Chapter 6 Practice Test

1. What are traditions? Give one example.

Traditions are the customs, beliefs, opinions, and stories passed down from one generation to another.

Example: Christmas celebrations, mummering.

1. Explain mummering.

Mummering is when people go house to house in disguise and ask to come in. They dance and sing. People then try to guess who the mummer is. They have food and drinks. This happens in Newfoundland.

1. What is “pop” culture? What can you do to participate in pop culture?Popular culture is a more widespread culture. It is increasingly being shared all over the world. Pop culture focuses on what is popular at the time, and is always changing. You can participate in pop culture by wearing name brand clothes, listening to popular music, participating in social media, watching television, and eating at fast food restaurants.
2. What is socialization?

When we are born, we are born without culture. We learn about our culture through socialization. Learning about your culture through social interaction. The process of learning what behaviour is suitable and acceptable in your culture.

1. What things help you learn about your culture?

Family, internet, books, religious groups, television, peer groups, friends, church, school, teachers, etc.

1. What is a mainstream culture? Give an example.

Mainstream culture is the general culture of the majority of people. One example is Canadian culture.

1. What is a contributing culture? Give an example.

A contributing culture is culture that contributes to mainstream culture. A mainstream culture in one area may be a contributing culture in a larger area. An example would be East Coast culture being a contributing culture for Canadian culture, or Acadian culture being a contributing culture for East Coast culture.

1. Give one example of how Atlantic Canadian culture is expressed through the arts.

One way that Atlantic Canadian culture is expressed is through music. For example, the music of Ashley McIsaac or the Rankin Family. Other ways are through painting, sculpture, etc.

1. How do people see Canada?

People see Canada as clean, friendly, tolerant, respectful, and polite. Canada celebrates equal rights, democracy, and multiculturalism.

1. What is one Canadian stereotype?

Canadian stereotypes include:

* We say “eh” after every sentence, we say “aboot”
* It’s cold here all year round.
* We live in igloos
* We ride moose.
* We all love Tim Hortons
* We all love maple syrup.

1. Explain in detail the roots of 5 of the following cultural traditions:

* Halloween

Halloween's origins date back to the ancient **Celtic** festival of Samhain (pronounced sow-in). The Celts, who lived 2,000 years ago in the area that is now Ireland, the UK and France, celebrated their new year on November 1. People would light bonfires and wear costumes to ward off ghosts. The evening before was known as All Hallows Eve, and later Halloween. Over time, Halloween evolved into a day of activities like trick-or-treating, carving jack-o-lanterns, festive gatherings, donning costumes and eating sweet treats.

* Confetti

Sugar-coated almonds called ‘confetti’ are given to wedding guests or the couple. They are all thrown at the couple. A tradition dating back to Roman times, the almonds are a thank you to guests representing health and happiness, but are usually replaced by scraps of paper in modern times.

* Christmas Trees

The evergreen has traditionally been used to celebrate winter festivals (pagan and Christian) for thousands of years. Pagans used branches of it to decorate their homes during the winter solstice, as it made them think of the spring to come. Early on, Christmas Trees were cherry or hawthorn plants (or a branch of the plant) that were put into pots and brought inside so they would hopefully flower at Christmas time. If you couldn't afford a real plant, people made pyramids of wood and they were decorated to look like a tree with paper, apples and candles.

* Valentine’s Day

The ancient Roman calendar included a mid-February holiday even before Saint Valentine’s time. That holiday, called Lupercalia, celebrated fertility. Some say that Saint Valentine was a Roman priest who performed weddings for soldiers forbidden to marry, because of a Roman emperor edict decreeing married soldiers did not make good warriors. They say the emperor found out and had Saint Valentine killed.

* Mi Carême

Mi-Carême, Mid-Lent, in French Canadian tradition, is the time when people dress up in disguise and go from house to house asking for treats, singing and dancing in the Mumming tradition.

* Summer Vacation

Students in the country used to go to school in the winter and the summer. They had some of the fall and spring off to do the harvesting and the planting. In the city, students went to school all year long. But, as cities started paving roads with asphalt and concrete it started getting too hot in the city to go to school in the summer, so kids started staying home. So school boards decided to give everybody the summer off.

* Wakes

It used to be the custom in most Celtic countries in Europe for mourners to keep watch or vigil over their dead until they were buried — this was called a "wake". The wake or the viewing of the body is a prominent part of death rituals in many cultures. This ceremony allows one last interaction with the corpse, providing a time for the living to express their emotions and beliefs about death with the deceased.

* Kwanzaa

Kwanzaa is an African American and Pan-African holiday which celebrates family, community and culture. Celebrated from 26 December through 1 January, its origins are in the first harvest celebrations of Africa from which it takes its name. The name Kwanzaa is derived from the phrase "matunda ya kwanza" which means "first fruits" in Swahili, a Pan-African language which is the most widely spoken African language.

* La Chandaleur

On February 2nd, many people eat crêpes to celebrate the festival of “Chandeleur” - known as "Candlemas" in English. It is a lesser-known Catholic celebration that marks the “Presentation of Jesus at the Temple”. The crêpes themselves are thought to have their own meaning too, with their yellow and round appearance recalling the Sun in the sky, in celebration of longer days and more daylight coming for Spring after the long, dark months of winter