

Name _____

Mardi Gras Around the World

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Both Brazil's Carnival and Venice's Carnevale are known for their elaborate costumes and vibrant street celebrations. However, Brazil's Carnival is famous for its samba competition and street food, while Venice's Carnevale is renowned for its elegant masks and masquerade balls. Both celebrations involve dressing up in colorful attire and celebrating with music and dance.
2. Trinidad and Tobago's Carnival is unique due to its fusion of African, Indian, and European influences. This diversity is reflected in the music, dance forms, and costumes, making it a celebration of cultural heritage. For example, calypso and soca music have African and Indian roots, and traditional characters like "Dame Lorraine" represent the European influence.
3. Attending a Mardi Gras celebration in New Orleans would be an exciting experience. I would expect to see colorful parades with extravagant floats, masked revelers, and vibrant street celebrations. The role of Krewes in organizing themed floats and throws like beads and doubloons would add to the festive atmosphere. The music of jazz and Cajun bands would fill the air, and delicious Creole cuisine would be available to enjoy.
4. Mardi Gras celebrations showcase the rich tapestry of cultures and traditions from around the world. They provide an opportunity to learn about the history and customs of different regions and appreciate the diversity of our global community. By celebrating Mardi Gras in various ways, we gain a deeper understanding of the cultural significance and heritage of different communities.

