

## **Unit 8 CELEBRATIONS**

### **\* Vocabulary**

- \_ Lunar /'lu:nə(r)/ (a) : thuộc về âm lịch
- \_ grand /grænd/ (a) : trang trọng, huy hoàng
- \_ agrarian /ə'greəriən/ (a) : thuộc về ruộng đất
- \_ to spread over /spred'əsvə(r)/ : kéo dài, lan rộng
- \_ to decorate /'dekəreit/ something with something : trang hoàng, trang trí gì với gì
- \_ blossom /'blɒsəm/ (n) : hoa
- \_ sticky /'stɪki/ (a) : dính
- \_ sticky rice /'stɪki raɪs/ : gạo nếp
- \_ positive /'pɒzətɪv/ (a) : tích cực
- \_ to pray /preɪ/ to somebody for somebody/something : cầu nguyện với ai cho ai với điều gì

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### Lesson: LISTENING

#### Listening to the text

Tet holidays are the days of relaxation, happiness and joy. And similar to pine tree for Christmas holiday in the West, Vietnamese also use many kinds of flowers and plants to decorate their house in this special period. There are 3 kinds of plants that cannot be missing in Tet holidays: peach flower, apricot flower and marumi kumquat.

People in 2 different parts of Vietnam have various explanations for this tradition. Northern people say that peach flowers blossom in spring – during Tet holidays while most other flowers still stay silent, symbolizing the strong vitality and a brave heart.

Marumi kumquat bears different story. A tree with all 5 characteristics: full of fruits, flowers, leaves, branches and roots is a symbol for wealth and happiness for the New Year.

The apricot flower in the South has another meaning. The golden yellow of the flower means the noble roots of Vietnamese (folktales said that the ancestors of Vietnamese are a couple of dragon and fairy). In addition, the high rate of blossom of the flower in Tet holidays also symbolizes the wealth and passionate love among people.

Vietnamese usually buy those special plants from lunar mid-December from the flower market and keep them until lunar mid-January of the New Year.

#### VOCABULARY

- \_ to symbolize /'sɪmbəlaɪz/ : tượng trưng cho
- \_ vitality /vaɪ'tæləti/ (n) : sức sống, sinh khí
- \_ characteristics: /ˌkærəktə'rɪstɪks/ (n) : những đặc trưng
- \_ noble /'nəʊbl/ (a) : cao quý
- \_ ancestor /'ænsɛstə(r)/ (n) : tổ tiên
- \_ dragon /'dræɡən/ (n) : con rồng
- \_ fairy /'feəri/ (n) : nàng tiên
- \_ passionate /'pæʃənət/ (a) : nồng nàn, thiết tha