

Temple Culture in Taiwan

ESL Reading Worksheet — Level C | tahricteaches.com

Taiwan has thousands of **temples**. You can find them in every city and town. Temples are **beautiful** buildings with bright colors. Many have red and gold decorations. Dragons and other animals sit on the roofs.

People go to temples to **pray**. They light **incense** sticks that smell nice. They bow to the gods and ask for help. Some people ask for good health. Others ask for good luck in school.

Temples have many **statues** of gods. The most famous god is Mazu. She is the goddess of the sea. Fishermen pray to her for **safety**. Guan Yu is another popular god. He helps people with business.

Temples are also places for **festivals**. There is loud music and dancing. People carry statues through the streets. They set off firecrackers. It is very **exciting** to watch!

Everyone can visit temples in Taiwan. You don't need to **believe** in the gods. Temples are free to enter. They are an important part of Taiwan's **culture** and history.



A. Vocabulary

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|--------------------|---|
| 1. temples _____ | a. fun and makes you happy |
| 2. beautiful _____ | b. buildings where people pray |
| 3. pray _____ | c. to talk to a god or ask for help |
| 4. incense _____ | d. big celebrations or parties |
| 5. statues _____ | e. sticks that make nice smells when burned |
| 6. safety _____ | f. the way of life of a group |
| 7. festivals _____ | g. figures made to look like people or gods |
| 8. exciting _____ | h. to think something is true |
| 9. believe _____ | i. very pretty to look at |
| 10. culture _____ | j. being away from danger |

B. True or False

- | | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|---|
| 1. Taiwan has only a few temples. _____ | 2. Temples have bright colors. _____ | 3. People light candles at temples. _____ |
| 4. Mazu is the goddess of the sea. _____ | 5. Temples are free to visit. _____ | 6. Dragons are on temple roofs. _____ |
| 7. Only certain people can enter temples. _____ | 8. Festivals have loud music. _____ | 9. Guan Yu helps with business. _____ |

C. Fill in the Blanks

Word Bank: temples, beautiful, pray, incense, statues, festivals, culture

- Taiwan has thousands of _____ in every city.
- Temples are _____ buildings with bright colors.
- People _____ and ask the gods for help.
- They light _____ sticks that smell nice.
- Temples are an important part of Taiwan's _____.

D. Comprehension Questions

- What colors do temples have?
- What do people do at temples?
- Who is Mazu?
- What happens during temple festivals?
- Can anyone visit a temple?

E. Discussion Questions

- Have you ever visited a temple? What did you see?
- What do you think temples smell like?
- Are there temples or special buildings in your country?

Answer Key

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

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

C. Fill Blanks: 1-temples, 2-beautiful, 3-pray, 4-incense, 5-culture

D. Comprehension: 1. Red and gold; 2. Pray, light incense, bow to gods; 3. The goddess of the sea; 4. Loud music, dancing, statues carried through streets, firecrackers; 5. Yes, everyone can visit