

For Advanced Kid Learners

Book 3

# Time to Talk

Lesson 7 History of Birthdays



## Warm-up questions.



1. When is your birthday?
2. How do you usually celebrate it?



Read and learn.

## History of Birthdays

Birthday has a long history in Western culture.

**Ancient Egyptians** celebrated the birthdays of **Pharaohs** 4,000 years ago. But the celebrations **took place** on the day when they were **crowned**. People believed Pharaohs became gods when they were crowned, so they celebrated their “birth” as a god.



**ancient Egyptians**

= people in the old times  
that lived in Egypt



**Pharaoh**

= a king of old Egypt

**crown**

= to put a crown  
on the head of a new king or  
queen

## Read and learn.

The **ancient Greeks** celebrated the birthdays of their gods and **goddesses**. To **honor** the moon goddess, they made round cakes and put candles on top of them. The round cakes and the candles represented the moon and the moonlight.



### **ancient Greeks**

= people in the old times that lived in Greece



### **honor**

= to do something that shows great respect for somebody

### **goddess**

= a female god

## Read and learn.

The **ancient Romans** first started celebrating the birthdays of human beings. But they only celebrated men's birthdays. Public holidays were created to mark the birthdays of the most important people.



### **ancient Romans**

= people in the old times  
that lived in Rome, Italy





## Read and learn.

The Germans marked children's birthdays with birthday cakes and parties during the 18th century. On the morning of a child's birthday, he or she would receive a cake with lighted candles.

Birthday cakes only became popular in the 19th century. At that time, cakes were cheaper to make.



## Look, read, and guess the words.

1

to put a crown on the head of a  
new king or queen



2

the king of old Egypt



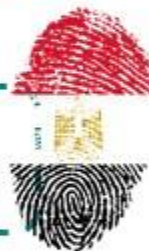
3

people in the old times  
that lived in Greece



4

people in the old times  
that lived in Egypt



5

people in the old times  
that lived in Rome



6

a female god



## Grammar



# take place

*to happen, especially planned or arranged*

## Examples

The celebrations **took place** on the day when they were crowned.

Our meeting will **take place** on Wednesday at noon.

The story that she told me **took place** in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

**+** Give example sentences using “take place”.

1. \_\_\_\_\_.

2. \_\_\_\_\_.





## Answer the questions.

1

Whose birthday did the ancient Greeks celebrate?

2

How did the ancient Greeks celebrate it?

3

Whose birthday did the ancient Egyptians celebrate?

4

Why did the ancient Romans create public holidays?

5

How did Germans celebrate their birthdays during the 18<sup>th</sup> century?

