

student activity 1

Name _____

Date _____

Part 1: Match the Term to the Definition

Write the correct letter next to each vocabulary term.

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|--|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Choreography | a. A system of animals used to represent years in a cycle of 12 |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Folklore | b. Traditional stories, songs, or dances passed down through generations |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Symbolism | c. A philosophy from China that focuses on harmony and nature |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Costume | d. An object used by performers during a show |
| 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Contemporary Dance | e. The design of dance movements and sequences |
| 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Calligraphy | f. A style of dance that embraces innovation, blending techniques from various genres, including ballet, jazz and modern |
| 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Martial Arts | g. A person who moves to another country to live |
| 8. <input type="checkbox"/> Prop | h. Artistic writing often used in Chinese culture |
| 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Daoism | i. A formal or religious ceremony performed in a specific order |
| 10. <input type="checkbox"/> Immigrant | j. Colorful clothing that helps tell a story in performance |
| 11. <input type="checkbox"/> Acrobatics | k. A celebration marking the new year on the lunar calendar |
| 12. <input type="checkbox"/> Ritual | l. Using objects or animals (like dragons) to represent ideas |
| 13. <input type="checkbox"/> Chinese Zodiac | m. Gymnastic feats requiring balance and agility |
| 14. <input type="checkbox"/> Lunar New Year | n. Systems of combat used for self-defense, sport or tradition |

Part 2: Cultural Connections

Answer the following questions:

1. Write a short definition of tradition in your own words:

2. How does Nai-Ni Chen's performance help us learn about Chinese culture?

3. Why do you think it's important for performers to share their culture through dance?

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Part 3: Fill in the Blanks

Use the vocabulary word bank to complete the sentences.

Word Bank

| | | |
|--------------|----------------|----------------|
| Choreography | Acrobatics | Calligraphy |
| Folklore | Lunar New Year | Chinese Zodiac |
| Costume | Martial Arts | |
| Symbolism | Prop | |

1. The dancers wore a bright red _____ to celebrate good luck.
2. The lion dance is part of Chinese _____ and tells a story of bravery.
3. The dragon in the performance is an example of _____, representing power and strength.
4. The group practiced the _____ until every move was perfectly timed.
5. Acrobatics and _____ were used in the performance to show skill and energy.
6. My birth year in the _____ is the Horse, which represents energy and freedom.
7. A fan was used as a _____ to help tell the story through movement.
8. The company performed a special show for the _____, a major cultural holiday.

student activity 2

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Part 1: Observing the Performance

Answer the following questions.

1. Write down three symbols (animals, colors, props or movements) you noticed in the performance:

2. Choose one symbol and describe its meaning in Chinese culture.

Symbol: _____

Meaning: _____

Part 2: Dance as Storytelling

Answer the following questions.

1. How did the performers use movement, music or costumes to tell a story without words?

2. Circle one: The performance made me feel ...

Excited Peaceful Powerful Curious Other: _____

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Part 3: Tradition and Innovation

Answer the following questions.

1. Describe something, within your culture, that has been passed down from an older generation that you participate in.

2. Describe one moment when a traditional element (like horse dance, costumes, martial arts, etc.) was highlighted in the performance.

3. Describe one moment when a modern or new element was highlighted in the performance.

4. Why do you think it is important to combine old traditions with new ideas?
