

At Johnson County, historical society:



Inside the Johnson County Historical Society Museum, surrounded by local artifacts.

Kenan: Wow! This museum is fascinating! I did not know that Johnson County had such rich history.

Ibrahim: Of course. The historical society works hard to preserve and share their heritage. Are you aware of the fact that, they also manage historic sites like Plum Grove Historic Home (PGHH) and the Coralville School house?

Kenan: I'd love to visit the Plum Grove Historic Home. I wonder what kind of collection do they have?

Ibrahim: They have everything from old farm directories and aerial photographs to personal collections from local families. You can even make an appointment to access their archives for research.

Kenan: That's impressive, how do people in Johnson County usually connect with their history?

Ibrahim: Many local people attend events or volunteer at the museum. Schools often bring students here for field trips. It is a productive way to make the community alive by passing from one generation to the other.

Kenan: Are there any events coming up?

Ibrahim: There are always seasonal programs and sometimes joint events with the Antique Car Museum. It's a great way to experience both local history and classic Americana.

Discussion Prompts:

What historical sites are important in your home country?

How do museums help communities understand their past?

At Downtown City Festival.



During the annual Iowa Arts Festival in the pedestrian mall, with music and food stands nearby.

Lina: Iowa City feels so lively during the summer! There are so many festivals.

Sam: Yes, the Summer of the Arts program is a big part of our culture. We have the Jazz Festival, Arts Festival, and free Friday night concerts right here in the Ped Mall.

Lina: I heard there's also a Book Festival?

Sam: That's right. Iowa City is actually a UNESCO City of Literature. The Iowa Writers' Workshop is world-famous, and the Book Festival brings authors from all over the world.

Lina: What about other kinds of art?

Sam: We have the Englert Theatre for live performances, Riverside Theatre for plays, and FilmScene for independent movies. There's also the Mission Creek Festival, which blends music, literature, and community events.

Lina: It seems like there's something for everyone.

Sam: Exactly. Plus, our community celebrates diversity with events like Pride Month and Juneteenth, which include concerts, food, and activities for all ages.

Discussion Prompts:

Which type of festival would you most like to attend? Why?

How does celebrating literature and the arts shape a community's identity?