

- 1** a) Work in pairs. Write a list of traditional festivals people celebrate during the year.
 b) Work in groups. Write what you don't know about holidays in the USA. Start your questions with: *When ... ? How ... ? What ... ? Why ... ? Where ... ? Etc.*
- 2** a) Read in groups. Take notes.
 b) Speak in class.
 Group A. Use your notes and share the information you have already read with the other group.
 Group B. Ask questions to get more information from your classmates and your teacher.

The Day of Independence

Americans celebrate the Day of Independence on July 4th. People celebrate this holiday with **parade**, shows, games, sports, guns, bells, **bonfires** and **firework displays**.

Every July 4th, Americans have a holiday from work. Communities have day-long picnics with favourite food like hot dogs, hamburgers or buffalo burgers, potato salads and **baked beans**. There is always a **jazz band** playing lively music. The afternoon activities would not be complete without a friendly baseball game and a pie-eating or watermelon-eating **contests**. There is also a traditional **rodeo** contest in some parts of the USA.

People usually do a lot of shopping a few weeks before the holiday. They buy presents for their relatives and decorations for their houses. On the day of the holiday many of the Americans wear clothes in the colours of their flag: red, white and blue.

In the evening people in towns and cities gather to watch the fireworks display. Wherever Americans are around the **globe**, they will get together for a traditional 4th of July celebration!

- 3** Read the statements and mark them T (true) or F (false).

- ____. People have picnics.
 _____. People perform their traditional dances.
 _____. People watch the rodeo competition everywhere in the USA.
 _____. People eat their traditional food.
 _____. People meet their relatives.
 _____. People who live in capital cities watch the firework display.
 _____. People wear clothes in the colours of their flag: red, white and blue.