

Module 111 Unit One

Reading

Festivals

Around the World

杭州师范大学附属中学
苏殷旦



Unit 1 Festivals Around The World



National Day

Valentine's Day

Mid-Autumn Festival

Halloween

Festival	When to celebrate	What to celebrate	How to celebrate
National Day	October 1	the founding of the People's Republic of China in 1949	take time off work, travel to visit family see other parts of China

...falls on/ takes place on
...is held to...
...celebrates...

Festivals and Celebrations

Different kinds of festivals

When /Where?

What ?

How?

Why?

Skimming

1. Festivals and celebrations of all kinds have been held since the end of cold weather, planting in spring and harvesting in autumn. At that time people would starve if food was not available.

2. Festivals of the Dead

Some festivals are held to honour the dead or to satisfy the wishes of the dead. In the Japanese festival. Obon, people should go to clean graves and play music because they think that this will lead the spirits to return.

3. Festivals to Honour People

Festivals can also be held to honour famous people. The Dragon Boat Festival in China honours the famous ancient poet, Qu Yuan. In the USA Columbus Day is in memory of Christopher Columbus. In the UK there is a national festival on October 2 to honour Mother's Day. In the USA there is a festival on October 2 to honour Mother's Day.

4. Harvest Festivals

Harvest and Thanksgiving festivals can be very happy events. People are glad to have the autumn and the agricultural work is over. In European countries, people will usually have a big meal and eat fruit, and will get together to have meals. Some people might win awards for the best watermelon or the most handsome rooster. China and Japan have mid-autumn festivals. In China, people enjoy mooncakes.

5. Spring Festivals

The most energetic and important festivals are the ones that look forward to the coming of spring. At the Spring Festival in China, people eat dumplings, fish and meat and may give children red paper. There are dragon dances and carnivals, and families celebrate the Lunar New Year together. People love to get together to eat, drink and have fun with each other. Festivals are a part of our customs.



subtitles

pictures as
illustrations

1. What is the writing style of this passage?

A. *An argumentation*

B. *An exposition*

C. *A narration*

2. How does the author introduce the topic of festivals?

By classification

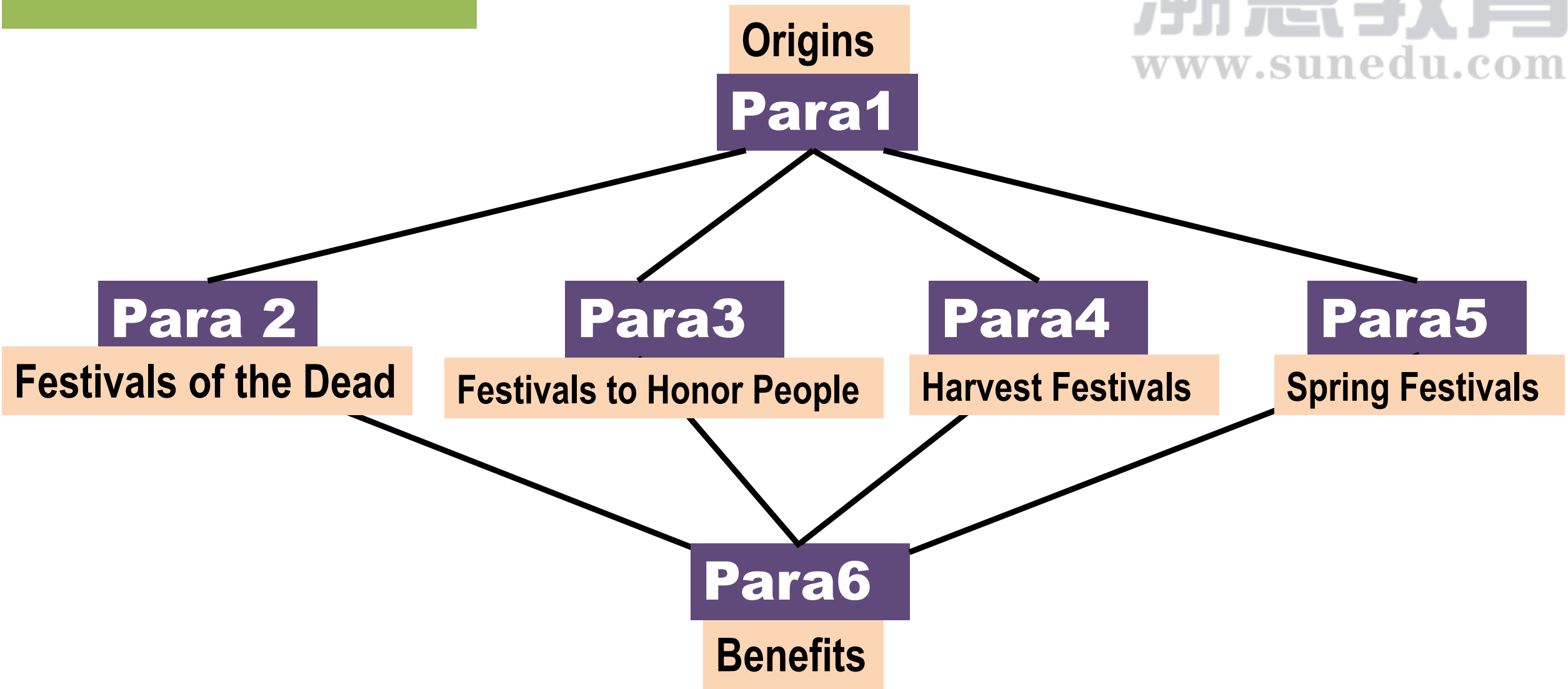
Festivals of the Dead

Festivals to Honour People

Harvest Festivals

Spring Festivals

subtitles



Tip: The title is ususally the main idea of the whole passage while the subtitles enable us to find out the main topic of each part quickly.

Read for Details—Para. 1

*Festivals and celebrations of all kinds have been held everywhere since ancient times. Most **ancient festivals** were held to celebrate the end of winter in spring and harvest in autumn. Sometimes celebrations would be held after hunters had caught animals. At that time people would **starve** if food was difficult to find, especially during the cold winter months. **Today's festivals** have many origins, some religious, some seasonal, and some for special people or events.*

Ancient festivals

- end of cold weather
- planting in spring
- harvest in autumn
- hunt of animals

Modern festivals (origins)

- religious
- seasonal
- special people
- special events

Festivals of the Dead

Festivals to Honour People

Harvest Festivals

Spring Festivals

Ancient time

Modern time

Time line

Festivals of the Dead--Para. 2

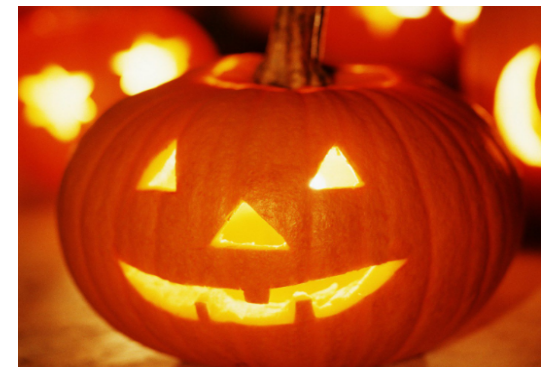
Why are the festivals celebrated?

*Some festivals are held to honour the dead or to satisfy the ancestors, who might return either to help or to do harm. For the **Japanese festival, Obon**, people should go to clean graves and light incense in memory of their ancestors. They also light lamps and play music because they think that this will lead the ancestors back to earth. In **Mexico**, people celebrate **the Day of the Dead** in early November. On this important feast day, people eat food in the shape of skulls and cakes with “bones” on them. They offer food, flowers and gifts to the dead. The **Western** holiday **Halloween** also had its origin in old beliefs about the return of the spirits of dead people. It is now a children’s festival, when they can dress up and to their neighbours’ homes to ask for sweets. If the neighbours do not give any sweets, the children might play a trick on them.*

Topic sentence?

Festivals of the Dead--Para. 2

What are the common things and differences among the festivals of the dead in Mexico, western countries and Japan?



Festivals	Countries	Common things	How to celebrate
Obon	Japan	follow customs to honor the dead or satisfy the ancestors	clean graves ; light incense and lamps; play music
The Day of the Dead	Mexico		eat food in the shape of skulls and cakes with “bones”; offer food, flowers and gifts to the dead
Halloween	western countries		dress up and ask for sweets

How to introduce a festival?

Topic sentence

Examples

Details

*Some festivals are held for or to satisfy the ancestors, who might return and visit their families in the Japanese festival. **Obon**, people should go to clean graves and light incense in memory of their ancestors. They also light lamps and play music because they think that this will lead the ancestors back to earth. In Mexico, people celebrate in early November. On this important feast day, people eat food in the shape of skulls and cakes with “bones” on them. They offer food, flowers and gifts to the dead. The Western holiday **Halloween** also had its origin in old beliefs about the return of the spirits of dead people. It is now a children’s festival, when they can go to their neighbours’ homes to ask for sweets. If the neighbours do not give any sweets, the children might play a trick on them.*

Festivals to Honour People--Para. 3

Festivals can also be held to honour famous people. The Dragon Boat Festival in China honours the famous ancient poet, Qu Yuan. In the USA Columbus Day is in memory of the arrival of Christopher Columbus in New World. India has a national festival on October 2 to honour Mohandas Gandhi, the leader who helped gain India's independence from Britain.



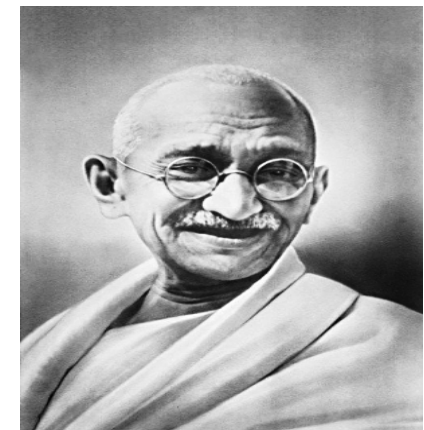
Qu Yuan

a famous poet



Christopher Columbus

the first arrival in the New World



Mohandas Gandhi

Leader of Indian's Independence

Qu Yuan is a patriotic poet who was admired and loved by the people.

National leaders, heroes, famous historical figures.

These festivals are used to strengthen national pride.

Harvest Festivals--Para. 4

Why?

*Harvest and Thanksgiving festivals can be very happy events because their harvest work is over. In European countries, churches and town halls with flowers and fruit, and will get together to have meals. Some people might win awards for their farm **produce** like the biggest **watermelon** or the most handsome **rooster**. China and Japan have mid-autumn festivals, when people admire the moon and in China, enjoy mooncakes.*

Sometimes we can guess the meaning of a new word by giving examples

Festival	Countries	How to celebrate
Thanksgiving	European countries	decorate churches and town halls; get together to have meals; win awards
Mid-autumn	China	admire the moon; enjoy moon cakes
Mid-autumn	Japan	admire the moon

Spring Festivals--Para. 5

*The most en
and to the c
and may giv
families cele
carnivals, w
include par
kinds. Easte
celebrates th
Cherry Blos
looks as tho*



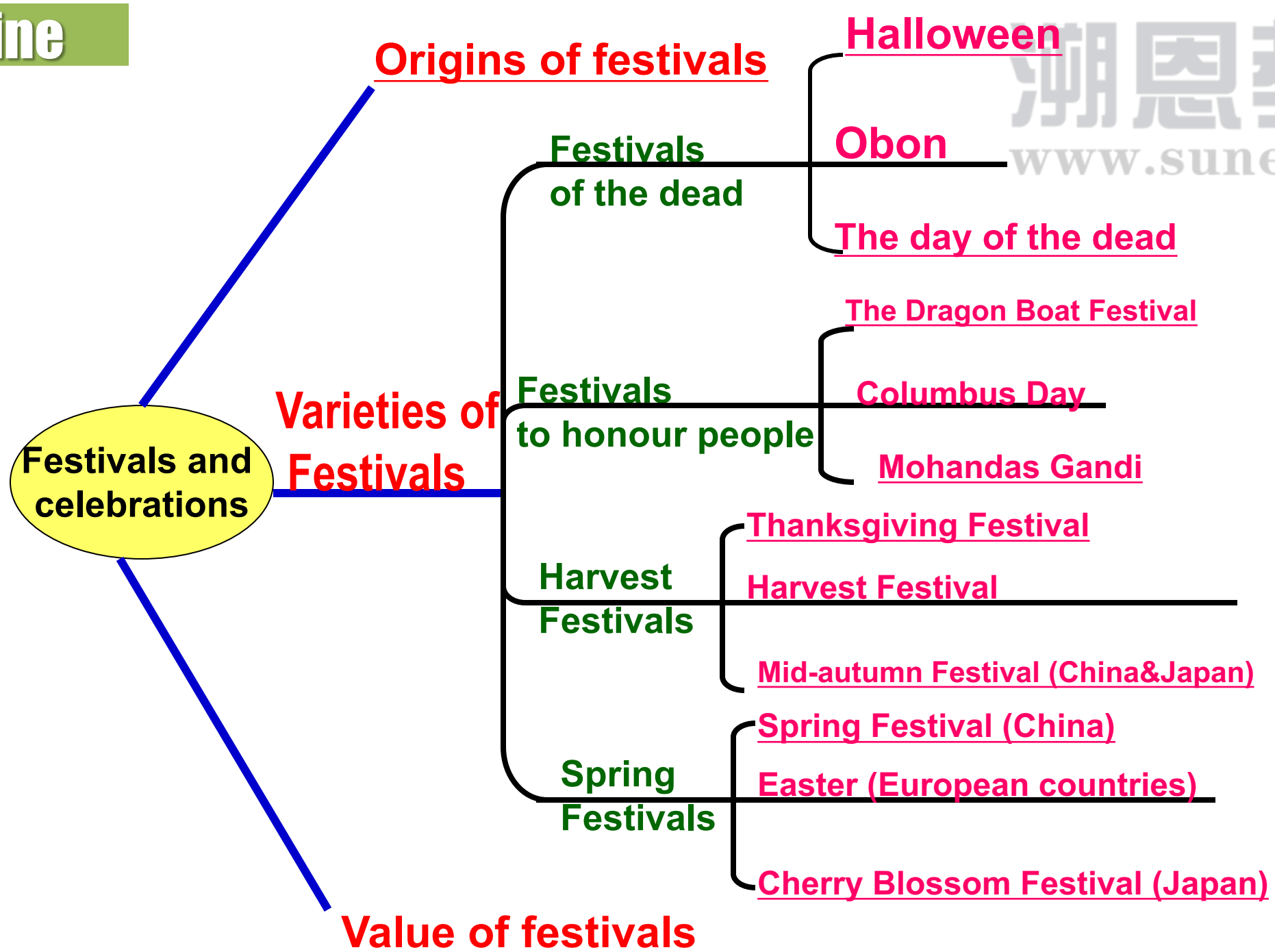
*of winter
fish and meat
u.com
vals, and
xciting
ivals might
ing of all
world. It
Japan's
flowers,*

Festival			
Spring F			
East			ings
Cherry Blossom Festival (Japan)	Japan	appreciate the beauty of cherry tree flowers	

People love to get together to eat, drink and have fun with each other. Festivals let us enjoy life, be proud of our customs and forget our work for a little while.



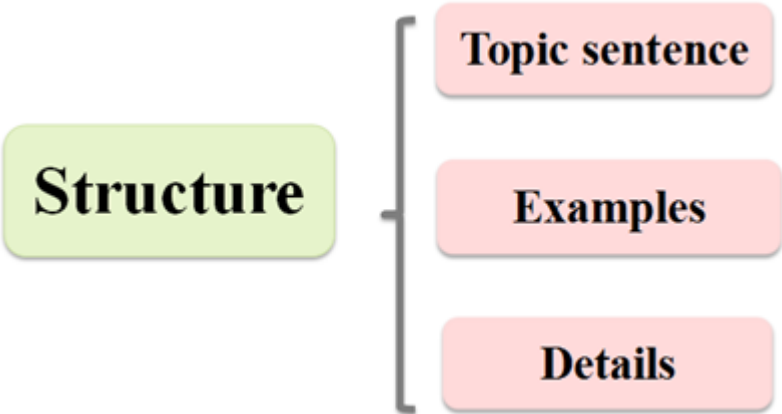
The outline



Assignment

Suppose one day, you are asked to give an introduction about the Tomb-sweeping Festival in China by your professor. (100 words)

Festival	When to celebrate	What to celebrate	How to celebrate
Tomb-sweeping Festival	between April 4 and April 6	<u>in memory of</u> our ancestors; <u>honor</u> the dead	clean graves; light incense; offer food and flowers; burn paper money; sweep away the dirt



falls on; be held to; have its origin in;
gather; in memory of ...