

A Read what Marina says about a fiesta in her town and answer the questions.

Mi pueblo es pequeño y la fiesta, que celebramos en junio, no es conocida. Sin embargo, cada año nos divertimos mucho y disfrutamos de todas las actividades que se organizan.

1 Look at the verbs in the text and notice their endings.

When Spanish verbs end in *-amos* or *-imos* like this, what is the subject of the verb?

- a you
- b I
- c we
- d they

2 Find the three verbs in the text with these endings and unscramble the letters to form their English translations.

- _____ – letrewcbeae _____
- _____ – nuhfewaev _____
- _____ – jwyeone _____

★ The subject pronoun (I, you, we, etc.) is used in English but not in Spanish. The letters for this are mixed up with the other letters.

3 Translate the whole text.

★ When you are not sure of a word, look at the other words that are used with it. For example, you may not know the word *cada* but you probably do know the word *año*. What kind of word might you expect to be used with the word 'year' in English (last year, next year, every year) and do any of them seem to fit here?

B Read the rest of what Marina says about the fiesta and answer the questions.

Es una fiesta sobre todo para los niños que dura tres días. Mis primos, que tienen cinco y siete años, participan en todas las actividades todos los días. El último día hacen un desfile por las calles con sus amigos de la escuela; algunos tocan instrumentos, otros cantan o bailan y todos llevan ropa tradicional.

1 Look at the verbs in the text and notice their endings. When Spanish verbs end in *-an* or *-en* like this, what is the subject of the verb?

- a I
- b they
- c he/she
- d you

★ Noticing the verb endings and thinking about who the subjects of the verbs are in a text will help you to translate correctly.

2 Translate the text.

Es una fiesta sobre todo para los niños que dura tres días. Mis primos, que tienen cinco y siete años, participan en todas las actividades todos los días. El último día hacen un desfile por las calles con sus amigos de la escuela; algunos tocan instrumentos, otros cantan o bailan y todos llevan ropa tradicional.

You may know this as 'above all' but can you think of another, slightly less formal way of translating this?

Think about the English word 'duration' and ask yourself what word could logically come before 'three days'.

Perhaps you only know the last of these three words. Once you have translated that it may help you to work out the other two.

Be careful to choose a natural-sounding translation here. Although this means 'they do', this is not the verb used for this activity in English.

- ★ Try to work out a word you do not know by...
- looking at the other words being used with it, like you did in activity B question 1
 - using your common sense or general knowledge – ask yourself what it could be logically
 - asking yourself if it's similar to a word in English
 - leaving it for a moment and reading on to see if another part of the sentence can help you.

Answers

A

1 c 'we'

2

celebramos – we celebrate

nos divertimos – we have fun

disfrutamos – we enjoy

3

Sample answer

My town is small and the fiesta, which we celebrate in June, isn't well known. However, every year we have lots of fun and we enjoy all the organised activities.

B

1 b 'they' (Marina's cousins are being talked about in the text.)

2

Sample answer

It's a fiesta mainly for children, which lasts three days. My cousins, who are five and seven years old, take part in all the activities every day. On the last day they take part in a procession around the streets with their friends from school; some play instruments, others sing or dance and all of them wear traditional costume.