



SMART JUNIORS 3

Exploring the World and Its Diverse Cultures

Lesson 38

Read for Main Idea



Academic Vocabulary

Read the sentences. Choose the correct definition of each highlighted word.

1. The article offered **insightful** tips for effective communication.



n. a line, usually of people, waiting for something

2. The **post-celebration** cleanup took longer than expected.



adj. things related to or happening after a celebration

3. We wanted to get ice cream but the **queue** was so long that we gave up.



adj. having a clear and deep understanding of something

Academic Vocabulary

Read the sentences. Choose the correct definition of each highlighted word.

4. He placed flowers on the grave of his **departed** father.

n. a special table used for religious or ceremonial activities

5. Candles were arranged on the church **altar** for the ceremony.

adj. no longer alive, referring to someone who has died

6. He **hesitates** to try out for the football team because of his busy schedule.

v. to stop or pause because of not feeling sure

PREPARE TO READ



Think Before Reading

Share about a festival you have attended.

Name of the Festival:

When it is celebrated:

Why it is celebrated:

Rate how much you like it:



What did you like the most about this festival?



- Listen and read the interview. Think about what the main idea is.

▶ Embracing Cultural Diversity: A Review of Unique Festivals

Host: Hello and welcome to another episode of Smart Insights! Today, we have four **insightful** teenagers with us to share their honest reviews of four unique festivals. Let's dive into the colorful world of cultural celebrations!





Ruby: The Holi Festival in India is a lively celebration with vibrant colors and a sense of togetherness. It usually falls at the end of winter. It's one of the best cultural events I've ever seen. People joyfully throw colored powders, creating a festive atmosphere that's even better than expected. However, cleaning up afterward can be a challenge because the colored powders leave streets and public spaces messy. Despite the **post-celebration** cleanup being time-consuming, I highly recommend experiencing this event for anyone who wants to experience India's rich culture.



May: The Boryeong Mud Festival in South Korea is an annual summer event held at Daecheon Beach to celebrate the great benefits of mud. The festival's Mud Zone, where main activities like mud wrestling and mudslides were held, was absolutely perfect! It was a nice surprise that they included K-pop concerts with various artists. The only thing that disappointed me was the hour-long **queue** to the Mud Zone. Despite this, I still enjoyed the whole experience. Don't miss the chance to join in the fun!

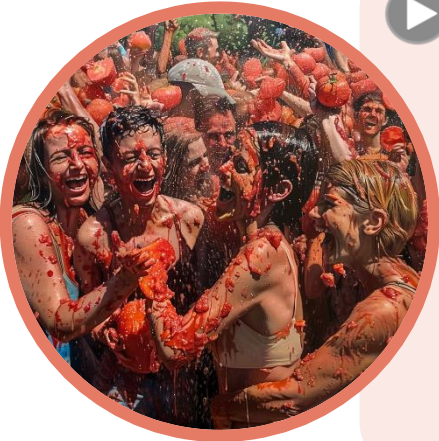




Kelly: Dia de los Muertos in Mexico is a lively celebration honoring departed loved ones. The festival features colorful altars with marigolds, candles, and offerings. I was pleased to find the deep cultural connection, beautiful decorations, and unity among people. I was a bit let down by how the crowded spaces made it harder to fully engage in the festivities. Personally, the emotional impact and cultural richness are more important to me, and I would advise anyone who appreciates a unique blend of tradition and art to experience this festival.



Nolan: La Tomatina in Spain is an annual tomato-throwing festival where trucks carrying about 180,000 tomatoes are distributed in the town for thousands of festival goers. The vibrant atmosphere and the joy of getting messy is what makes this a unique experience. Unfortunately, the festival's popularity led to overcrowding, making it physically challenging. For me, the whole experience was overwhelming and I hesitate to try it again. I would strongly advise against attending this event, especially for those with health problems.



Host: Thank you for tuning in to this episode of Smart Insights. Until next time, keep learning, everyone!

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The Main Idea

What do you think is the main purpose of the interview?

A

The purpose of the interview is to share perspectives on cultural diversity, showing how one culture can be better than others.

B

The purpose of the interview is to express honest opinions about some unique cultural festivals in the world based on personal experiences.

Identify the Structure

Skim part 1 (highlighted) and answer:

The following are true about the first part, **EXCEPT**:

- A** It provides basic information of the topic.
- B** It describes the subject.
- C** It expresses an objective truth.



Review 1

The Holi Festival in India is a lively celebration with vibrant colors and a sense of togetherness. It usually falls at the end of winter. It's one of the best cultural events I've ever seen. People joyfully throw colored powders, creating a festive atmosphere that's even better than expected. However, cleaning up afterward can be a challenge because the colored powders leave streets and public spaces messy. Despite the post-celebration cleanup being time-consuming, I highly recommend experiencing this event for anyone who wants to experience India's rich culture.

Identify the Structure

Skim part 2 & 3 (highlighted) and answer:

1 Which part states the positive features?

2 Which part states the negative features?

3 Which specific words or phrases helped you in identifying the positive and negative features?



Review 1

The Holi Festival in India is a lively celebration with vibrant colors and a sense of togetherness. It usually falls at the end of winter. **It's one of the best cultural events I've ever seen. People joyfully throw colored powders, creating a festive atmosphere that's even better than expected.** However, cleaning up afterward can be a challenge because the colored powders leave streets and public spaces **messy**. Despite the post-celebration cleanup being time-consuming, I highly recommend experiencing this event for anyone who wants to experience India's rich culture.

Identify the Structure

Skim part 4 (highlighted) and complete the statements below .

1

It expresses a personal view that _____

2

It advises people to _____

Review 1



The Holi Festival in India is a lively celebration with vibrant colors and a sense of togetherness. It usually falls at the end of winter. It's one of the best cultural events I've ever seen. People joyfully throw colored powders, creating a festive atmosphere that's even better than expected. However, cleaning up afterward can be a challenge because the colored powders leave streets and public spaces messy.

Despite the post-celebration cleanup being time-consuming, I highly recommend experiencing this event for anyone who wants to experience India's rich culture.

Identify the Structure

Skim the four parts (in different colors) of the review and match them to the following statements.

- A It expresses the positive impression.
- B It introduces the topic.
- C It gives a personal view and a recommendation.
- D It states the negative side.



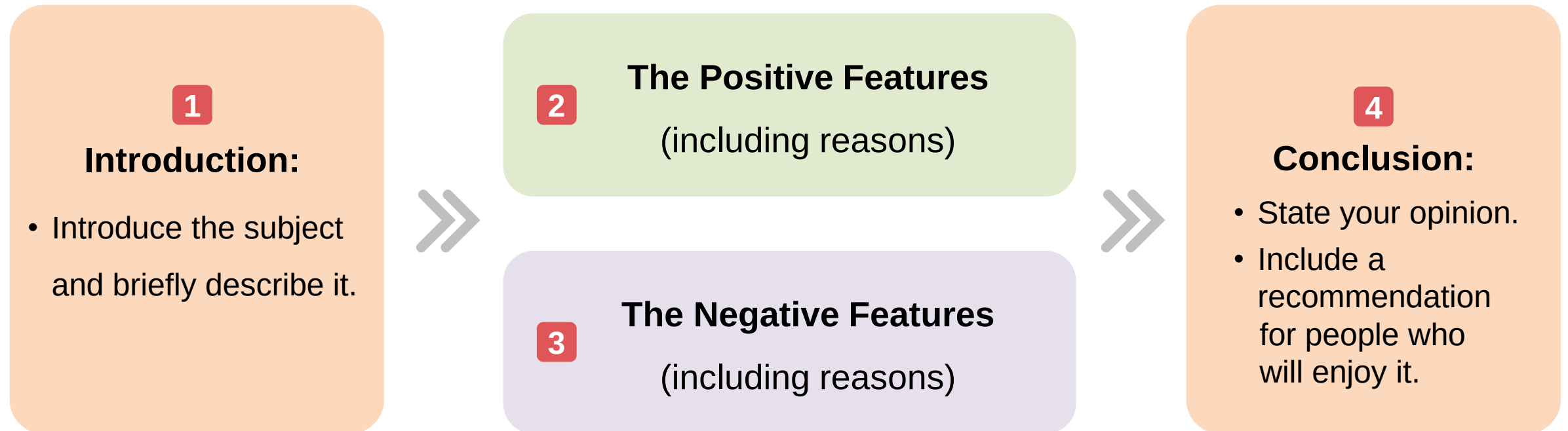
Review 4

La Tomatina in Spain is an annual tomato-throwing festival where trucks carrying about 180,000 tomatoes are distributed in the town for thousands of festival goers. The vibrant atmosphere and the joy of getting messy is what makes this a unique experience. Unfortunately, the festival's popularity led to overcrowding, making it physically challenging. For me, the whole experience was overwhelming and I hesitate to try it again. I would strongly advise against attending this event, especially for those with health problems.

THE WRITING STRUCTURE

- A "review" is a type of written evaluation of a product, service, event, book, movie, etc. Reviews are often used to help people make decisions about whether to consume, buy, or participate in something.

Now let's put the four parts together to reveal the structure of a review.





Academic Vocabulary

insightful

post-celebration

queue

departed

altar

hesitate

Structure of a Review

1

Introduction:

- Introduce the subject and briefly describe it.

2

The Positive Features

(including reasons)

3

The Negative Features

(including reasons)

4

Conclusion:

- State your opinion.
- Include a recommendation for people who will enjoy it.





WHAT'S NEXT...

In the next lesson, we're going to understand the essay in detail. See you next time!