



7th Grade Unit 5

Scenario: Let's Celebrate Costa Rican Culture!

Dialogue title/ subject	Lesson Plan	Keywords
Mother's Day	Unit 5 Week 1	Family gatherings, national holidays Prepositions of time In/on/at
Christmas	Unit 5 Week 1	Family gatherings, Wh questions
Weekend plans	Unit 5 Week 2	community gatherings, Prepositions of time In/on/at, Wh questions
Lantern parade	Unit 5 Week 2	community gatherings, national holidays Prepositions of time In/on/at, past simple of to be, Wh questions
Dancing Devils	Unit 5 Week 3	community gatherings, Prepositions of time In/on/at, past simple of to be, Wh questions
Day of the Virgin of the Sea	Unit 5 Week 3	community gatherings, Prepositions of time In/on/at, past simple of to be, Wh questions
Day of the Virgin of Los Angeles	Unit 5 Week 4	community gatherings, national holidays Prepositions of time In/on/at

Note: The audios were written especially for 7th Grade, Unit 1. However, they may also be used when studying any of the following: politeness, classroom routines, questions, greetings, leave-taking, classroom objects, yes/no questions, introductions, WH questions, emotions, descriptions.

Unit 5 Week 1

Text: Mother's Day

Mother's Day is a special holiday for almost all Costa Ricans, because it is a day to show mothers that they are loved and appreciated. Costa Rica celebrates Mother's Day every year on August 15th, which is a national holiday. Most people celebrate by spending time with their mothers. They may cook a meal for them or go out to eat. Many people also give their mothers flowers and gifts, like clothes or jewelry. Not everyone can buy expensive gifts for Mother's Day, but anyone can give their mother a hug or say thank you. In the end, it's the thought that counts.

Dialogue: Christmas

Erica: Finally! The last day of school! I'm so excited for vacation.

Erik: Me too! We only have two more weeks until Christmas.

Erica: I know! I can't wait to go to the beach and see my cousins. What do you do at Christmas time?

Erik: My family always makes tamales and decorates the Christmas tree together.

Erica: We do too. I always eat so many tamales in December.

Erik: I think we all do. Have a good vacation with your cousins!

Unit 5 Week 2

Dialogue: Weekend plans

Juan: What's going on this weekend?

Juana: Don't you know? The town festival starts on Friday!

Juan: Really? Where is it?

Juana: It's in the plaza in front of the church.

Juan: What happens during the festival?

Juana: There's dancing, bull riding, and on the last night there's a concert.

Juan: Wow! Who is playing in the concert this year?

Juana: Los Ajenos! You have to come!

TEXT: Lantern Parade

Adapted from the Tico Times: *Celebrating Independence Day: Why the Lantern Parade?*

Written by Fabiola Pomareda, September 14, 2014

Each year on the evening of September 14th, Costa Rican children fill the streets with lights. They are carrying faroles, or handmade lanterns. Traditionally, faroles were simple, made of red and white paper with a candle inside. Today, they come in all shapes and sizes. You can find elaborate "casitas típicas" (typical homes), large oxcarts, and even soccer balls.

But why do we do this? The story starts in 1821, with a Guatemalan woman named María Dolores Bedoya. At the time, Central America was fighting for its independence. On the night of September 14th, Bedoya went out into the plaza. She called to the people of her town to meet in the plaza to show their support for independence.

The people came to the plaza with lanterns, and waited all night for news of Central America's independence. Finally, on September 15th, independence was declared. The Guatemalans shouted, "¡Viva la patria! ¡Viva la libertad!" Since then, lanterns have become a symbol of Central American independence and can be seen in towns throughout Costa Rica every year on the night before Independence Day.

Unit 5 Week 3

Text: Adapted from the Tico Times: *Dancing Devils*

Written by Lindsay Fendt, January 5, 2015

At the end of every year, the Brunca people celebrate the *Juego de los Diablitos*, or Little Devils' Game. This Festival represents the Brunca's resistance to the Spanish conquest. Brunca men, dressed as devils, fight against a man in a bull costume, which represents the Spanish conquerors.

The festival begins at midnight on December 30th, when the devils come into the village to dance. They wear banana leaf skirts and hand-carved masks that show animals with devil horns. After the first night, there are three days of fighting. The devils move from house to house, dancing and sharing traditional corn beer known as chicha. Then the devils begin fighting the bull. The fights are often violent.

On January 2nd, after three days of fighting, the devils and the bull stop in the center of the village, where the bull kills all the devils and runs to the mountains. But, the story doesn't end there. The devils wake up, go to look for the bull, and burn the bull costume. Burning the bull costume shows the strength of the Brunca people and their culture against Spanish conquerors.

DIALOGUE: Day of the Virgin of the Sea

Gerarda: Why were there so many people in Puntarenas yesterday?

Gerardo: It was the Day of Virgin of the Sea.

Gerarda: What's that? What were they doing?

Gerardo: Every year they carry a statue of the Virgin of Monte Carmelo out to the sea on fishing boats. There are always a lot of people who come to watch.

Gerarda: Cool!

Unit 5 Week 4

Text: Day of the Virgin of Los Angeles

Adapted from the Tico Times: *Thousands walk to Cartago to visit 'La Negrita'*

By Lindsay Fendt, August 2, 2016

Every year, two million people from across Central America leave their homes and walk to the Basilica of Our Lady of Los Angeles in Cartago, to pay their respects to Costa Rica's patron saint, the Virgin of Los Angeles.

The tradition is based on the legend of La Negrita. In the legend, an indigenous woman discovers a small statue in the forest of a woman with a baby. The woman takes the statue to her home, but something unusual happens. The next day, the statue is gone. The indigenous woman finds the statue again in the forest, in the same spot as before. Again, she takes it to her home. But the next day, it is gone again. The woman tells the town's priest, and he says that it is a message from the Virgin Mary. The priest says villagers should build a church on the spot where the statue appeared.

The Basilica in Cartago was built on that same spot. Every year Catholics walk "La Romería de la Virgen de los Ángeles" to Cartago. They come to see the statue of "La Negrita" and ask for blessings, favors or forgiveness.

Credits:

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