**Describe a national festival in your country**

* when it takes place?
* why it takes place?
* what people do during that festival?
* explain why this festival is important to you?

I think the main festival in my country is Spring festival, which run from the evening preceding the first day of the Chinese calendar to the following several days. According to tales and legends, the beginning of the Chinese New Year started with a mythical beast called Nian, which was frightened away by red lanterns and firecrackers on that day. Nowadays spring festival become the most important public holiday for family reunion in China. It is traditional for every family to thoroughly clean the house, in order to sweep away any ill fortune. The biggest event of any Chinese New Year’s Eve is the annual reunion dinner. On the morning, we start preparing the meal, as it takes a long time to cook. Chinese sausage is a most common main dish; non-traditional foods such as seafood are also sometimes served. Red couplets and red lanterns are displayed on the door frames and light up the atmosphere. I still remember those joyful moments that my wife and son wrote the couplet by themselves with some modern words instead of the traditional sayings. Red packets are passed out after the dinner, from married couples or the elderly to unmarried juniors and children. I love the atmosphere of spring festival. It is a symbol of the end of the year, as well as the beginning of a new year. It gives a important time to look back what happed during the past year and make a good wish for the coming year. Mostly important, it is the only time of a year for my extended family to get together, and to enjoy each others company, reconnecting, laughing, catching up and celebrating our wonderful lives.

reconnecting, laughing, catching up and celebrating the legacy of those who came before us

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