

CELEBRATIONS

Carnival – Rio and Notting Hill

Worksheet

Exercise 1: Warmer

- Does your town or area have a carnival or street festival?
- When is it, what does it celebrate and what happens there?



Exercise 2: Two places, two carnivals

Use the words in the box to complete the two short introduction texts.

160,000 area city expensive houses poor six and a half million statue



Rio de Janeiro, usually called Rio, is the second largest _____ in Brazil. _____ people live in Rio, from the very rich to the very _____. It is famous for its beaches and for the giant _____ of Christ the Redeemer.

Notting Hill is an _____ in the west London royal borough of Kensington and Chelsea. Since the 1980s it has become a fashionable and _____ place to live. Around _____ people live here in its large _____ which are mostly divided into flats and apartments.



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Exercise 3: Rio or Notting Hill?

Decide whether you think the statements are about the Rio Carnival or the Notting Hill carnival.

- a. The carnival includes elements of Caribbean and West Indian cultures.
- b. A lot of the carnival is held in the Sambadrome. You need to buy a ticket.
- c. Around a million people visit the carnival every year.
- d. The five-day carnival is held in Lent, the time before Easter.
- e. People of all ages meet in groups in different parts of the city and then walk through the streets with marching bands.
- f. The first street carnival was held here in 1966.
- g. Sunday is Children's Day. This is a quieter day with a colourful parade for children.
- h. The two-day carnival is held on the last Sunday and Monday in August.
- i. The carnival begins with the crowning of the Fat King and ends with the famous Samba Parade.
- j. The carnival includes elements of African and Amerindian cultures.
- k. Half a million foreign visitors travel to the carnival every year.
- l. The carnival is held in the streets and is free. There are no tickets.
- m. The first carnival was celebrated here in 1723.
- n. There are Caribbean bands, DJs, street parades, dancing, costumes, food and drink, and after-carnival parties.

Exercise 4: Carnival descriptions

Which of these descriptive words can you use before the nouns below?

beautiful	colourful	crowded	foreign	funky	glittering	happy	
largest	live	loud	marching	multicultural	samba	spicy	steel

- _____ music
- _____ dancers
- _____ bands
- _____ costumes
- _____ streets
- _____ food
- _____ faces
- _____ visitors
- _____ street festival
- _____ parades

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Exercise 5: Come to the carnival!

Create a webpage or flyer advertising a trip to one of the carnivals. Use the space below to make notes, if you need to.

Exercise 6: Discussion questions

- Which of the two carnivals would you prefer to go to, and why?
- Have you been to any international carnivals or street festivals?