

ENGLISH CORNER MENU  
Learning English Through Discussion  
Festivals - Moon

This week many festivals are celebrated in Asia. Chinese culture celebrates the Moon Cake Festival, Japan something similar and in Korea it is their Thanksgiving festival.

HOT TOPICS

1. Which festival are you celebrating this week? What would you normally do at this time back in your country?
2. In your group discuss the meaning of Moon cake festival or Thanksgiving Day.
3. At this time many families meet together and visit their ancestors' graves. Why do they do this? What do some people think might happen if they don't worship their ancestors?
4. In Australia we have no special ceremony for our ancestors. If somebody dies, we may visit the gravesite to remember them but not to give them anything or worship them. This probably comes from Western culture, which has been influenced by Christian belief.

Christians believe that when once you have died you cannot influence or bring good or bad luck to the people living.

5. In groups of three discuss: What do you think happens to you after you die? Why?

In the Bible Jesus said: "16God loved the people of this world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who has faith in him will have eternal life and never really die." John 3:16 (CEV)

6. In pairs discuss: What you think Jesus was talking about?

Vocabulary

**Ancestors:** relative or family who lived a long time ago.

**Worship:** to show respect by saying prayers or doing religious ceremonies.

**Gravesite:** a place in the ground where somebody is buried.

**Resurrection:** come alive again.

**Reincarnation:** the belief that a dead person's spirit returns in another body – insect, animal, rich person...

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