

B1-B2 English Worksheet: A Steampunk Festival In New Zealand - 03 June 2026

Article

Every year, the small town of Oamaru in New Zealand holds a steampunk festival. Steampunk mixes old Victorian style with science fiction. People wear costumes like inventors, airship captains and strange travellers from another world.

Many visitors make their costumes themselves. They use recycled materials, leather, metal, hats and unusual objects. The festival has a parade, a fashion show and funny competitions such as teapot racing and parasol duelling. These activities make the town feel lively and different.

The festival is important for Oamaru because the town has old Victorian streets. These streets are a perfect background for the costumes. The event brings people together and lets adults play with history, imagination and identity. It shows that festivals can be creative, friendly and a little bit strange.

True/False

Decide if each statement is True (T) or False (F).

1. Oamaru holds a steampunk festival every year.
2. Steampunk mixes Victorian style with science fiction.
3. People at the festival only wear normal modern clothes.
4. Many visitors make their own costumes.
5. The festival includes teapot racing and parasol duelling.
6. The article says the town feels boring during the festival.
7. Oamaru's Victorian streets help create the festival atmosphere.
8. The article says festivals cannot be creative or strange.

Phrase Match

Match the phrases (1-10) to the correct definitions (A-J).

Phrases (1-10)	Definitions (A-J)
1. every year	A. stories about future technology or imaginary machines
2. small town	B. things used again instead of thrown away
3. science fiction	C. seem full of life
4. wear costumes	D. a place with not many people
5. make their costumes	E. slightly unusual
6. recycled materials	F. create the clothes they wear
7. funny competitions	G. helps people meet and share an experience
8. feel lively	H. once a year
9. brings people together	I. amusing contests
10. a little bit strange	J. dress in special clothes

Synonym Match

Match the words (1-10) to the correct synonyms (A-J).

Words (1-10)	Synonyms (A-J)
1. festival	A. uncommon
2. mixes	B. odd
3. old	C. imaginative
4. strange	D. energetic
5. visitors	E. celebration
6. unusual	F. ideal
7. lively	G. combines
8. perfect	H. welcoming
9. creative	I. guests
10. friendly	J. not new

Use the new language

Choose 5 words or phrases from the worksheet and write your own sentences.

Discussion Questions

Student A

1. Would you like to visit a steampunk festival?
2. Have you ever worn a costume for an event?
3. What kinds of festivals are popular in your country?
4. Do you prefer serious festivals or funny festivals?
5. Would you enjoy making your own costume?
6. Why do people like dressing as different characters?
7. What makes a town a good place for a festival?
8. Do unusual events help small towns become famous?

Student B

1. Why do people enjoy festivals that feel different from normal life?
2. Can old buildings make a modern festival more interesting?
3. Is it better when costumes are handmade rather than bought?
4. How can a strange event become important for a town?
5. Why do adults sometimes enjoy playing with imagination and identity?
6. Should towns create more unusual events to attract visitors?
7. Can a festival be funny and meaningful at the same time?
8. What kind of unusual festival would work well in your country?

Answer Key

True/False: 1=T, 2=T, 3=F, 4=T, 5=T, 6=F, 7=T, 8=F

Phrase Match: 1=H, 2=D, 3=A, 4=J, 5=F, 6=B, 7=I, 8=C, 9=G, 10=E

Synonym Match: 1=E, 2=G, 3=J, 4=B, 5=I, 6=A, 7=D, 8=F, 9=C, 10=H

Example sentences with the phrases

1. The festival happens every year in Oamaru.
2. A small town can become famous for one special event.
3. Science fiction often imagines different kinds of technology.
4. Many people wear costumes during the parade.
5. Some visitors make their costumes at home.
6. Recycled materials can be used in creative clothes.
7. Funny competitions make the festival more enjoyable.
8. Music and costumes make the streets feel lively.
9. A good festival brings people together.
10. The event is popular because it is a little bit strange.