

Chicago Festivals

If and Unless

9:30-9:40 Ice Breaker

- What was the best thing that happened this last week?
- What was the worst thing that happened this last week?



In a city like Chicago, there are many different festivals that go on throughout the year all around this great city. Do you like music? You can go to the Chicago Jazz Festival or the Chicago Blues Festival. Is food more your thing? Then you can go to the Taste of Chicago in Grant Park or the Burger Fest in Roscoe Village. With over 400 festivals every year, nearly any activity you could be interested in has some sort of festival in Chicago. This lesson will talk about several festivals in Chicago and hopefully encourage you to get out and explore a local festival on your own!

9:40-10:00 Vocabulary and Conversation

- stuffed: filled with food and not hungry anymore
- festival: a special time or event where people gather to celebrate something
- ton: literally, 2,000 pounds; often used informally to mean a large amount
- connoisseur: a person who knows a lot about something
- window shop: to look at things without buying them
- dozen: twelve

Conversation: (*Tutors, if you have a favorite festival you have been to and have pictures or information from it, feel free to bring it and share with the class.*)

Sue: Hi Beth. How was your weekend?

Beth: It was wonderful. John always enjoys going to the Taste of Chicago every year, so we **went down** to Grant Park and had fun listening to good music and eating some really good food.

Sue: I've never been able to **make it down** to the Taste of Chicago. I've heard there are nearly a million people that come to it though. I'm sure it's quite fun, and you probably leave **stuffed!**

Beth: We try to go every year unless John has to work. What about you, Sue? Have you been to a **festival** this summer?

Sue: Not yet, but if I can find someone to go with me, I want to go to the North Michigan Avenue Art Festival. I love looking at some of the beautiful paintings for sale.

Beth: How did you find out about it?

Sue: There are several websites that have thorough lists of festivals taking place all around the city. I just searched “Chicago festival” on Google and got a **ton** of hits! The official Chicago tourism website has a lot of information on it too.

Beth: That’s a great idea. Well, I’ve never been to an art festival, but if you have trouble finding someone to go, I’d love to go with you. I am not a **connoisseur** of fine art, but I still think it would be fun to **window shop**.

Sue: Wonderful! I’ll **plan on** going with you unless something **comes up** in your schedule.

Beth: It shouldn’t be a problem. I’m looking forward to it! See you then!

10:00-10:20 Discussion

Here are some questions about going to a festival. Discuss them together as a group. It’s not necessary to discuss all the questions; choose the ones that are most interesting to you.

1. What is the first thing you think of when you hear the word “festival”?
2. Have you ever been to a festival? How about one in the Chicago area?
3. What is the best festival you have ever been to?
4. What is a festival that you would like to go to?
5. What kinds of festivals are your favorite (art, music, food, hobbies, etc.)?
6. Are there some good festivals in your home country? Which is your favorite?
7. Are there different festivals held in different regions of your home country?
8. Do you prefer festivals with lots of people, or smaller festivals with just a few **dozen** people?
9. Do you think festivals are important?
10. Do you prefer going to festivals alone or with other people?
11. Which do you like better: festivals, museums, movies, zoos, or sports events? Why?
12. Would you want to volunteer and help organize or host a festival? If you answered “yes”, which festival? If you answered “no”, why not?
13. Have you ever gotten in trouble at a festival for touching something you shouldn’t have (tell the truth now!)?
14. If you could make a festival to celebrate something, what would you celebrate?
15. Do you research festivals before you go? If so, how do you get the information

10:20-10:40 Vocab and Grammar: Phrasal Verbs / If and Unless

Phrasal Verbs are verb phrases that consist of a verb and a particle. Some examples were used in the conversation section above. For each phrasal verb, there will be two example

sentences. Each student should then write their own sentence to show that they understand what each phrasal verb means. Tutors can feel free to help here too!

1. **Comes up** – I am going to go to the game unless something comes up this week.
A meeting came up at work today so I had to skip lunch.

2. **Plan on** – I will plan on working next weekend.
He plans on attending the party at the museum.

3. **Went down** – I went down to the market for a sandwich.
They went down to the festival with her family.

4. **Make it down** – Can you make it down to the park tonight for the concert?
We are going to try to make it down to the football game this week.

If you are talking about future plans, the words “if” and “unless” are used to give conditions under which the primary clause will come true or not.

(a) I will drive down to the Jazz Festival if the weather is good.	In this sentence, “I will drive down to the Jazz Festival” is the main clause. The “if” clause tells us what is necessary for the main clause to come true.
(b) I will drive down to the Jazz festival unless the traffic is bad.	This sentence has the same main clause as the above, but the word “unless” is the opposite of “if.” Unless has the sense of “if not” It says what must happen to stop the main clause from coming true.

In the sentences below, circle which word is correct.

Example:

Sentence: I will eat a lot of meatballs at the Italian Festival **if/unless** I am on a diet.

Answer: Unless

1. **If/Unless** I have plenty of money to spend, I will go to the art festival and buy lots of paintings.
2. I will go to an outdoor music festival **if/unless** it is raining.
3. I will consider traveling to the music festival **if/unless** they make ticket prices lower.
4. I won't go to the car show **if/unless** several of my friends go with me.

For the activity below, read the conditional "if" or "unless" clause and then decide which activity you would do.

Examples

1. Unless the weather is not nice this weekend, I will go to the Ribfest downtown.
2. If we want to teach our friends about Japanese culture, we will go to the Japanese Festival at Mitsuwa Supermarket.
3. If you wanted to buy something to decorate your home, you should go to Art Festival at The Chicago Botanic Garden.