



Floriade (B1 -Lower Intermediate)

A – Before you start

Answer the questions with a partner.

1. Which season of the year do you like best? Why?
2. Do you like flowers? If so, do you have a favourite flower?
3. What kinds of flowers grow in the parks in your town or region?
4. Are there any flower festivals in your country? If so, when? Where?

B – Listen and answer

Read these statements. Then listen (without reading) and write T (true) or F (false).

1. Floriade is a spring flower festival that takes place in Sydney, Australia.
2. It lasts for about two months.
3. The theme of the festival changes every year.
4. There is a similar festival every spring in the Netherlands.
5. The first Australian Floriade was held in 1988.
6. About 500,000 people come to see the festival.

C – Read and answer

Read the article and answer the questions.

1. In which park is Floriade held?
2. Where in the park are the bulbs and other flowers planted?
3. What is the theme of this year's festival?
4. Why did the first Australian Floriade have Dutch and Aboriginal floral patterns?
5. Why was it held in 1988?
6. How much does it cost to see the festival?
7. Is it only open during the day?
8. How do local schools and community groups contribute to Floriade?

D – Learn it! Use it!

Complete these sentences with words from the glossary. (You may have to adapt the expression in some way; e.g. change the verb tense, or change from plural to singular.)

1. This coffee is made from a _____ of Brazilian and Colombian coffee beans.
2. The band isn't going to do a concert tour. This concert is a _____ event.
3. Because of the warm weather, all the cherry trees _____ early last year.
4. Our living room was a bit sad, so I got cushions and curtains with a bright geometric _____.
5. The hikers followed a _____ which led them through the woods to the top of the hill.
6. Santo Domingo, founded in 1496, is the oldest European _____ in the Americas.

E – Ready for the B1 PRELIMINARY English Exam? (Paper 1, Reading: Part 6)

Write one word only in each space.

It isn't surprising that the Netherlands has ¹_____ named the "Flower Shop of the World", ²_____ it supplies almost 80 per cent of the world's flower bulbs, the ³_____ of which are tulips.

Tulips first arrived in Holland from present-day Turkey around 1593 and became very popular in a ⁴_____ time. As a result of speculation, the price of tulip bulbs began to ⁵_____ steeply in 1634, at one point exceeding the price of gold. This period, known ⁶_____ 'tulip mania', ended suddenly in 1637, when the market collapsed and left some merchants with heavy debts.

F – Write about it

Write about a popular seasonal festival that takes place in your country. Mention:

- what kind of festival it is;
 - which season it's held in;
 - where it's held;
 - what you can see and do there;
 - how long it lasts;
 - how popular it is.
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Answers: Floriade (B1)

B – Listen and answer

1. F – It takes place in Canberra. 2. F – It lasts for about one month. 3. T 4. F – In the Netherlands it takes place every ten years. 5. T 6. T

C – Read and answer

1. It's held in Commonwealth Park, in Canberra. 2. They are planted alongside Lake Burley Griffin. 3. It's Art in Bloom. 4. Because the Dutch Embassy was one of the sponsors and the theme was the nation's multiculturalism. 5. Because it was the 75th birthday of the capital, Canberra, and the Bicentenary of European settlement. 6. It doesn't cost anything./It's free to enter. 7. No, there's also NightFest: four nights of after-dark entertainment and horticultural illuminations. 8. They plant 300,000 bulbs and annuals to form a tulip trail through the suburbs.

D – Learn it! Use it!

1. blend 2. one-off 3. blossomed 4. pattern 5. trail 6. settlement

E – Ready for the B1 PRELIMINARY English Exam?

1. been 2. as/since/because/considering 3. majority 4. short 5. rise/increase 6. as