

Holidays in China and the United States

representing

= 代表者として Note: The noun is “a representative”

Illinois

= the big state in the north-central area, containing Chicago

New Jersey

= a small state near New York

a Ph.D. student

= 博士課程学生

higher education

= university and technical schools

Jiangxi Province

= the area west of Fujian (near Taiwan) (江西省)

a junior

= a third-year college student

an undergraduate

= 学部生

Integrated Global Studies

= a department or program at Hiroshima University where classes are conducted 100% in English

a lawyer

= 弁護士

stuff

= things

awesome

= great

characteristics

= traits, personalities, 特徴

unlike

= different from

religious

= 宗教上の

the lunar calendar

= the calendar based on the moon's phases, having about 354 days per year. It differs from the Gregorian calendar, which has about 365 days per year.

decorations

= 飾り物

to give best wishes to others

= a greeting. Note: The famous Chinese greeting is "Gonxi facai", which in English means "Wishing you a prosperous new year!"

Thanksgiving Day

= the holiday on the fourth Thursday of each November

autumn harvests

= 秋の収穫

stuffing

= a mixture of bread crumbs, vegetables, butter, and herbs put inside a whole turkey

gravy

= a brown meat sauce

expanded

= increased

relatives

= 親戚

the Dragon Boat Festival

= on the fifth day of the fifth month in the Lunar Calendar. This year it will be on Monday, June 14th

rumors

= 噂, stories

widely accepted

= commonly believed

to commemorate

= to honor, to celebrate

Qu Yuan

= a poet and political leader in about the year 300 BC

a minister

= a politician

Chu

= a large country which, between the 8th century BC and 223 BC, occupied a large part of present-day China, 楚 (春秋). Note: When the Chu capital fell, the story says that Qu Yuan was so disappointed that he committed suicide by drowning himself. He was, thus, seen as a patriot—a lover of his country.

desperate

= 死に物狂いの、たまらなくて

the peasants

= the poor people in ancient times

rice balls

= お餅, also in English accurately called “rice wrapped in seaweed.”

dumplings

= 餃子

dragon boat races

= competitions using human-powered boats which are shaped like dragons

to be colonized

= 植民地化

contemporary

= present-day

Pennsylvania

= a large state near New York. Philadelphia and Pittsburg are its biggest cities

Independence Hall

= a historic building in Philadelphia where the US Constitution was debated and approved in the 1780s

a bunch of

= a lot of

the American Revolution

= the War of Independence against Britain, from 1775-1783

The Mid-Autumn Festival

= The Mooncake Festival. The second most important festival in China, with a history of about 3,000 years.

a fairy

= 妖精

Chang'e

= The Moon Goddess (嫦娥)

a mortal

= a regular person

to reunite

= to come together again

to pray

= 祈る

a career

= a main job