

3.3 Eco-friendly Celebrations

25 September 2015
Pune

Dear Atharva,

I received your letter. Hey! First of all, congratulations! It's really amazing that you have celebrated eco-friendly Ganesh Utsav in America. Please write to me more about it.

Here, we are also planning to celebrate an eco-friendly Diwali. Are you surprised? Yes, we are actually planning a Diwali without crackers. Hmm! But of course with delicious, traditional snacks — mouth-watering chaklees, anarsaas, karanjees and laddoos.

To make up for the crackers, we are going to make a beautiful paper-lantern at home. I am also going to make a model of Fort Raigad. I am collecting some pictures and a lot of information about Raigad.

When are you planning to come to India? We are all waiting to meet you. Remember bro! We are not just cousins, we are friends too.

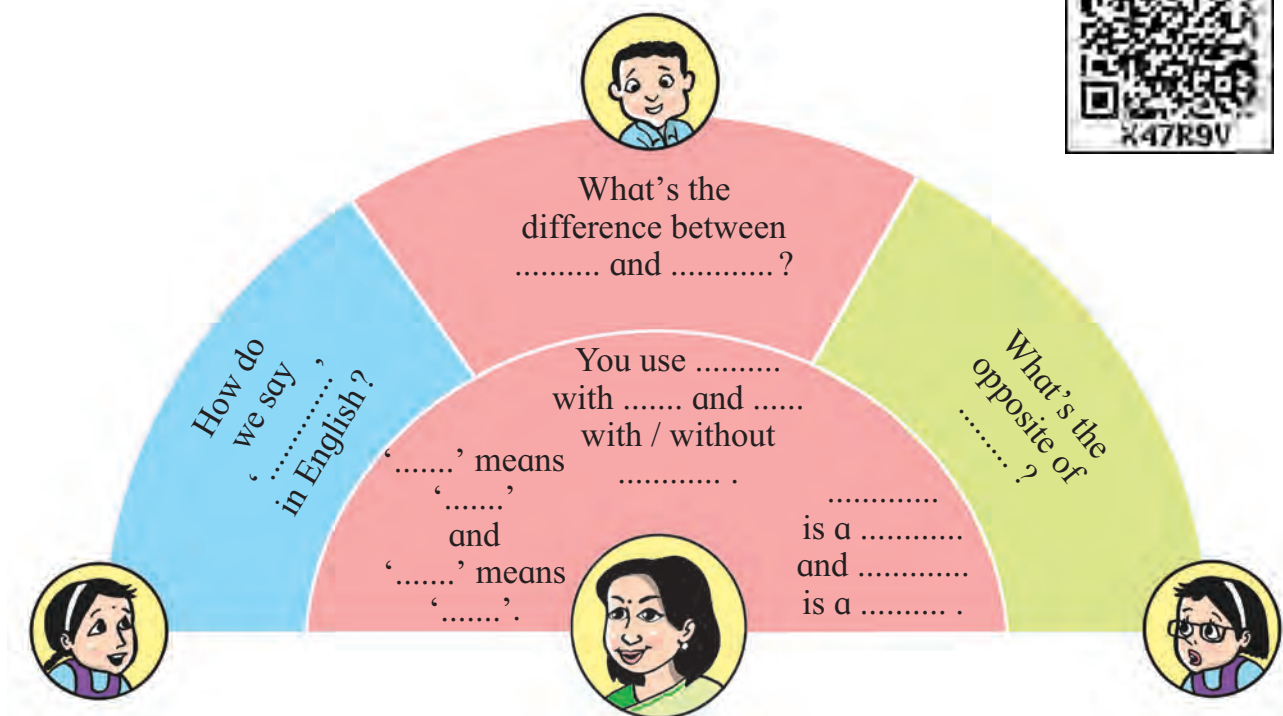
I always love to read your letters. Atharva, I have heard a lot about Thanksgiving and Halloween in the U. S. I am really curious to know more about them. Please do write to me.

Convey my regards to Kaka and Kaku.
Love to dear Ojas.

Yours lovingly,
Sharva

POINTERS

1. Guess the meaning of * amazing * celebrated * crackers * paper lantern.
2. List the important points from each paragraph of the letter.
3. List the festivals we celebrate (any 5) and the important parts of their celebration.
4. Quiz the Teacher (as shown on page 40.)
You may add the following questions to your quiz.



5. Discuss the following :
 - (a) Which festivals do we celebrate on a large scale?
 - (b) Choose any one festival and decide which parts of the festival are eco-friendly and which are not eco-friendly. (See page 63.)
 - (c) What can we do to celebrate festivals in an eco-friendly way?
6. Think of a modern festival and new ways of celebrating it, for example - A Reading Festival.
7. Read the following sentences :
 - * We are going to make a beautiful paper lantern at home.
 - * I am going to make a model of Fort Raigad.

Note that the phrases 'We are going to', 'I am going to' show future plans. Complete the following sentences meaningfully.

 - * Our teacher is going to
 - * My father is going to
 - * My grandmother is going to

8. Write a letter to your friend / cousin using the following format.



Date
Place

My Dear ,

Hi/Hello. Thanks for your letter./
I received your letter. It was nice to know
that..... ./
I was sorry to hear that Please tell
me about

I am/We are planning to
I am/We are also going to

You know my friend / friends (names)
He / She is / They are going to

When you come here, we will
..... .

How are ? Give my regards to
..... and love to

Yours, / Yours lovingly,
.....

9. Read and remember :

Eco-friendly : Eco-friendly means not harmful to the environment. When something is eco-friendly, it is good for the earth, for human beings and all other living things on earth. It does not pollute or damage air, water, soil or land.

In what ways can you do something that is eco-friendly? How can you be an eco-friendly person yourself? To be eco-friendly, you use resources like food, water, electricity carefully, without wasting them. You avoid using toxic chemicals and materials like plastic. You help to grow more trees and care for the animals in your neighbourhood.



Celebrate Holi with Natural Colours

Grate a couple of medium sized beetroots and soak them in a little water. After a while, you will get a beautiful dark pink-red colour. Add it to a bucketful of water.

Keep the petals of the *palas* (flame of the forest) flowers in water for a few hours. You will get a very pretty orange colour. The red *jaswand* (hibiscus) flowers will give a deep red colour.

Dry the petals of *zendu* (marigold) flowers – in shade. Then you can powder them to get a dry colour powder. You can add this powder to water, to get a wet colour.

Dry the leaves of neem, mint, coriander, spinach, etc. in shade to get a dry green powder. If you crush or grind the fresh green leaves you get a green paste. If you add the paste to water, you get green water !

Talk to your mother to find out what other things in the kitchen can give you safe natural colours !

