Turkey, New Year's Day.

**Man:** So, uh... tell me, what holidays are there in the winter in Turkey?

**Woman:** Oh, the highlight of the winter is New Year's Day. (Oh.) We celebrate the end of the year that has passed and the beginning of the new year. Starting a few weeks before, people send greeting cards for the coming of the new year. We give each other small gifts. The main event is a big meal where the whole family gets together. And... uh... the TV channels broadcast their best programs, so... uh... we watch a lot of television. Ha-ha. Lots of people go out to clubs and restaurants, where they sing and dance all night.

**Man:** Oh, that's great. So, all of this happens on New Year's Day, o-on January 1st?

**Man:** OK.

**Woman:** The young men mostly wear suits, but the young women wear a special traditional kimono bought or rented for the occasion. After the ceremonies, everyone begins partying together.

**Man:** Nice.

**Woman:** And they stay up all night having fun.

**Man:** And what's the date of this holiday?

**Woman:** It's not a fixed date – it's on the second Monday in January. We spend the whole weekend getting ready for it!

Mexico, Day of the Dead.

**Woman:** So, ah... what's the most important holiday in Mexico?

**Man:** Oh, without a doubt, the Day of the Dead.

**Woman:** The Dead? Wow, uh... that sounds depressing!

**Man:** Not at all – it's a whole lot of fun. It's based on an old belief that the souls of the dead people visit Earth for one day each year – and the living people welcome them. There's a big parade where people wear skull masks and dress as skeletons. Children get candy in the shapes of skulls. It sounds depressing, but it's actually a very happy and peaceful day. At the end of the day, everyone has a big meal. And then we stay up for the rest of the night partying – there's lots of singing, and everyone dances.

**Woman:** Wow, when do you celebrate this holiday?

**Man:** It's the 1st of November.

**Woman:** Oh.