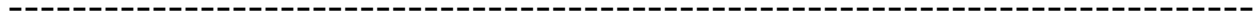
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**DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)**

**STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

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**DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)**

**STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

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# THE INDEPENDENCE DAY SURVEY

Write five questions about Independence Day in the table. Do this in pairs/groups. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper.

Without your partner, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

**Return to your original partner(s) and share and talk about what you found out. Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.**



## HOMEWORK

**1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION:** Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

**2. INTERNET:** Search the Internet and find more information about Independence Day. Talk about what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

**3. MAGAZINE ARTICLE:** Write a magazine article about Independence Day. Write about what happens around the world. Include two imaginary interviews with people who did something on this day.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

**4. POSTER:** Make your own poster about Independence Day. Write about will happen on this day around the world.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.