

RESOURCE SHEET – LISTENING MATERIAL – ENGLISH

Title: Cajun part 4 – Mardi Gras in Cajun country (2025)

Short description:

Clothilde and Carla talk about Mardi Gras traditions of Cajun people – a celebration on Fat Tuesday 40 days before Easter.

Vocabulary support:

Ash Wednesday = Wednesday six and half weeks before Easter, a reminder of human mortality in Western Christianity (from Britannica)

lent = the period of 40 days from Ash Wednesday to the day before Easter, traditionally a time of fasting (= the practice of eating little or no food for a period of time, especially for religious or health reasons (from Oxford Learner's Dictionaries)

reveler = a person who is having fun in a noisy way, usually with a group of other people (from Oxford Learner's Dictionaries)

float = a vehicle with a platform used to carry an exhibit in a parade (from Merriam-Webster dictionary)

gumbo = a soup thickened with okra pods or filé and containing meat or seafoods and usually vegetables (from Merriam-Webster dictionary)

Questions for comprehension:

1. What does Mardi Gras mean? What is the language of the phrase?
2. What is a state holiday?
3. What do people do in the town of Mamou to celebrate Mardi Gras?

Tasks for reflection/discussion:

1. Find information online about the Cajun Mardi Gras and add details to your account of the celebration of Mardi Gras in your answer to question 3 above.
2. Research how Mardi Gras is celebrated in New Orleans and compare that to what you now know about the Cajun celebration of Mardi Gras.
3. Research how Fat Tuesday is celebrated today in France where the Cajun people came from before migrating to Acadia. Compare this celebration to the Cajun celebration of Mardi Gras. What is similar and what is different? Where do you think the differences come from?

Kompetansemål:

- utforske og reflektere over mangfold og samfunnsforhold i den engelskspråklige verden ut fra historiske sammenhenger
- lese, diskutere og reflektere over innhold og virkemidler i ulike typer tekster, inkludert selvvalgte tekster
- uttrykke seg nyansert og presist med flyt og sammenheng, idiomatiske uttrykk og varierte setningsstrukturer tilpasset formål, mottaker og situasjon

- bruke mønstre for uttale i kommunikasjon