



# Lei Day

## SYMBOLS



### READING COMPREHENSION

NO-PREP &

EDITABLE



**LEI DAY SYMBOLS**

Lei Day in Hawaii is a celebration for many reasons, where the giving and receiving of leis serves as powerful expressions of love, friendship, and cultural identity. Each element of the lei holds significance, from the choice of materials to the manner in which it is given. Join us as we explore the symbols of Lei Day and uncover the deeper meanings behind the beloved Hawaiian tradition.

**FLOWERS**  
Flowers are the most visible symbol of the lei, representing love, friendship, and the beauty of nature. Each flower carries its own symbolism, with popular choices including the fragrant plumeria, which represents unity and new beginnings, and the vibrant hibiscus, which symbolizes passion and love. The choice of flowers is often a reflection of the giver's personality and the occasion.

**LEAVES**  
Leaves are another essential element of the lei, providing a lush green backdrop for the flowers. The type of leaf used is also significant, with the 'ohia leaf being particularly favored for its durability and pleasant scent. In ancient times, leaves were used for medicinal purposes and as natural dyes, highlighting their versatility and importance in Hawaiian culture.

**SHELL**  
Shells are prized for their beauty and unique patterns. The abundant seashells that surround the islands carry their own symbolism, with cowrie shells representing good luck and prosperity, and pauahi shells symbolizing strength and protection.

**SYMBOLS**

What is the meaning of this symbol?

What is the significance of this symbol?

What is the meaning of this symbol?

What is the significance of this symbol?

What is the meaning of this symbol?

What is the significance of this symbol?

READING COMPREHENSION  
MCQ'S  
QUESTIONS  
ANSWER KEY

## READING PASSAGES WITH TEXT DEPENDENT QUESTIONS

Ready to Print &  
Editable



### LEI DAY SYMBOLS

Lei Day in Hawaii is a celebration rich in symbolism, where the giving and receiving of leis serve as powerful expressions of aloha, friendship, and cultural identity. Each element of the lei holds significance, from the choice of materials to the manner in which it is given. Join us as we delve into the symbolism of Lei Day and uncover the deeper meanings behind this beloved Hawaiian tradition.



#### FLOWERS

Flowers are the quintessential symbol of the lei, representing beauty, love, and the fleeting nature of life. Each flower carries its own symbolism, with popular choices including the fragrant plumeria, which symbolizes positivity and new beginnings, and the vibrant hibiscus,

which represents joy and happiness. By incorporating flowers into their leis, Hawaiians honor the natural beauty of the islands and express their connection to the land and its bounty.

#### LEAVES

Leaves are another common element of the lei, symbolizing growth, resilience, and the cycle of life. Ti leaves, in particular, hold special significance in Hawaiian culture, with their vibrant green color representing prosperity and good fortune. In ancient times, ti leaves were used for medicinal purposes and spiritual rituals, and today they are often included in leis as a symbol of protection and blessings.



#### SHELL

Shells are prized for their beauty and uniqueness, symbolizing the ocean and the abundant marine life that surrounds the Hawaiian islands. Each shell carries its own symbolism, with cone shells representing protection, cowrie shells symbolizing wealth and prosperity, and puka shells signifying peace and tranquility.

#### FEATHERS

Feathers are a traditional element of Hawaiian lei, symbolizing the connection between the physical and spiritual worlds. In ancient Hawaiian culture, feathers were highly prized for their beauty and rarity, and were used to adorn sacred objects and garments worn by chiefs and priests. Today, feathers are often included in leis as a symbol of honor, wisdom, and ancestral heritage, connecting the wearer to their roots and cultural identity.



#### GIVING AND RECEIVING

Perhaps the most significant symbol of Lei Day is the act of giving and receiving a lei, which embodies the spirit of aloha and the values of generosity, hospitality, and mutual respect. When giving a lei, it is customary to present it with a warm embrace and a kiss on the cheek, while the recipient accepts the lei with gratitude and humility. This exchange of aloha creates a bond between the giver and receiver, fostering a sense of connection and unity.

#### CONCLUSION

Lei Day is a celebration rich in symbolism, where each element of the lei carries deep cultural and spiritual significance. From the beauty of the flowers to the symbolism of shells and feathers, every aspect of the lei reflects the values and traditions of Hawaiian culture. As we honor Lei Day, let us embrace the symbolism of the lei and the spirit of aloha, spreading love, joy, and unity wherever we go.

## READING COMPREHENSION

COLORED & B/W  
VERSIONS INCLUDED

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## LEI DAY SYMBOLS

DIRECTIONS: CHOOSE THE CORRECT ANSWER.

1. What does the giving and receiving of leis symbolize?  
A) Generosity and hospitality  
B) Wealth and prosperity  
C) Protection and blessings  
D) Tranquility and peace
2. Which flower represents positivity and new beginnings in a lei?  
A) Plumeria  
B) Hibiscus  
C) Orchid  
D) Rose
3. What do ti leaves symbolize in Hawaiian culture?  
A) Growth and resilience  
B) Protection and blessings  
C) Wealth and prosperity  
D) Joy and happiness
4. What do shells symbolize in a lei?  
A) Growth and resilience  
B) Protection and blessings  
C) Connection to the ocean  
D) Joy and happiness
5. What is the significance of feathers in Hawaiian leis?  
A) Connection between physical and spiritual worlds  
B) Beauty and uniqueness  
C) Representation of new beginnings  
D) Symbol of prosperity

### SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS

1. What does the giving and receiving of leis symbolize?
2. What flower represents positivity and new beginnings in a lei?
3. What do ti leaves symbolize in Hawaiian culture?
4. What is the significance of shells in a lei?
5. How is the act of giving and receiving a lei described?

5. How is the act of giving and receiving a lei described?

- A) With a handshake
  - B) With a warm embrace and a kiss on the cheek
  - C) With a bow
  - D) With a high-five
2. What is the primary symbol of lei in Hawaiian culture?
- A) Flowers
  - B) Leaves
  - C) Shells
  - D) Giving and receiving lei
3. Which element of the lei represents the ocean?
- A) Plumeria
  - B) Hibiscus
  - C) Shells
  - D) Feathers
4. What do shells symbolize in a lei?
- A) Connection to the land
  - B) Connection to the ocean
  - C) Growth and resilience
  - D) Protection and blessings
5. What values are associated with the act of giving and receiving a lei?
- A) Generosity, hospitality, and mutual respect
  - B) Wealth and prosperity
  - C) Joy and happiness
  - D) Protection and blessings

## ANSWER KEY

MCQ'S

1. A) Generosity and hospitality
  2. A) Plumeria
  3. B) Protection and blessings
  4. C) Connection between physical and spiritual worlds
  5. B) With a warm embrace and a kiss on the cheek
7. C) Giving and receiving lei
4. C) Shells
4. B) Connection to the ocean
5. A) Generosity, hospitality, and mutual respect
5. B) Wealth and prosperity
5. C) Joy and happiness
5. D) Protection and blessings

### SHORT-ANSWER QUESTIONS

1. Generosity and hospitality
2. Plumeria
3. Protection and blessings
4. Connection between physical and spiritual worlds
5. With a warm embrace and a kiss on the cheek.

ANSWER KEY  
INCLUDED

10 - MCQ'S & 5  
QUESTIONS

**READY TO PRINT**

**NO-PREP !**

**JUST PRINT AND GO!**



**EASY EDITING**

**EDITABLE**

**\* FONTS ARE EMBEDDED FOR CONVENIENCE**

