

Night Markets of Taiwan

ESL Reading Worksheet — Level F | tahricteaches.com



Taiwan's night markets are famous around the world for their amazing food and exciting energy. Every evening, hundreds of **vendors** set up stalls along busy streets and narrow alleyways. The air fills with delicious smells from cooking food, and visitors can hear the sizzle of grills. Bright lights shine everywhere, and loud music plays from shops. These **bustling** markets are an important part of Taiwan's culture and **heritage**, attracting millions of visitors each year.

The food at night markets is **diverse** and exciting, offering something for everyone. You can try stinky tofu, which has a strong smell but tastes amazing when fried golden brown. Bubble tea was invented in Taiwan and is now popular all over the world. Grilled squid on a stick is another **beloved** snack that people line up to buy. Many visitors say the **affordable** prices make it easy to try many different foods in one night.

Night markets sell much more than just food. You can find clothes, shoes, toys, and electronics at great prices. Some stalls offer fun games where you can win exciting **prizes** like stuffed animals. There are also **traditional** crafts and souvenirs that make perfect gifts to take home. Many young people come to hang out with friends and enjoy the lively **atmosphere** until late at night.

The most famous night market in Taiwan is Shilin Night Market in Taipei. It has been open for over one hundred years and receives thousands of visitors daily. Raohe Night Market is known for its pepper pork buns that sell out quickly. Feng Chia Night Market in Taichung is the largest in Taiwan. Each market has its own **specialty** foods and unique character that keeps visitors coming back.

Night markets are open every day, usually from 5 PM until midnight or even later. The best time to visit is around 8 PM when all the stalls are fully open. Weekends can be very crowded with families and tourists, so **locals** often prefer going on quieter weekday evenings. Whether you want delicious street food, fun shopping, or just a taste of real Taiwanese life, night markets are the perfect place to explore.

A. Vocabulary

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|----------------------|---|
| 1. vendors _____ | a. not expensive; easy to pay for |
| 2. bustling _____ | b. people who live in a particular area |
| 3. heritage _____ | c. people who sell things |
| 4. diverse _____ | d. having many different types or varieties |
| 5. beloved _____ | e. the feeling or mood of a place |
| 6. affordable _____ | f. traditions passed down through generations |
| 7. prizes _____ | g. following customs from the past |
| 8. traditional _____ | h. very busy and full of activity |
| 9. atmosphere _____ | i. things you win in a game or contest |
| 10. locals _____ | j. loved very much by many people |

B. True or False

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|--|---|---|
| 1. Night markets are open in the morning. _____ | 2. Bubble tea was invented in Taiwan. _____ | 3. Shilin Night Market is over 100 years old. _____ |
| 4. You can only buy food at night markets. _____ | 5. Stinky tofu has a strong smell. _____ | 6. Feng Chia is the largest night market. _____ |
| 7. Night markets close at 8 PM. _____ | 8. The food prices are usually expensive. _____ | 9. Weekends are less crowded than weekdays. _____ |

C. Fill in the Blanks

Word Bank: vendors, bustling, affordable, atmosphere, specialty, diverse, traditional

- The _____ set up their stalls every evening before the market opens.
- Taiwan's night markets offer _____ food from many different cultures.
- The _____ prices make it easy for everyone to enjoy the food.
- Each night market has its own _____ dishes that you cannot find anywhere else.
- Young people love the fun and exciting _____ of the night markets.

D. Comprehension Questions

- What time do night markets usually open and close?
- Name two types of food you can find at Taiwan's night markets.
- Besides food, what else can you buy at night markets?
- Which night market is the largest in Taiwan?
- Why do locals prefer to visit on weekday evenings?

E. Discussion Questions

- Would you like to visit a Taiwan night market? Why or why not?
- What food would you most want to try at a night market?
- Does your country have markets similar to Taiwan's night markets?

Answer Key

A. Vocabulary: 1-c, 2-h, 3-f, 4-d, 5-j, 6-a, 7-i, 8-g, 9-e, 10-b

B. True/False: 1-F, 2-T, 3-T, 4-F, 5-T, 6-T, 7-F, 8-F, 9-F

C. Fill Blanks: 1-vendors, 2-diverse, 3-affordable, 4-specialty, 5-atmosphere

D. Comprehension: 1. 5 PM to midnight; 2. Stinky tofu, bubble tea, grilled squid, pepper pork buns (any two); 3. Clothes, toys, electronics, games, crafts, souvenirs; 4. Feng Chia Night Market in Taichung; 5. Because weekends are very crowded