

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

1. When is the Chinese lion dance often performed?

- A. on the eve of the Chinese New Year
- B. on the eve of Christmas
- C. on the Fourth of July
- D. on the first day of the month

2. This text describes the legend of how lion dance began. In this story, how did the people in the Chinese village solve the problem of the nien the second time it came to their village?

- A. They found another large animal to chase the nien away.
- B. They gave the nien what it wanted.
- C. They dressed up as a fake lion and chased the nien away.
- D. They hid from the nien in their houses.

3. People most likely need to practice the lion dance before performing it. What evidence from the text supports this conclusion?

- A. Two dancers perform a lion dance together as different body parts of the same lion.
- B. The lion dance costume is made out of materials like bamboo, papier-mâché, and cloth.
- C. In a southern lion dance, the dancers base their performance on a lion's behavior.
- D. The northern lion dance is closely related to the martial art form kung fu.

4. Based on the text, what is a main contrast between the southern and northern lion dances?

- A. the way each dance looks
- B. the costumes worn for each dance
- C. the events for which each dance is performed
- D. the amount of skill each dance requires

5. What is the main idea of this text?

- A. Northern and southern Chinese lion dances have some things in common, but are also very different styles of dance.
- B. The lion dance is a traditional Chinese dance that is thought to bring good luck and that is performed for the Chinese New Year and other special events.
- C. Hundreds of years ago in China, a monster called a nien attacked a village. Then it was chased away by a lion.
- D. Two dancers make up the head and body of a single lion in both the northern and southern styles of Chinese lion dance.

6. Read these sentences from the text.

"While there are many different tales of how lion dance began, one legend traces it back to a village in China hundreds of years ago. The legend says that the people of the village were attacked by a monster called a nien."

What does the word "legend" mean in these sentences?

- A. an old person
- B. an old story
- C. a monster
- D. a lullaby

7. Choose the answer that best completes the sentence.

In a southern lion dance, the dancers base their performance on a lion's behavior. \_\_\_\_\_, their lion may scratch or shake its body.

- A. Because
- B. Instead
- C. However
- D. For example

8. What good things is the Chinese lion dance thought to bring people?

**9.** Summarize the legend of how the lion dance began in a Chinese village hundreds of years ago.

**10.** Why might the Chinese lion dance be performed for special occasions, such as weddings?

Support your answer with evidence from the text.

1. When is the Chinese lion dance often performed?

- A. on the eve of the Chinese New Year**
- B. on the eve of Christmas
- C. on the Fourth of July
- D. on the first day of the month

2. This text describes the legend of how lion dance began. In this story, how did the people in the Chinese village solve the problem of the nien the second time it came to their village?

- A. They found another large animal to chase the nien away.
- B. They gave the nien what it wanted.
- C. They dressed up as a fake lion and chased the nien away.**
- D. They hid from the nien in their houses.

3. People most likely need to practice the lion dance before performing it. What evidence from the text supports this conclusion?

- A. Two dancers perform a lion dance together as different body parts of the same lion.**
- B. The lion dance costume is made out of materials like bamboo, papier-mâché, and cloth.
- C. In a southern lion dance, the dancers base their performance on a lion's behavior.
- D. The northern lion dance is closely related to the martial art form kung fu.

4. Based on the text, what is a main contrast between the southern and northern lion dances?

- A. the way each dance looks**
- B. the costumes worn for each dance
- C. the events for which each dance is performed
- D. the amount of skill each dance requires

5. What is the main idea of this text?

A. Northern and southern Chinese lion dances have some things in common, but are also very different styles of dance.

**B. The lion dance is a traditional Chinese dance that is thought to bring good luck and that is performed for the Chinese New Year and other special events.**

C. Hundreds of years ago in China, a monster called a nien attacked a village. Then it was chased away by a lion.

D. Two dancers make up the head and body of a single lion in both the northern and southern styles of Chinese lion dance.

6. Read these sentences from the text.

"While there are many different tales of how lion dance began, one legend traces it back to a village in China hundreds of years ago. The legend says that the people of the village were attacked by a monster called a nien."

What does the word "legend" mean in these sentences?

A. an old person

**B. an old story**

C. a monster

D. a lullaby

7. Choose the answer that best completes the sentence.

In a southern lion dance, the dancers base their performance on a lion's behavior. \_\_\_\_\_, their lion may scratch or shake its body.

A. Because

B. Instead

C. However

**D. For example**

8. What good things is the Chinese lion dance thought to bring people?

The lion dance is thought to bring good luck and prosperity.

**9.** Summarize the legend of how the lion dance began in a Chinese village hundreds of years ago.

Hundreds of years ago, a monster called a nien attacked a village, but a lion chased it away. The nien returned the next year, but the lion could not help. So the villagers dressed up as a lion and danced to chase the nien away.

**10.** Why might the Chinese lion dance be performed for special occasions, such as weddings?

Support your answer with evidence from the text.

Answers may vary slightly as long as they reflect the text. The Chinese lion dance may be performed for weddings and other special occasions because it is thought to bring good luck and prosperity. Weddings and special occasions are times when people may want good luck. The dance may also be performed to "chase evil away" before a special event like the Chinese New Year. This is to make sure the event and the times that come after the event go smoothly.