

Celebrating Chuseok

Chuseok (추석) is the **biggest** and most **important** holiday in Korea. It is a time when family members from **near and far** come together to share **food**, tell **stories**, and give thanks to their **ancestors** for the good harvest. Chuseok traditions go back to **ancient** beliefs about the **moon**, the full moon only came **once** a **month** so it was thought to be a special and meaningful event.

On the morning of Chuseok Day, food is set out to give **thanks** to ancestors. Songpyeon is one of the **famous** foods of Chuseok. This rice cake is prepared with **rice** powder and is squeezed into the size of a **golf** ball, and then **filled** with sesame seed, beans, red beans, chestnuts, or other tasty **ingredients**.

Families visit their ancestors' **graves** and clear the **weeds** around the burial mounds. After **dusk**, families and friends take walks and look at the beauty of the **full** harvest moon, play games, and sing.

On Chuseok weekend, Korea's **highways** become extremely congested with **traffic**, it's one of the worst and most **dangerous** times to travel. So try to be careful on the **road** this Chuseok!

1) Listening – Listen carefully and complete the blanks.

Chuseok (추석) is the _____ and most _____ holiday in Korea. It is a time when family members from _____ and _____ come together to share _____, tell _____, and give thanks to their _____ for the good harvest. Chuseok traditions go back to _____ beliefs about the _____, the full moon only came _____ a _____, so it was thought to be a special and meaningful _____.

On the morning of Chuseok Day, food is set out to give _____ to ancestors. Songpyeon is one of the _____ foods of Chuseok. This rice cake is prepared with _____ powder and is squeezed into the size of a _____ ball, and then _____ with sesame seed, beans, red beans, chestnuts, or other tasty _____.

Families visit their ancestors' _____ and clear the _____ around the burial mounds. After _____, families and friends take walks and look at the beauty of the _____ harvest moon, play games, and sing.

On Chuseok weekend, Korea's _____ become extremely congested with _____, it's one of the worst and most _____ times to travel. So try to be careful on the _____ this Chuseok!

2) Questions – Answer these questions with your partner.

1. What is the speaker talking about?
2. What is Chuseok? Where is it celebrated? When is it celebrated? Who celebrates it? Why?
3. What are some of the Chuseok traditions?
4. Why could Chuseok be a dangerous time?

3) Discuss – Let's talk!

1. How does your family celebrate Chuseok? Where do you go? What do you do?
2. Do you wear tradition clothes on Chuseok? What does it look like? Where did you buy it?
3. Do you play games or sing songs on Chuseok? How do you play the games?
4. What are some fun things about Chuseok? What are some annoying things?
5. What is your favorite holiday? Why do you like it?