



**HAPPY  
BIRTHDAY!**



# ABC CHALLENGE

Which words do you associate with your birthday? Try to think of a word for each letter of the alphabet.

A	<input type="text"/>	H	<input type="text"/>	O	<input type="text"/>	V	<input type="text"/>
B	<input type="text"/>	I	<input type="text"/>	P	<input type="text"/>	W	<input type="text"/>
C	<input type="text"/>	J	<input type="text"/>	Q	<input type="text"/>	X	<input type="text"/>
D	<input type="text"/>	K	<input type="text"/>	R	<input type="text"/>	Y	<input type="text"/>
E	<input type="text"/>	L	<input type="text"/>	S	<input type="text"/>	Z	<input type="text"/>
F	<input type="text"/>	M	<input type="text"/>	T	<input type="text"/>		
G	<input type="text"/>	N	<input type="text"/>	U	<input type="text"/>		

Choose 10 and explain why you associate them with your birthday.



# LET'S TALK!

Is celebrating your birthday important to you? Why or why not?

How do you usually celebrate your birthday? Has this changed from when you were a child?

What is your happiest birthday memory? What's the best birthday gift you've ever received? Why was it so special?

How would your perfect birthday look like? If you could celebrate your birthday anywhere in the world, where would you choose?

What's one thing you hope to accomplish before your next birthday?



# WHY DO WE BLOW OUT BIRTHDAY CANDLES?

## 1. Answer the questions below.

1. Have you ever blown out candles on your birthday cake?
2. Why do you think people have this tradition?

## 2. Match the halves of the phrases. Do you know their meaning?

covered

blow out the

hopes and

lavish

light

the candles

in frosting

party

prayers

candles



## 3. Complete the sentences below with the phrases from exercise 2.

1. It's a tradition in our family to gather around the cake and \_\_\_\_\_ while singing the birthday song.
2. For his 21st birthday, he decided to throw \_\_\_\_\_, inviting all his friends and family to the grand celebration.
3. When it was time to \_\_\_\_\_, he took a deep breath, closed his eyes and made a wish with all his heart.
4. She told me that every year, she silently whispers her \_\_\_\_\_ into the flames before she blows out the candles on her birthday cake.
5. When I walked into the room, I was greeted by the sight of a massive birthday cake, \_\_\_\_\_, sitting in the center of the table.

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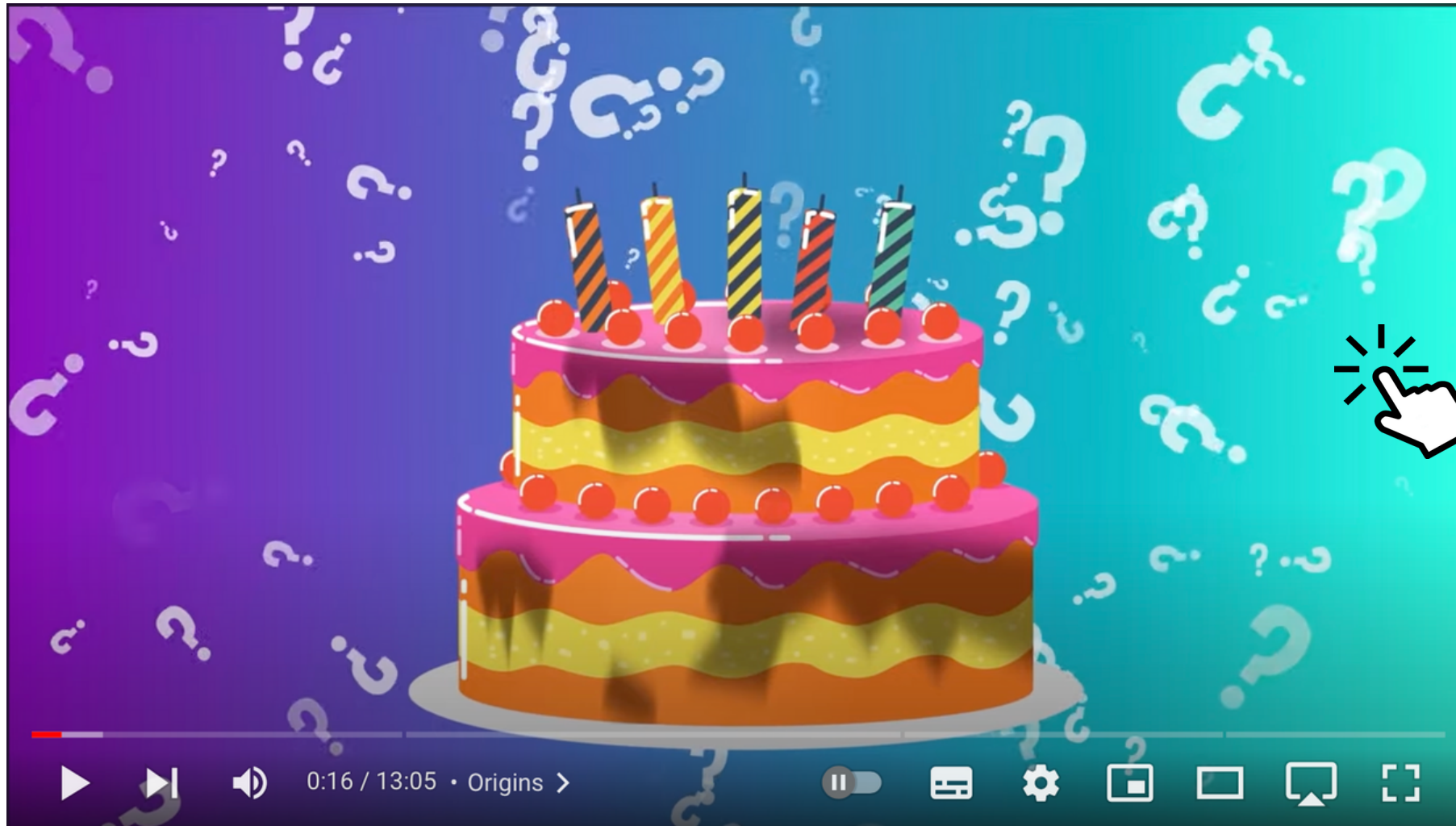
the candles



3. Complete the sentences below with the phrases from exercise 2.

1. It's a tradition in our family to gather around the cake and **light the candles** while singing the birthday song.
2. For his 21st birthday, he decided to throw a **lavish party**, inviting all his friends and family to the grand celebration.
3. When it was time to **blow out the candles**, he took a deep breath, closed his eyes and made a wish with all his heart.
4. She told me that every year, she silently whispers her **hopes and prayers** into the flames before she blows out the candles on her birthday cake.
5. When I walked into the room, I was greeted by the sight of a massive birthday cake, **covered in frosting**, sitting in the center of the table.

# WHY DO WE BLOW OUT BIRTHDAY CANDLES?



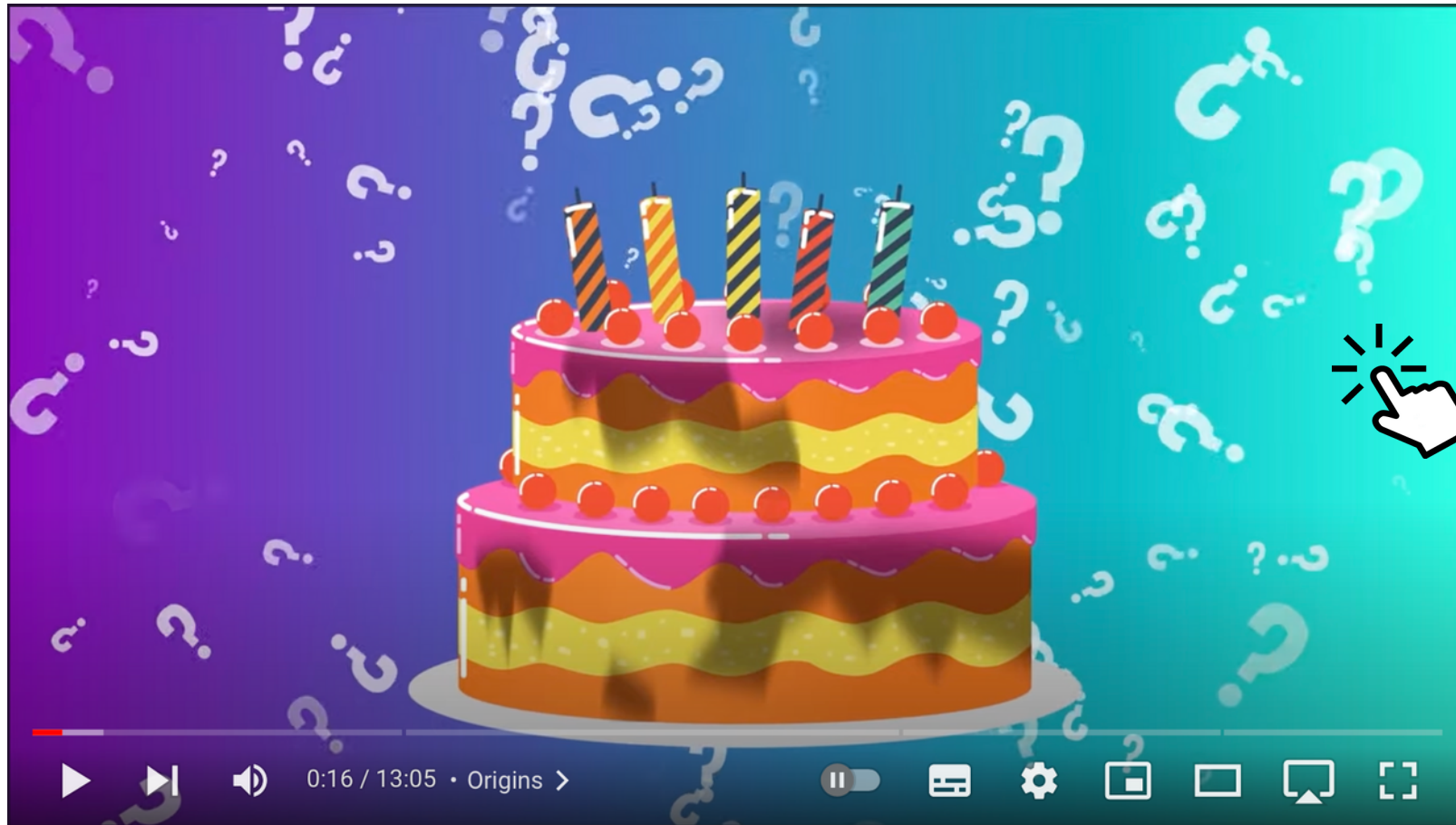
2. Watch the video again (if necessary) and answer the questions below.

1. How did ancient civilizations view the significance of smoke from candles?
2. How did the cake and candle tradition evolve in ancient Greece?
3. When did the modern-day birthday cake and candle tradition start?
4. Who is Count Ludwig von Zinzendorf and how did he celebrate his birthday?
5. What was Kinderfest and how was it similar to a birthday party?
6. Why was cake considered a luxury item in the past?
7. How did the industrial revolution impact the accessibility of cake?

1. Watch the video (00.00 - 03.27) and fill in the blanks in the sentences

1. It totally makes sense to eat a big cake \_\_\_\_\_ on our birthday.
2. So what's the deal? Why do we \_\_\_\_\_ candles on our birthday?
3. Just like most other traditions, putting candles on birthday cakes is a \_\_\_\_\_ that dates back thousands of years, at least.
4. Tons of ancient civilizations believed that smoke carried their hopes and prayers up through the skies into the heavens, which might be the origin of our modern day birthday candles. After all, most of us \_\_\_\_\_ when we blow them out.
5. People would put candles on cakes and \_\_\_\_\_ them as a tribute to Artemis, the Greek goddess of the hunt.
6. He had a \_\_\_\_\_, complete with a \_\_\_\_\_ cake covered in candles, one to represent each year, just like we do at birthday parties today.
7. Germans have been putting candles on cakes \_\_\_\_\_, usually one large candle in the middle to symbolize the \_\_\_\_\_.

# ANSWERS



1. Watch the video (00.00 - 03.27) and fill in the blanks in the sentences

1. It totally makes sense to eat a big cake **covered in frosting** on our birthday.
2. So what's the deal? Why do we **blow out** candles on our birthday?
3. Just like most other traditions, putting candles on birthday cakes is a **ritual** that dates back thousands of years, at least.
4. Tons of ancient civilizations believed that smoke carried their hopes and prayers up through the skies into the heavens, which might be the origin of our modern day birthday candles. After all, most of us **make a wish** when we blow them out.
5. People would put candles on cakes and **light** them as a tribute to Artemis, the Greek goddess of the hunt.
6. He had a **lavish party**, complete with a **colossal** cake covered in candles, one to represent each year, just like we do at birthday parties today.
7. Germans have been putting candles on cakes **for generations**, usually one large candle in the middle to symbolize the **light of life**.

2. Watch the video again and answer the questions below.

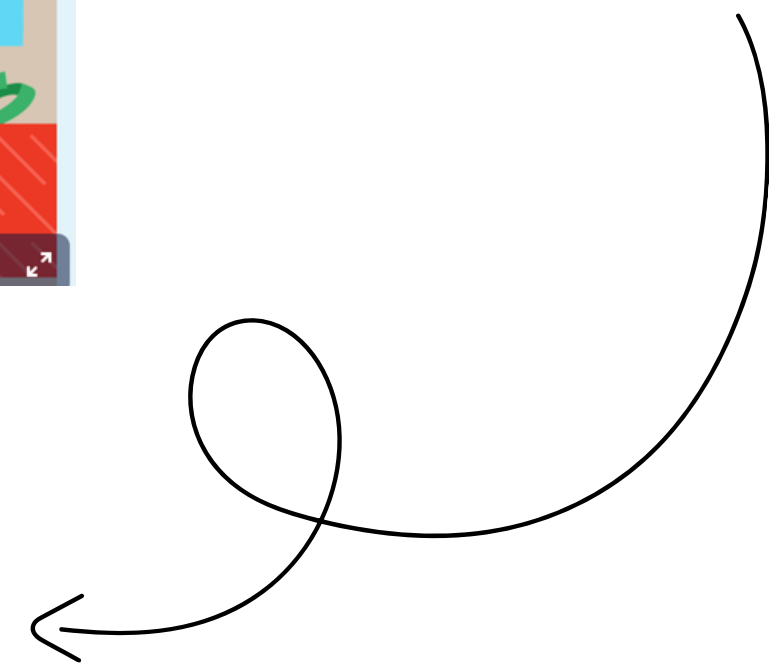
1. Ancient civilizations believed that smoke carried their hopes and prayers up through the skies into the heavens.
2. Cakes were cut into circles to represent the moon and the candles were lit to make the moon glow.
3. The modern-day birthday cake and candle tradition may have started in Germany around the mid-1700s, 1746 to be exact.
4. Count Ludwig von Zinzendorf celebrated his 46th birthday with a lavish party complete with a colossal cake covered in candles, one to represent each year.
5. Kinderfest was a big party in Germany that was similar to a birthday party, where kids would have cake topped with lots of candles and play games.
6. Cake was considered a luxury item in the past because it was expensive and hard to make.
7. The industrial revolution made it much easier for the average person to afford a cake.

# WOULD YOU RATHER...?



*Discuss birthday-related questions. Open the presents and get your predictions.*

 **PLAY NOW**





# BIRTHDAY TRADITIONS AROUND THE WORLD

Read about different birthday traditions from around the world. Can you match them with the countries of their origin?

Choose from the variants below. Check if you were right on the next slide.

India

Estonia

Jamaica

Australia

Netherlands

Brazil

United States

Canada

Japan

On their birthday, people often get their nose covered in grease. This is done to bring good luck.

A child's first birthday is celebrated with a "smash cake" - a small cake that the child is encouraged to eat, smash, and make a mess with as they wish.

A big celebration is held for people on their 60th birthday. This is considered the start of a new life cycle.

The birthday person is lifted and gently dropped on the ground. They do this for each year of the person's age, plus one extra time for good luck.

People in this country often wear a colorful dress, get showered with flower petals, and share a big meal with friends and family on their birthday.

When a person turns 50, they are said to be "seeing Abraham" or "seeing Sarah", which means they've gained wisdom.

The birthday person gives the first slice of birthday cake to the most important person in their life.

People receive a pair of red socks or other red clothing on important birthdays like their 10th, 20th, or 50th.

Friends and family often splash flour on the birthday person.



# BIRTHDAY TRADITIONS AROUND THE WORLD

Check if you were right. Which traditions did you like the most? Why? And the least? Why?

On their birthday, people often get their nose covered in grease. This is done to bring good luck.

**Canada**

A child's first birthday is celebrated with a "smash cake" - a small cake that the child is encouraged to eat, smash, and make a mess with as they wish.

**United States**

A big celebration is held for people on their 60th birthday. This is considered the start of a new life cycle.

**Japan**

The birthday person is lifted and gently dropped on the ground. They do this for each year of the person's age, plus one extra time for good luck.

**Australia**

People in this country often wear a colorful dress, get showered with flower petals, and share a big meal with friends and family on their birthday.

**India**

When a person turns 50, they are said to be "seeing Abraham" or "seeing Sarah", which means they've gained wisdom.

**Netherlands**

The birthday person gives the first slice of birthday cake to the most important person in their life.

**Brazil**

People receive a pair of red socks or other red clothing on important birthdays like their 10th, 20th, or 50th.

**Estonia**

Friends and family often splash flour on the birthday person.

**Jamaica**



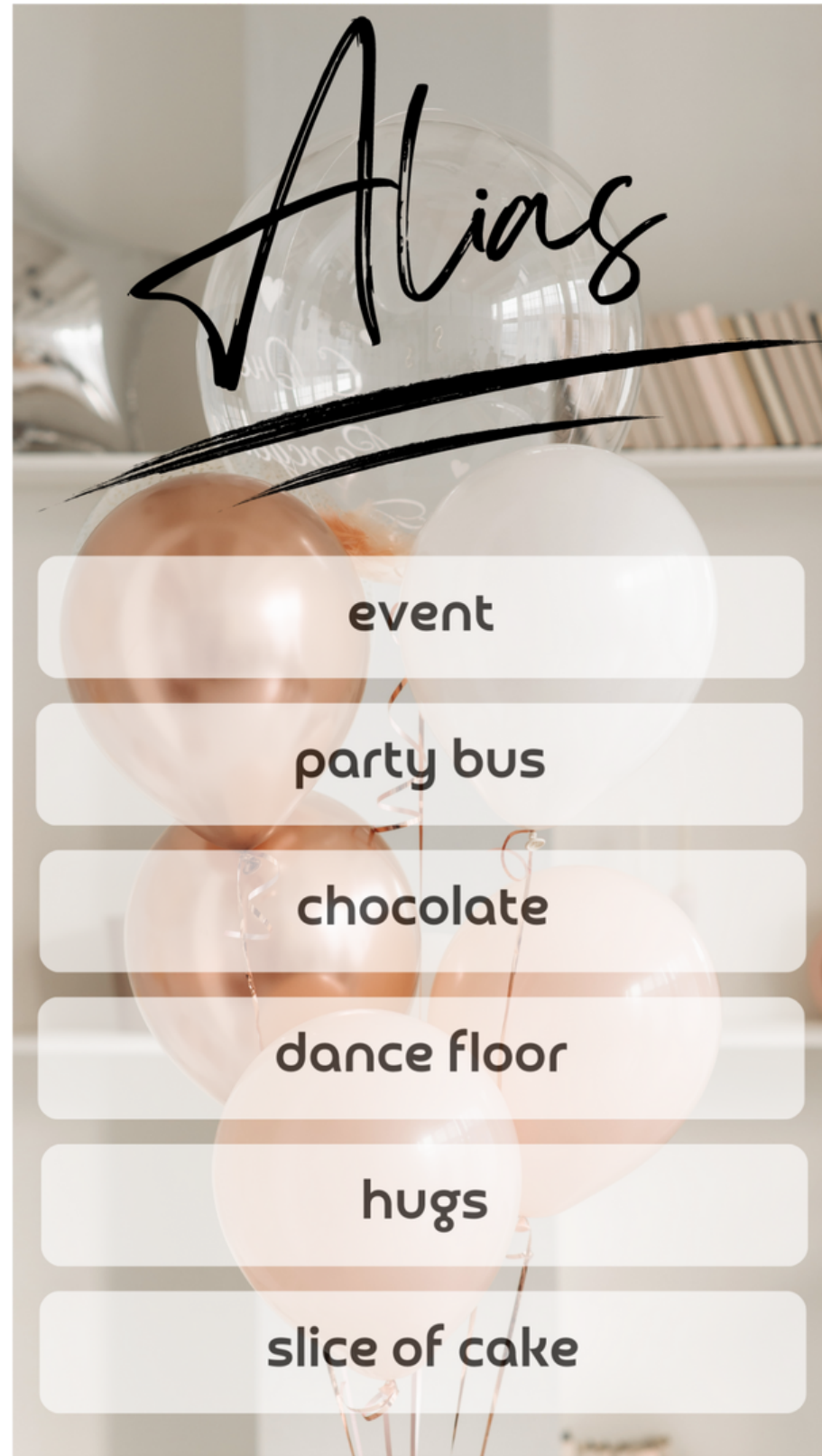
# LET'S HAVE FUN!

*Read the rules and play  
with your teacher.*

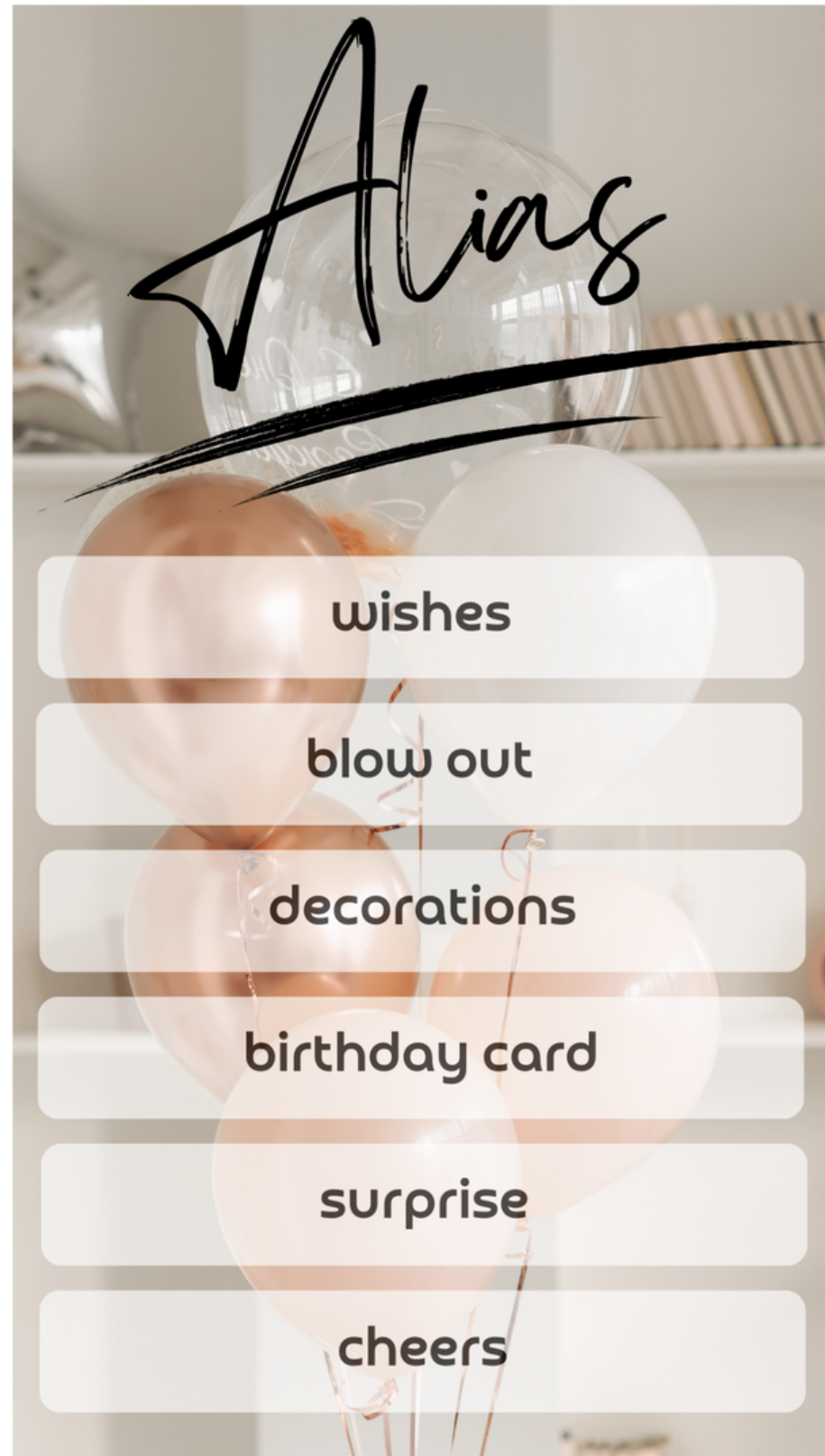
*You will see a card with 6 words. The task is to  
explain as many words as possible in 1 minute.  
Get a point for every guessed word.  
The teacher can use a timer. The player with the  
most points at the end of the game wins! The  
cards can be sent to the player privately before  
the game.*



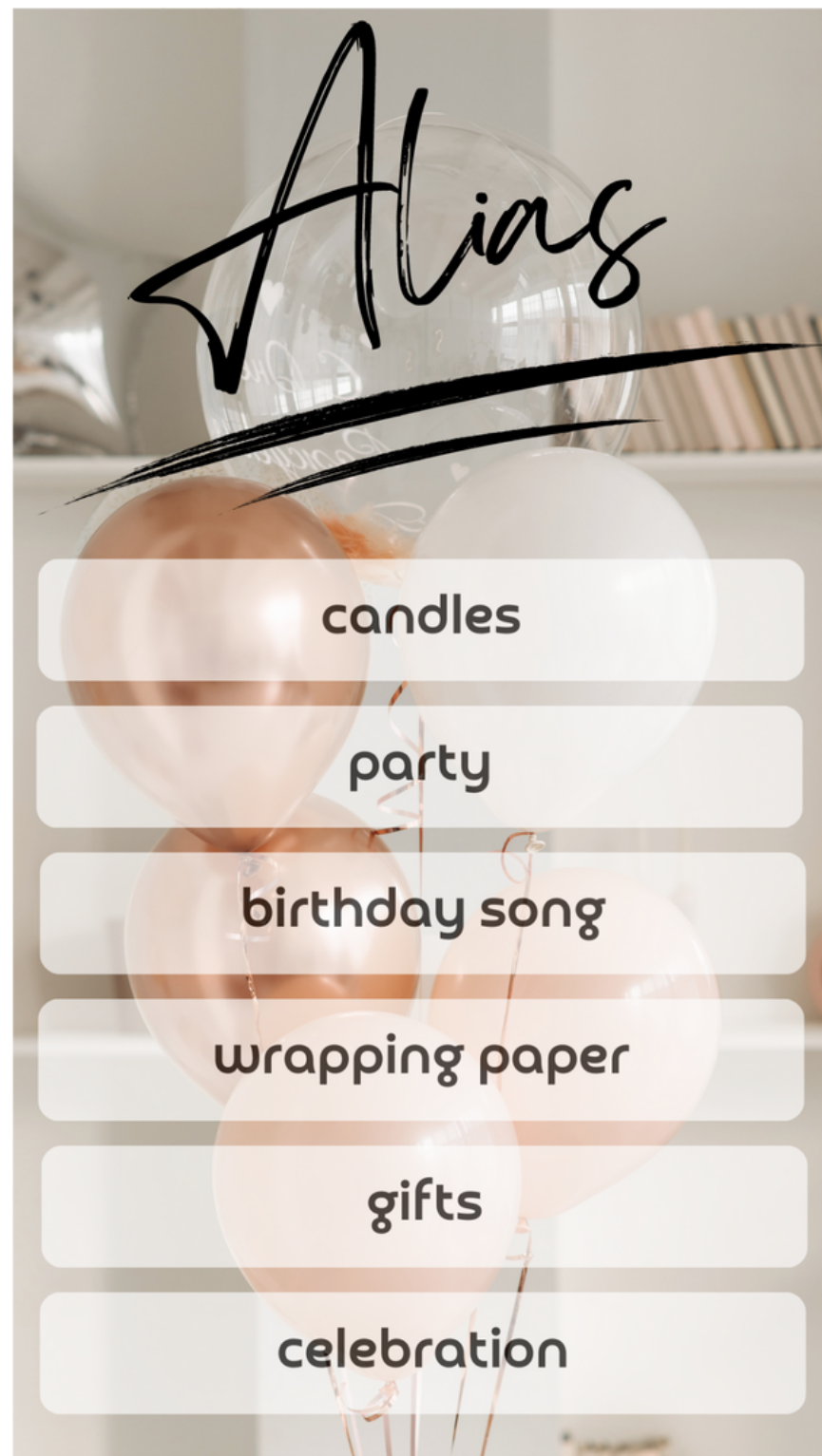
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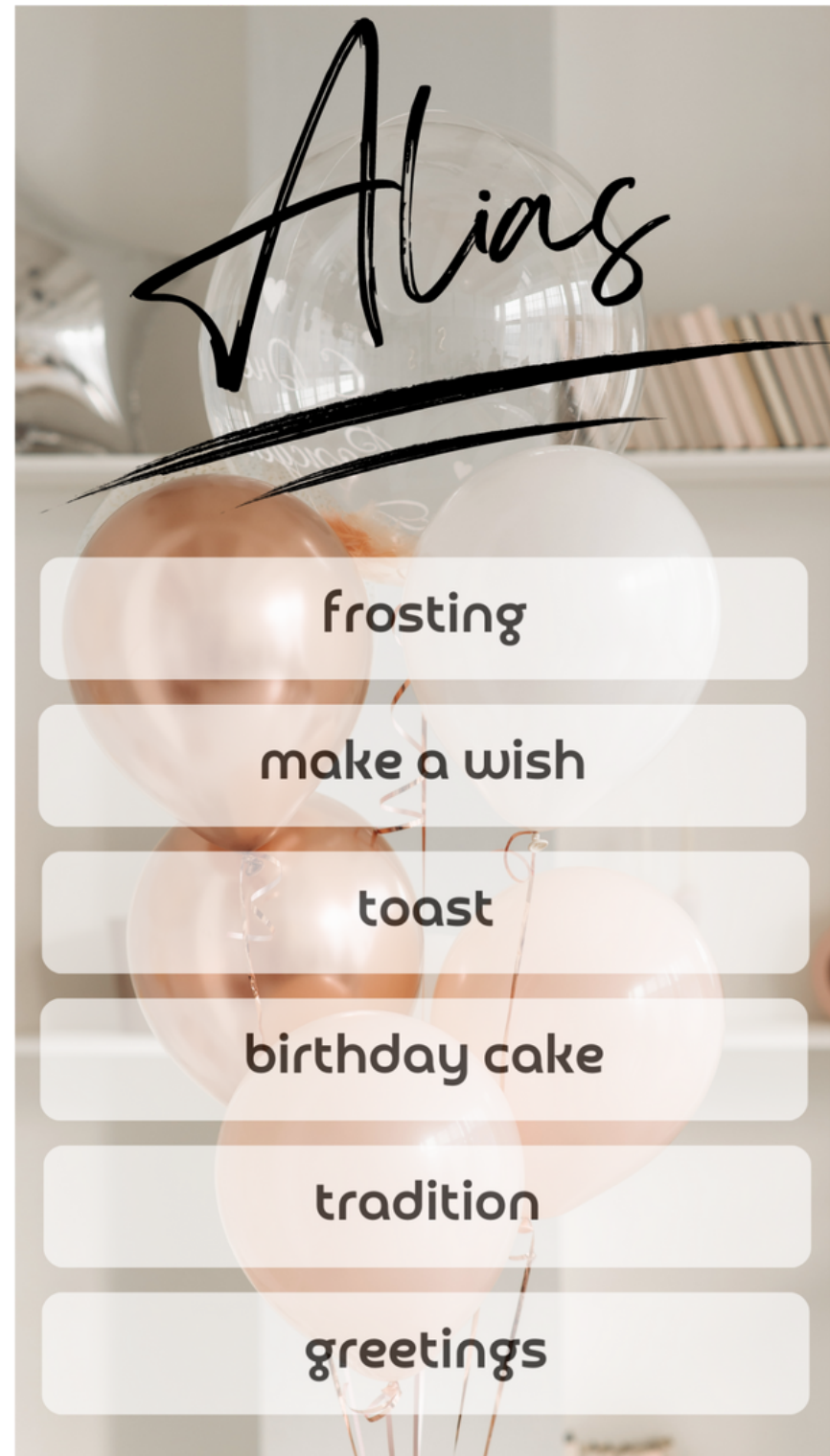
# LET'S HAVE FUN!



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# LET'S HAVE FUN!



*Alias*

memory

photographs

growing older

special day

invitation

disco ball







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