

S.Q.Khasanova N.I.Salimova

## *HOLIDAYS AND TRADITIONS OF THE ENGLISH SPEAKING COUNTRIES*



Navoi-2013

## Кириш

Олий ўқув юртлари, касб-хунар коллежлари, академик лицейлар ва умумтаълим мактаблари ўқув дастурларида инглиз забон мамлакатлар: Буюк Британия, Америка Қўшма Штатлари, Канада, Австралия ва Янги Зеландиянинг тарихи, географияси, давлат тизими, таълим тизими, байрам ва урф-одатлари, ҳаёт тарзини кенг ўргатиш киритилган.

Хорижий тилни ўргатишда ўша халқнинг маданиятининг ўрганилиши катта аҳамият касб этади. Халқнинг маданияти эса унинг байрам ва урф-одатлари – давлат миқёсида кенг нишонланадиган оммавий байрамлар, халқ орасида нишонланадиган байрамлар, урф-одатлар, ирим-сиримлар, тўйлар, фестиваллар ва ярмаркаларида акс этади.

Инглиз тилини ўрганаётган, ҳамда инглиз тили ва адабиёти таълим йўналишида таълим олаётган талабаларга мамлакатшунослик ва маданиятлараро мулоқотга ўргатиш учун мўлжалланган ушбу “Holidays and traditions in English – speaking countries” номли услубий қўлланма ўқувчи ва талабаларни инглиз забон мамлакатларнинг байрам ва урф-одатлари, давлат миқёсида кенг нишонланадиган оммавий байрамлар, халқ орасида нишонланадиган байрамлар, урф-одатлар, ирим-сиримлар, тўйлар, фестиваллар ва ярмаркалар билан таништиради. Мазкур услубий қўлланмада ўқув дастурлари ва режалари асосида ўтиляётган инглиз тили дарсларида қўшимча манбалар, аниқ маълумотлар ёритиб берилган. Бундан ташқари, матн асосида топшириқлар ва янги сўзлар таржимаси ҳам киритилган. Ушбу қўлланма кенг китобхонлар оммаси мактаблар, академик лицейлар ва касб-хунар коллежларининг ўқувчилари, олий ўқув юртларининг барча

таълим йўналишларидаги мутахассислик ва нолисоний гуруҳларида ҳамда мустақил ўрганувчилар учун мўлжалланган.

## ***PUBLIC HOLIDAYS AND CELEBRATIONS OF GREAT BRITAIN***

<p><b>January</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 1st New Year's Day</li><li>• 5th Twelfth Night</li></ul> <p><b>February</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 1st Candlemas Day</li><li>• 14th Valentine's Day</li></ul> <p><b>March</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 1st St David's Day (Wales National Day)</li><li>• 17th St. Patrick's Day (Ireland's Special Day)</li></ul> <p><b>March/April</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Shrove Tuesday</li><li>• Lent</li><li>• Mothering Sunday</li><li>• Maundy Thursday</li><li>• Easter</li></ul> <p><b>April</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 1st April Fool's Day</li><li>• 23rd St George's Day (England's National Day)</li></ul> <p><b>May</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 1st May Day</li></ul>	<p><b>June</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Trooping the Colours</li><li>• Wimbledon Tennis Tournament</li></ul> <p><b>July</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Swan Upping</li></ul> <p><b>August</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Notting Hill Carnival</li></ul> <p><b>September</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Harvest Festival</li></ul> <p><b>October</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 31st Halloween</li></ul> <p><b>November</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 5th Bonfire Night</li><li>• 11th Remembrance Day</li><li>• 30th St Andrew's Day (Scotland's National Day)</li></ul> <p><b>December</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 25th Christmas</li><li>• 26th Boxing Day</li></ul>
--	--

## *Public holidays*

There are only six public holidays a year in Great Britain, the days on which people need not go in to work. They are: Christmas Day, Boxing Day, Good Friday, Easter Monday, Spring Bank Holiday and Late Summer Bank Holiday. In Scotland, the New Year's Day is also a public holiday. Most of these holidays are of religious origin, though it would be right to say that for the greater part of the population they have long lost their religious significance and are simply days on which people relax, eat, drink and make merry. All the public holidays, except Christmas Day and Boxing Day observed on December 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> respectively, are movable; they do not fall on the same day each year. Good Friday and Easter Monday depend on Easter Sunday which falls on the first Sunday after a full moon on or after March 21<sup>st</sup>. The Spring Bank Holiday falls on the last Monday of May or on the first Monday of June, while the Late Summer Bank Holiday comes on the last Monday in August or on the first Monday in September, depending on which of the Mondays is nearer to June 1<sup>st</sup> and September 1<sup>st</sup> respectively.

Besides public holidays, there are other festivals, anniversaries and simply days, for example Pancake Day and Bonfire Night, on which certain traditions are observed, but unless they fall on a Sunday, they are ordinary working days.

## *Active vocabulary*

religious—диний- религиозный  
significance-ахамият - значение  
movable-ўзгарувчан - подвижный  
a full moon —тўлин ой - полнолуние  
respectively- соответственно

## **NEW YEAR**

*In England* the New Year is not as widely or as enthusiastically observed as Christmas. Some people ignore it completely and go to bed at the same time as usual on New Year's Eve. Many others, however, do celebrate it in one way or another, the type of celebration varying very much according to the local custom, family traditions and personal taste.

The most common type of celebration is a New Year party, either a family party or one arranged by a group of young people. This usually begins at about eight o'clock and goes on until the early hours of the morning. There is a lot of drinking, mainly beer, wine, gin and whisky; sometimes the hosts

make a big bowl of punch which consists of wine, spirits, fruit juice and water in varying proportions. There is usually a buffet of cold meat, pies, sandwiches, savouries, cakes and biscuits. At midnight the wireless is turned on, so that everyone can hear the chimes of Big Ben, and on the hour a toast is drunk to the New Year. Then the party goes on.

Another popular way of celebrating the New Year is to go to a New Year's dance. Most hotels and dance halls hold a special dance on New Year's Eve. The hall is decorated, there are several different bands and the atmosphere is very gay.

The most famous celebration is in London round the statue of Eros in Piccadilly Circus where crowds gather and sing and welcome the New Year. In Trafalgar Square there is also a big crowd and someone usually falls into the fountain.

Those who have no desire or no opportunity to celebrate the New Year themselves can sit and watch other people celebrating on television. It is an indication of the relative unimportance of the New Year in England that the television producers seem unable to find any traditional English festivities for their programmers and usually show Scottish ones.

January 1<sup>st</sup>, New Year's Day, is not a public holiday, unfortunately for those who like to celebrate most of the night. Some people send New Year cards and give presents but this is not a widespread custom. This is the traditional time for making "New Year resolutions", for example, to give up smoking, or to get up earlier. However, these are generally more talked about than put into practice.

Also on New Year's Day the "New Year Honours List" is published in the newspapers; i.e. a list of those who are to be given honours of various types – knighthoods, etc.

***In London*** crowds usually gather round the statue of Eros in Piccadilly Circus and welcome the New Year.

There are some traditions on New Year's Day. One of them is the old First Footing. The first man to come into the house is very important. The Englishman believes that he brings luck. This man (not a woman) must be healthy, young, pretty looking. He brings presents-bread, a piece of coal or a coin. On the New Year's Day families watch the old year out and the New Year in.

***In Scotland*** Hogmanay is a Scottish name for New Year's Eve, and is a time for merrymaking, the giving of presents and the observance of the old custom of First – Footing.

Throughout Scotland, the preparations for greeting the New Year start with a minor "spring-cleaning". Brass and silver must be glittering and fresh linen must be put on the beds. No routine work may be left unfinished; stockings must be darned, tears mended, clocks wound up, musical

instruments tuned, and pictures hung straight. In addition, all outstanding bills are paid, overdue letters written and borrowed books returned. At least, that is the idea!

Most important of all, there must be plenty of good things to eat. Innumerable homes “reek of celestial grocery” – plum puddings and currant buns, spices and cordials, apples and lemons, tangerines and toffee. In mansion and farmhouse, in suburban villa and city tenement, the table is spread with festive fare. Essential to Hogmanay are “cakes and kebbuck” (oatcakes and cheese), shortbread, and either black bun or currant loaf. There are flanked with bottles of wine and the “mountain dew” that is the poetic name for whisky.

### *Active vocabulary*

local custom-махаллийурф-одат- местная традиция  
enthusiastically-ishtiyobilan – сэнтузиазмом  
gin and whisky- jinvaviski- джинивиски  
chimes of Big Ben – перезвоны Биг Бен  
knighthoods-рыцарство  
merry-making-хурсандчилик-веселье  
entertainment-овунчоқ–развлечение

### *Answer the following questions.*

1. How do people celebrate New Year in England?
2. Where do people in London usually gather to welcome New Year?
3. Why the first man, coming into the house is very important?
4. What is a Scottish name for New Year’s Eve?

### *Twelfth Night*

Twelfth Night is a holiday on January 5 that marks the 12th and final night of the Christmas season. Twelfth Night is the eve before the twelfth day of Christmas or the Epiphany celebration, which commemorates the adoration of the Magi before the infant Jesus.

In Tudor England, the Twelfth Night marked the end of a winter festival that started on All Hallows Eve--which we now celebrate as Halloween. A King or Lord of Misrule would be appointed to run the Christmas festivities, and the Twelfth Night was the end of his period of rule. The common theme was that the normal order of things was reversed. This Lord of Misrule



tradition can be traced back to pre-Christian European festivals such as the Celtic festival of Samhain and the Ancient Roman festival of Saturnalia.

After Twelfth Night the Carnival season starts, which lasts through Mardi Gras. In some places such as New Orleans, Louisiana, the night of January 6 with the first Carnival celebrations is called Twelfth Night.

Food and drink are the center of the celebrations in modern times, and all of the most traditional ones go back many centuries. The punch called wassail is consumed especially on Twelfth Night, but throughout Christmas time, especially in the UK. Around the world, special pastries, such as the tortell and king cake are baked on Twelfth Night, and eaten the following day for the Feast of the Epiphany celebrations. In English and French custom, the Twelfth-cake was baked to contain a bean and a pea, so that those who received the slices containing them should be designated king and queen of the night's festivities.

### ***Active vocabulary***

aneve–arafa- канун

commemorate–bayramqilish -праздновать

infant Jesus–chaqaloq- младенецИисус

apunch–zarba-удар

to contain- содержать

### ***Answer the following questions.***

1. When do people celebrate Twelfth Night holiday?
2. What is the punch name, which is consumed especially on Twelfth Night?
3. What is Twelfth-cake like?
4. Who should be designated king or queen of the night's festivities?
5. What are the other names of Twelfth Night holiday?

## ***CandlemasDay***

Candlemas is a traditional Christian festival that commemorates the ritual purification of Mary forty days after the birth of her son Jesus. On this day, Christians remember the presentation of Jesus Christ in the Temple. Forty days after the birth of a Jewish boy, it was the custom to take him to the temple in Jerusalem to be presented to God by his thankful parents.



In pre-Christian times, this day was known as the 'Feast of Lights' and celebrated the increase strength of the life-giving sun as winter gave way to spring.

This ancient festival marks the midpoint of winter, halfway between the shortest day and the spring equinox.

People believe that Candlemas Day predicted the weather for the rest of the winter. The weather proverbs express the idea that a fine bright sunny Candlemas Day means that there is more winter to come, whereas a cloudy wet stormy Candlemas Day means that the worst of winter is over.

This day also used to have great significance in the rural calendar, because the date lays half way between the winter solstice and the spring equinox, so it marks the day upon which winter is half over!

It was the day of the year when all the candles, that were used in the church during the coming year, were brought into church and a blessing was said over them - so it was the Festival Day (or 'mass') of the Candles.

In America the same story is told about the groundhog or woodchuck.

### ***Active vocabulary***

purification-tozalamoq-очистка

temple-храм-

equinox-равноденствие

solstice-солнцестояние

crop-hosil- урожай

### ***Answer the following questions.***

1. What does Candlemas Day commemorate?
2. What do people predict on Candlemas Day?
3. What does a cloudy wet stormy Candlemas Day mean?
4. What does this day also have great significance in?
5. Where did people bring all used candles?

### ***Weather Proverbs***

If Candlemas Day be fair and bright  
Winter will have another fight.  
If Candlemas Day brings cloud and rain,  
Winter won't come again.

If Candlemas Day be dry and fair,  
The half o the winter's to come and mair;  
If Candlemas Day be wet and foul,  
The half o the winter's gane at Yule.

### *Farmer's Proverbs*

'A farmer should, on Candlemas Day,  
Have half his corn and half his hay.'

'On Candlemas Day if the thorns hang adrop,  
You can be sure of a good pea crop.'

### *Valentine`s Day*

Valentine's Day is celebrated in the memory of Saint Valentine, the Christian martyr who gave his life in the honor of love. King Claudius decapitated Saint Valentine in 269 A.D. for performing illegal marriages of Roman soldiers, who were apparently barred from marrying. Almost two centuries later, in 496 A.D., Pope Gelasius resolved to honor this sacrifice by observing February 14 as a feast day, without little thought or idea on the kind of consequence it would have on the entire world 1,500 years later. Today, Saint Valentine has come to be regarded as the patron of love, and Valentine's Day, the ultimate jubilation for lovers. Valentine's Day, the festival of love, is celebrated across the globe. Flowers, cards, gifts and celebrations are integral parts of this special occasion. Although the celebrations are more or less the same everywhere, some countries have exclusive V-day traditions unique to them. And, U.K is no exception! In Britain, this wonderful day is not only celebrated by youngsters and lovers, but also by the kids. Children sing special songs and are generously rewarded for this. This is also a day to savor special Valentine buns baked with caraway seeds, plums or raisins. Read on to discover more about Valentine's Day tradition in Britain.

Although cards, flowers and chocolates make an indispensable part of V-day celebrations, the British like to celebrate this day in their own unique way. It's a V-day tradition in Britain to pen quixotic verses, lyrics and sonnets as a tribute to the icon of love, Saint Valentine. On this day, all the wild-eyed lovers come together and scribble poetic lines to commemorate the occasion.

Songs are the fun part of all celebrations and a day as special as Valentine's Day is no different. On this day, the English people, especially the kids dole out their favorite romantic tracks or love ballads and are generously rewarded with candies, toys and truffles, in return.

On Valentine's Day, the young girls wake up early in the morning, stand near the window, and keep an eye on the people passing by. There is a long-existing belief in Britain that the first man a girl sees on the morning of Valentine's Day is the man meant for her.

There is this legendary belief among the people of U.K. that on 14th of February, birds come together to find their mates. Thanks to Geoffrey Chaucer, this belief has come to be an indispensable part of Valentine's Day legend today. In certain parts of U.K., Valentine's Day is commemorated as 'Birds Wedding Day'. It is a custom to eat baked buns topped with caraway seeds, plums and raisins on this day.

In the United Kingdom Valentine's Day marks the end of winter and **commencement** of spring. Hence, this day is **rejoiced** with great jubilation. Apart from the customary tradition of penning verses, people exchange cozy moments, cute gifts and cards to bring in the day.

Valentine's traditions in U.K. may vary from the rest of the world. However, that doesn't take away from the people and the celebration its unique appeal and significance.

### *Active vocabulary*

martyr-мученик

barred-taqiqlangan- запрещенный

sacrifice- o`lja - жертва

consequence-meros-последствие

jubilation-ликование

raisins-mayiz- изюм

indispensable-ma`suliyatlik- обязательный

to rejoice-xursand qilmoq-радова

cozy-qulay-удобный

### *Answer the following questions.*

1. In the honor of whom Valentine's Day is celebrated?
2. When this holiday is celebrated?
3. In what country this wonderful day is celebrated also by the kids?
4. Why do the girls in Britain stand near the window, and keep an eye on the people passing by?
4. What is the legendary belief among the people of Britain on the 14th of February about?

## *St. David's Day*

St. David is the patron saint of Wales. March 1 is a day of celebration of both St David's life and of the Welsh culture in Wales and in countries such as Canada and the United States. Many people attend special church services, parades, choral recitals or Welsh literature readings. Schools plan celebrations, often involving choirs, on the day. Many people pin a daffodil or leek to their clothes and some, especially children, wear traditional costumes.



The Welsh flag, a red dragon on a white and green background, is displayed prominently and a festive mood prevails. Children, particularly girls, and some adults wear traditional costume. Other people may pin a daffodil or a leek to their clothes as these are symbols of Wales. The traditional meal on St David's Day is crawl. This is a soup that is made of leek and other locally grown produce.

St David's Day is not a public holiday in the United Kingdom or countries such as Canada and the United States. Therefore government offices, schools, post offices and businesses are open.

However, it is a day of celebration so many schools, institutions and even businesses will have a special program for the day. Some villages and towns hold special parades so there may be some local disruption to traffic or public transport.

St. David plays a very important role in Welsh culture but little is known about his life. It is believed that he lived to be 100 years old and that he died in 589, but the first texts on his life only appeared around five hundred years after his death. This means that it is difficult to tell which aspects of the St David's story are true and which are legend. He was supposed to have been very gentle and physically strong and tall despite eating a frugal diet. His parents were Saint, the grandson of a prince of Ceredigion in south-west Wales, a niece of the legendary King Arthur.

St. David travelled widely throughout Wales, Cornwall in the south-west of England, Brittany in France and possibly to Ireland and Jerusalem. He founded several churches and a monastery in Wales and eventually became an archbishop. St David was canonized in 1120 and March 1 was included in the church calendar as St David's Day. People started making pilgrimages to St. David's monastery after he was canonized. A cathedral still stands on its original site.

### *Active vocabulary*

patron – sulton -покровитель  
daffodil – nargis-нарцисс  
leek – porey piyozi-лук-порей  
prominently – ko'zga tashlanadigan-бросающийся в глаза  
prevail – g'alaba qilmoq-одержать победу  
disruption – vayron qilmoq -разрушение  
archbishop – arxiyepiskop -архиепископ  
canonize – avliyolar qatoriga qo'shmoq-причислять к лику святых

### *Answer the following questions.*

1. When St.David's Day is celebrated?
2. What do many people do on this holiday?
3. What is the traditional meal on St.David's Day?
4. When did St.David die?
5. Who were St.David's parents?
6. What people start doing after St.David's canonized?

### *St. Patrick's Day*

March 17 is a bank holiday in Northern Ireland. The degree to which people celebrate St Patrick's Day varies according to their religious and political affiliations. Those, who believe that Northern Ireland should remain part of the United Kingdom, do not generally celebrate the day. Those, who believe that Northern Ireland should become part of a United Ireland often, celebrate St Patrick's Day. A large parade is held in Belfast but the level of public funding it receives depends on which political parties control the local council.

St Patrick's Day is not a public holiday in England, Wales or Scotland. In these three parts of the United Kingdom, schools, stores, businesses and other organizations are open as usual. Public transport systems run to their normal timetables. Local events, such as parades, can cause some local disruption to traffic. If you think this may affect you, it is a good idea to check the local press for details.

St Patrick is one of Ireland's patron saints. He is believed to have died on March 17 in or around the year 493. He grew up in mainland Britain, but spent time in Ireland as a young man and later as a missionary. According to popular legend, he is buried under Down Cathedral in Downpatrick, County Down, and banished all snakes from Ireland. However, it is thought that there have been no snakes in Ireland since the last ice age. The “snakes” that St Patrick banished from Ireland, may refer to pagan worshipers of snake gods.

St Patrick's Day was originally a religious occasion to mark the life and work of St Patrick. In 1903 it became a public holiday in the whole of

Ireland. Pubs were not allowed to open on March 17 until the 1970s. It is only recently that St Patrick's Day has become a secular holiday.

### *Active vocabulary*

affiliation – mansublik-принадлежность

banish – haydamoq-изгнать

pagan – dinsiz-атеист

worshipper – dindor-верующий

secular – el-yurtga oid-мирской

### *Answer the following questions.*

1. When is St.Patrick's Day is celebrated?
2. What kind of holiday is St.Patrick's Day?
3. Who was St.Patrick?
4. Where St.Patrick grew up?
5. What happened with him later?

### *Shrove Tuesday (Pancake Day)*

Shrove Tuesday in the United Kingdom is commonly known as Pancake Tuesday. It is a time for people to eat pancakes or participate in pancake races. Pancakes in the United Kingdom have some variations. For example, Welshcakes or light cakes are eaten in Wales while many pancakes in Gloucester are made with suet.



According to Christian tradition, Lent commemorates the 40 days that Jesus spent in the wilderness so observant Christians marked this event by

fasting. Many people used ingredients, such as eggs and milk, to prepare pancakes on Shrove Tuesday prior to the fasting period.

One old English custom associated with Pancake Day was the annual pancake grease at London's Westminster where schoolboys would fight for pancakes to gain monetary awards. Another tradition was Mischief Night, where some people would go into houses in disguise and ask for pancakes. A general article about Shrove Tuesday worldwide covers more information about its background and symbols.

Shrove Tuesday is not a bank holiday in the United Kingdom so public life is not affected. However some local areas, such as the town of Olney, may temporarily close sections of streets or roads for pancake races.

Pancake races have been held in England for more than 500 years. Some sources suggest that they may have started in 1445. People who take part in the pancake races carry thin pancakes in frying pans and must race to the finish, flipping pancakes as they go. The winner is the first to the finish line with a pancake that is not burnt. Some people may take time off work to participate in the pancake races.

The Olney Pancake Race is held at Olney in Buckinghamshire on Shrove Tuesday. It is one of the best known pancake races in the United Kingdom. The course for the Olney Pancake Race is about 415 yards long (about 379 meters). Competitors must wear traditional costumes that include a skirt, apron and head covering to run the race. Official Olney and Liberal prizes are then presented at a Shrivings service in the parish church after the race is finished.

### *Active vocabulary*

shrive – tavba qilmoq-исповедоваться

lent – ro'za-Великийпост

wilderness – cho'l-целина

grease – eritilgan yog'-топлёноемасло

gisguise – niqoblamoq-маскировать

flipping – la'natlangan-проклятый

### *Answer the following questions.*

1. What is the second name of Shrove Tuesday?
2. What people do for this day?
3. How many years Pancake races are hold for?
4. How long was the course for the Olney Pancake Race?
5. What do competitors must do?

### *Lent*

The period offorty fast days and Sundays beforeEasterare known as Lent.

Lent is a Christian Festival. In the past it was a long, strict religious fast when people gave up all rich food. The day before Lent starts is known as Tuesday. It was a time for spring-cleaning lives, as well as homes.

The Christian church no longer imposes a strict fast. Lent is a time when some Christians try to overcome their own faults because they believe that it was man's sin which led Jesus to be crucified.

Some Christians try to follow the example of Jesus in the desert by giving up luxuries and practicing self-discipline. And they try to put aside more time to prayer and religious acts so that they can really let God into their lives.

Many churches hold special Lent services. In some towns the churches of different denominations join together in groups to discuss and share their Christian faith.

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday and lasts for six and a half weeks. Lent ends at Easter when Christians remember the execution of Jesus and then celebrate his rising from death.

Lent is a moveable feast which means the date changes from year to year. We explain more on our Easter main page.

The last week of Lent begins with Palm Sunday, which celebrates the day Jesus entered Jerusalem and the people lay down palms at his feet. The last day of Lent is Holy Saturday, the day before Easter Sunday.

### ***Active vocabulary***

impose – yuklamoq, возлагать

crucify - mihga tortmoq, распять

feast – bayram qilish, праздновать

execution –qatl qilmoq, казнить

### ***Answer the following questions.***

1. What is Lent?
2. What people do in period of Lent?
3. When Lent starts?
4. How long does Lent last?
5. What is Palm Sunday?

### ***Mother's Day***

#### ***(Mothering Day)***

Mothers Day in UK is celebrated with great excitement and verve but it does not fall on the same date as in US. In UK, Mother's Day celebrations takes place on the fourth Sunday in the month of Lent. Since the Lent days are not fixed, the date for mother's Day changes every year.



Mothers Day came to be celebrated in UK in 17th century as Mothering Sunday, much before the custom began in US. Today, the traditional festival of Mothering Sunday is more commonly called as Mothers Day in England and is celebrated in much the same way as it is celebrated in US. On this day children give flowers and bouquets to their mother to express their love for them.

In fact England was the first country in the world to dedicate a day for mothers as early as 1600s. They called this day for mothers as 'Mothering Sunday'. The festival has its roots in the practice wherein poor people in England send their little children to work as domestic servants or apprentice with the rich. At that time it was considered important by the people that these children, staying away from their families be allowed to visit their homes once in a year. The time decided for the annual visit to home was middle Sunday of the fasting period of Lent (which lasts from Ash Wednesday to Easter). For this reason, the day was called 'Refreshment Sunday' or

#### ***Mid-Lent Sunday.***

In England the day dedicated for mothers was more commonly called Mothering Sunday as people, mainly children visited their 'Mother Church' or the church of their home and not the 'Daughter Church', the closest church in the vicinity. After paying a visit to church, children met their mothers and presented them flowers, which they gathered from bushes along the way. Girls baked special cakes called 'Simmnel Cakes' for their mothers.



The tradition of Mothering Sunday stopped with the advent of Industrial Revolution in England when the working conditions and life pattern changed. Over the period of time one Sunday - 4th Sunday in Lent (3 weeks before Easter) was reserved in the honor of mothers. In the present time, original meaning of Mothering Sunday has been lost and has taken the form and name of MothersDay in US.

Mothers Day is celebrated in a big way in England. Children pay tribute to their mothers and thank them for all their love and support. An atmosphere of excitement prevails on the day and marketers make all efforts to make big profits out of the euphoria. Flowers record their maximum sale as people in England love to express their gratitude for their mothers by gifting those flowers more than anything else. Most popular flowers on Mother's Day in Great Britain are roses followed by carnations and chrysanthemums.

### *Active vocabulary*

verve – kuch-quvvat-сила, энергия  
apprentice – shogird-подмастерье  
vicinity – tevarak atrofdaqi joylar-окрестность  
pattern – misol-образец  
tribute – soliq, ulpon-дань, подношение  
carnation – chinnigul-гвоздика

### *Answer the following questions.*

1. Where and when Mothers Day came to be celebrated?
2. What children do on this day?
3. Why this day was called 'Refreshment Sunday'?
4. What kind of pie girls are usually bake?
5. On what period of time the holiday was reserved?

### *Maundy Thursday*

Maundy Thursday - also called Holy Thursday, is the beginning of the three day celebration of Easter - the most important time in the year for Christians. This period is one big celebration, remembering the last supper, the crucifixion and the death of Jesus, and the Resurrection to new life.

Maundy Thursday commemorates the Last Supper of Jesus Christ with the Apostles. On this day, Christians remember the Last Supper. During the meal Jesus took bread and wine and shared them with his disciples. Christians continue to share bread and wine as part of their worship in church.

The night of Maundy Thursday is the night on which Jesus was betrayed by Judas in the Garden of Gethsemane.

The name 'Maundy' is derived from the Latin word “mandatum”, meaning a commandment. Jesus Christ, at the Last Supper, commanded:

During the Last Supper, Jesus washed his disciples' feet. This act has sometimes been followed literally in history as a good way of reminding rulers that they are here to serve their subjects.

In England, the custom of washing feet by the Monarch was carried out until 1689. Up until then the King or Queen would wash the feet of the poor on Maundy Thursday in Westminster Abbey. Food and clothing were also handed out to the poor.

Every year on this day, the Queen attends a Royal Maundy service in one of the many cathedrals throughout the country. 'Maundy money' is distributed to male and female pensioners from local communities near the Cathedral where the Service takes place. Maundy coins are specially minted for the occasion and are legal tender and, as they are produced in such limited numbers, they are much sought after by collectors.



Yeomen of the Guards carry the Maundy money in red and white leather purses on golden alms trays on their heads.

The money in the red purse is money in lieu of food and clothing while the money in the white purse is the Maundy coins.



In 2009, each recipient was given two purses – a red purse containing a £5 coin celebrating the 500th anniversary of the Accession of Henry VIII and a 50p coin to mark the founding of Kew Gardens, and a white purse containing 83p in Maundy coins because the Queen was 83 years old this year.

### *Active vocabulary*

resurrection – qayta tirilmoq-воскреснуть

disciple – izdosh-последователь

worship – sajdaqilish-поклоняться

betray – xiyonatqilmoq-предавать

literally – so'zma so'z-буквально, дословно

### *Answer the following questions.*

1. What is Maundy Thursday?
2. When is Maundy Thursday?
3. What is the origin of the name Maundy?
4. What once happened in England on Maundy Thursday?
5. What is Maundy Money?

### *Easter*

Easter in Britain had its beginnings long before the arrival of Christianity. Celebrations of spring's renewal probably date back to prehistoric times, and supposedly the word Easter itself derives from the pagan festival of Easter, the Anglo-Saxon goddess of dawn. The hare was said to have been sacred to this goddess, and is supposedly the origin of today's Easter bunnies, though rabbits, because of their fecund reputation, have always been symbols of fertility.

Easter Sunday is a moveable feast, falling anywhere between March 22 and April 25. Its date is calculated in a similar way to that of the Jewish festival of Passover.

Coming as it did after the long fast of Lent, Easter was traditionally a season of feasting. The classic British Easter food is the Easter egg. As an apparently inanimate object which nevertheless contains the source of new life, the egg is an ancient and universal symbol of spring's re-awakening. This symbol was adopted by Christians to signify the Resurrection, and some Christians also regard the egg as a symbol of the stone rolled away from the entrance to Christ's sepulcher. In Britain today chocolate Easter Eggs, often filled with candies, are given to relatives and friends, and especially to children.

Easter bonnets decorated with spring flowers or ribbons originated with parishioners wearing a bright new item of clothing, or perhaps even a complete new outfit, to church on Easter Sunday. Elaborate bonnets and outfits are worn in Easter parades in Britain, including the famous one at Battersea Park in London. Easter Monday is a favorite day for funfairs with rides and roundabouts, one of the oldest traditionally being held on London's Hampstead Heath.

All over the United Kingdom hard-boiled eggs are painted, decorated or dyed, and then concealed around the garden for an Egg Hunt.

On Easter Monday Egg Rolling competitions take place in northern England and Scotland. Hard-boiled eggs are rolled down a slope, and the winner, depending upon local custom, is the one which rolls the furthest, survives the most rolls, or is successfully aimed between two pegs. The best-known event takes place at Avenham Park in Preston, Lancashire.

Hot Cross Buns, now eaten throughout the Easter season, were first baked in England to be served on Good Friday. These small, spicy buns contain raisins or currants and sometimes chopped candied fruit. Before baking, a cross is marked on the top of the bun.

### *Active vocabulary*

inanimate – jonsiz, неодушевленный

signify – ma'noanglatmoq, означать

sepulcher – mozor, могила

elaborate – puxtaqilingan, искусноделанный  
conceal – yashirmoq, скрывать  
slope – nishablik, наклон

***Answer the following questions.***

1. When Easter came to Britain?
2. What is Easter Sunday?
3. What is the classic British Easter Food?
4. What Easter bonnets decorated with?
5. What competitors do on Easter Monday Egg Rolling?

### ***April fool's Day***

April 1<sup>st</sup> is the day people try to trick their friends, to make them behave like fools. Ranging from the elaborate practical joke to the obvious yourzip's undone. If you fall for a prank, the joker gloats "April Fool". No one is exempt until noon, but after that the joking must cease or the prank rebounds on the joker with the rhyme "April fool is gone and past; you're the bigger fool at last." A favorite joke is to send someone on a *fool's errand*, a search for something that does not exist.

In Britain, fooling at this time of year has gone on for centuries; however the origin of the custom still remains obscure. There are several theories to account for it.

One theory is that in Europe, until the sixteenth century, March 25th, the first day of the Vernal Equinox Festival, was New Year's Day. On April 1st, the last day of the festival, people used to give presents to one another. In 1564, Charles IX, the French king, adopting the Gregorian calendar and fixed January 1st as New Year's Day. Those who were against the revision continued to express their complaints by giving presents or paying New Year's visits on April 1st. In the following years, these traditionalists who insisted on celebrating the New Year at its old time were mocked as fools and people would play pranks and tricks on them and called them ` *Poisson d'avril* ', meaning April Fish. This must have been so much fun that it spread all over the world and people played tricks on everyone, not just the people who didn't accept the new calendar.

Other people say it's just a continuation of a festival in honour of the Celtic god of Mirth but most popular belief is that it's a reaction to the change in season and the start of spring. Whatever its origin, making fools of people on this day remains one of the most flourishing of all British customs.

In Scotland, for example, April fool's Day is actually celebrated for two days. The second day is devoted to pranks involving the posterior region of

the body. It is called Taily Day. The origin of the "kick me" sign can be traced to this observance.

### *Famous April fool hoaxes*

Even the television stations and newspapers get in on the act. Some of the more famous April fool's include.

- A report that hawks carrying cameras would be used on the motorways by police to catch speeding motorists.

- A news report about sheep with grass growing on their backs because the weather was so wet.

- Numerous news reports about official sightings of the Loch Ness monster.

- A documentary on Spaghetti was broadcasted a few years ago by the BBC claiming that spaghetti grew on *trees*.

Some companies get in on the act too - BMW run a spoof advert every year.

- A full-page BMW car advertisement was run on 1 April 1986, about their new car for driving between Great Britain and the Continent. It was both left and right hand drive, had pedals on both driver's and passenger's side, had a detachable steering wheel which could go either side and a full set of instruments on each side, the unused one being covered by a lovely walnut panel.

- A mechanism that inflated the car tires automatically was described by BMW one year.

Even the most serious Brits can't resist, the British magazine, *New Scientist*, often puts April fool articles in their issue near the 1st of April. The rest of the magazine would have the correct date at the top of the page, but this page would have "1 April" at the top.

Basically don't believe anything you read, hear or are told on April 1<sup>st</sup>!

### **Active vocabulary**

to exempt – ozod qilmoq; освободить

errand – topshiriq; поручение

obscure – tushunarsiz; непонятный

origin – kelib chiqish; начало, происхождение

to mock – jig'iga tegmoq; дразнить

hoaxe – o'yin qilish; розыгрыш

to resist – qarshilik qilmoq; сопротивляться

to trick – aldamoq; обманывать

### **Answer the following questions.**

1. What is the day of the 1<sup>st</sup> April?
2. What happens if you fall for a prank?
3. What was the day of 25<sup>th</sup> March until the sixteenth century?
4. When was the last day of the Vernal Equinox Festival?
5. How were people, who insisted on celebrating the New Year at its old time, called?
6. How many days is April fool's Day in Scotland celebrated?

### *St. George's Day*

St George's Day in England remembers St George, England's patron saint. The anniversary of his death, which is on April 23, is seen as England's national day. According to legend, he was a soldier in the Roman army who killed a dragon and saved a princess.



Many people in England don't observe nor know when the national day is at all. However, in recent years, celebrating St. George's Day seems to gradually be regaining popularity in England. From the 15th century, St George's Day used to be a national holiday in England, and was celebrated as widely as Christmas. But the celebrations waned by the end of the 18th century after England had united with Scotland on May 1, 1707.

April 23 is not a public holiday. Schools, stores, post offices, businesses and other organizations are open as usual. Public transport services run to their usual timetables.

St. George was born sometime around the year 280 in what is now Turkey. He was a soldier and rose up through the ranks of the Roman army, eventually becoming a personal guard to the Emperor Diocletian. He was executed for being a Christian on April 23, 303, and is buried in the town of Lydda in Israel.

St. George is most widely known for slaying a dragon. According to legend, the only well in the town of Silence was guarded by a dragon. In order to get water, the inhabitants of the town had to offer a human sacrifice every day to the dragon. The person to be sacrificed was chosen by lots.

On the day that St. George was visiting, a princess had been selected to be sacrificed. However, he killed the dragon, saved the princess and gave the people of Silence access to water. In gratitude, they converted to Christianity. It is thought that the dragon represents a certain type of pagan belief that included the sacrifice of human beings.

The most widely recognized symbol of St. George's Day is St. George's cross. This is a red cross on a white background, which is often displayed as a flag. It is used as England's national flag, forming part of the Union Flag, the national flag of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Saint George's cross was originally the flag of the maritime Republic of Genoa. Around 1190, the King of England started paying the Doge of Genoa to protect ships originally from the city of London and the rest of England that sailed in the Mediterranean.

During the crusades in the 1100s and 1200s, English knights used St. George's cross as part of their uniform. It has been the official flag of England for centuries, but the Union Flag, a combination of St. George's cross, St. Andrew's cross and St. Patrick's cross, is the national flag of the United Kingdom. Now Saint George's cross is used as a national symbol by fans of the English national football, rugby and cricket teams. At international matches, flags and scarves bearing this cross are worn and people paint it on their faces. It also has a prominent place on the arms of the City of London and the flags of the city of Barcelona, Spain, and the country of Georgia.

### *Active vocabulary*

anniversary – yillik; годовщина

to regain – yana qaytib kelmoq; сновавернуться

to wane – kamaytirmoq; уменьшаться

to be executed – qatl etilmoq; быть казненным

to slay – o'ldirmoq; убивать

sacrifice – qurbonlik qilish; жертвоприношение

convert – boshqa dinni qabul qilish; обращаться к другому веру

maritime – dengiz buyidagi; приморский

***Answer the following questions.***

1. According to the legend who was St George?
2. What day is St George's Day?
3. When and why did the celebration wane?
4. For what reason was St George executed?
5. According to the legend what did St George do that make him be most widely known?
6. What is the most widely recognized symbol of St George's Day?

***May Day***

As May 1<sup>st</sup> is not a public holiday in Great Britain, May Day celebrations are traditionally held on the Sunday following it, unless, of course, the 1<sup>st</sup> of May falls on a Sunday. On May Sunday workers march through the streets and hold meetings to voice their own demands and the demands of other progressive forces of the country. The issues involved may include demands for higher wages and better working conditions, protests against rising unemployment, demands for a change in the Government's policy, etc.

May Day is the holiday of the first day of the month of May. But before 1752, when the calendar was changed, it was 11 days earlier.

It is the time of year when warmer weather begins and flowers and trees start to blossom. It is said to be a time of love and romance. It is when people celebrate the coming of summer with lots of different customs that are expressions of joy and hope after a long winter.

May Day celebrations have their origins in the Roman festival of Flora, goddess of flowers, which marked the beginning of summer. People decorated their houses and villages with fresh-cut flowers gathered at dawn in the belief that the vegetation spirits would bring good fortune.

May 1<sup>st</sup> was an important day in the Middle Ages. In the very early morning, young girls went into the fields and washed their faces with dew. They believed this made them very beautiful for a year after that. Also, on May Day the young men of each village tried to win prizes with their bows and arrows.

In some places May Day celebrations begin at sunset on 30 April. They include lots of floral decorations and processions through towns and villages.

May is the month for traditional dancing around the maypole. Many English villages still have a maypole, and on May 1<sup>st</sup>, the villagers dance around it.

The original maypoles were freshly felled trees, stripped of their branches, brought into the community and adorned with garlands and ribbons. The Maypole was originally a pagan fertility symbol.

### ***Active vocabulary***

to march – marsh qilib yurmoq; маршировать

to demand – talab; требование

to protest – norozilik bildirmoq; протестовать

to include – qamrab olmoq; включать

wage – ish haqi; заработная плата

to blossom — цвести; распускаться; расцветать

to celebrate — праздновать

festival of Flora — фестиваль богини Флоры

goddess — богиня

vegetation spirit — дух растений

fortune — рок, судьба; предзнаменован

the Middle Ages — Средние века

dew — роса

bow — лук

arrow — стрела

sunset — закат, заход солнца

maypole — майское дерево (украшенный цветами столб, вокруг которого танцуют 1 Мая в Англии)

felled trees — срубленное дерево

to strip — сдирать, обдирать; снимать верхний слой

community — зд. поселок;

to adorn — украшать;

garlands — гирлянды;

ribbons — ленты;

pagan — языческий

fertility — плодородие

### ***Answer the following questions.***

When is May Day celebrated?

What do people celebrate on this day?

Where does May Day take its origins?

How do people organize this festival?

Why was this holiday so important in the Middle Ages?

What is the maypole?

### ***May Spring Festival***

The 1<sup>st</sup> of May has also to some extent retained its old significance — that of a pagan spring festival. In ancient times it used to be celebrated with garlands and flowers, dancing and games on the village green. A Maypole was erected — a tall pole wreathed with flowers, to which in later times ribbons were attached and held by the dancers. The girls put on their best

summer frocks, plaited flowers in their hair and round their waists and eagerly waited the crowning of the May Queen. The most beautiful girl was crowned with a garland of flowers. After this great event Bere was dancing, often Morris dancing, with the dancers dressed in fancy costume, usually representing characters in the Robin Hood legend. May-Day games and sports were followed by refreshments in the open.

This festival was disliked by the Puritans and suppressed during the Commonwealth, 1649 — 60. After the Restoration it was revived but has gradually almost died out. However, the Queen of May is still chosen in most counties, and in many villages school Maypoles are erected around which the children dance. The famous ceremony of the meeting of the 1<sup>st</sup> of May still survives at Oxford, in Magdalene College. At 6 o'clock in the morning the college choir gathers in the upper gallery of the college tower to greet the coming of the new day with song.

### *Active vocabulary*

- to retain – saqlamoq; сохранять
- to wreath - o'ramoq; обвивать
- plait – soch urimi; коса
- waist – hipcha bel; талия
- to suppress - bosmoq; подавлять
- to revive – qaytadan boshlamoq; возобновлять
- choir – xor; хор
- to crown – taxtga o'tqizmoq; короновать

### *Answer the following questions.*

1. What is the day of May Spring Festival?
2. How was this Festival celebrated in ancient time?
3. What did girls do at the Festival?
4. How was the most beautiful girls crowned?
5. Who dislike this Festival and suppressed it?
6. Where does the famous ceremony of the meeting of the 1<sup>st</sup> of May still survive?

### *Trooping the Colours*

The custom of Trooping the Colour dates back to the time of Charles II in the 17th. Century when the Colours of a regiment were used as a rallying point in battle and were therefore trooped in front of the soldiers every day to make sure that every man could recognize those of his own regiment. In London, the Foot Guards used to do this as part of their daily Guard Mounting on Horse Guards and the ceremonial of the modern Trooping the Colour parade is along similar lines. The first traceable mention of The Sovereign's Birthday being 'kept' by the Grenadier Guards is in 1748 and again, after

George III became King in 1760, it was ordered that parades should mark the King's Birthday. From the accession of George IV they became, with a few exceptions and notably the two World Wars, an annual event.



This impressive display of pageantry is now held on the occasion of the Queen's Official Birthday. It takes place in June each year to celebrate the official Birthday of the Sovereign and is carried out by her personal troops, the Household Division, on Horse Guards Parade, with the Queen herself attending and taking the salute.

Since 1987, The Queen has attended in a carriage rather than riding, which she did before that on 36 occasions, riding side-saddle and wearing the uniform of the regiment whose Colour was being trooped. The regiments take their turn for this honour in rotation as operational commitments permit.

Over 1400 officers and men are on parade, together with two hundred horses; over four hundred musicians from ten bands and corps of drums march and play as one. Some 113 words of command are given by the Officer in Command of the Parade. The parade route extends from



Buckingham Palace along The Mall to Horse Guards Parade, Whitehall and back again.

Precisely as the clock on the Horse Guards Building strikes eleven, the Royal Procession arrives and The Queen takes the Royal Salute. The parade begins with the Inspection, The Queen driving slowly down the ranks of all eight Guards and then past the Household Cavalry. After the event, the Royal Family gathers on the balcony of Buckingham Palace to watch an RAF fly-past.

### ***Active vocabulary***

trooping of Colour - bayroq olib chiqish; выносазнамениа

accession – qabul qilmoq; принятие

pageantry – hashamatlik; пышность, блеск

carriage – ekipaj; экипаж

rotation – aylanish; вращение

display – ko'rgazma; выставка

### ***Answer the following questions.***

1. When did the custom of Trooping the colour appear?
2. Who ordered that parades should mark the King's Birthday?
3. On what occasion is this impressive display of pageantry held now?
4. When does it take?
5. How many officers and men are on parade?
6. How does the parade route extend?
7. When does the Royal Procession arrive and the Queen take the Royal Salute?

### ***Wimbledon Tennis Tournament***

The Wimbledon tennis tournament is one of the oldest sporting events in the world. This tournament is formally called: The Championships, Wimbledon. The Wimbledon tournament is held in The All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club. The private club which was founded in the year 1868 was initially known only as The All England Croquet club, which is located in the suburbs of London in a place called Wimbledon. A set of rules and regulations were drawn up for the game and the first game was played in the year 1887 in a ground situated off Worple Road in Wimbledon.

It has been played in the same place ever since. Wimbledon is one of the four major Grand Slam tennis tournaments with the other 3 being the U.S Open, Australian Open and French Open tennis tournaments. While the latter three are played on hard or clay courts, the Wimbledon Championship is the only Grand Slam event that is still being played on a traditional grass court.

The Wimbledon tennis tournament starts towards the end of June and is spread over two weeks, ending in early July. This tournament is the third Grand Slam event that is played each year.

The first championship tournament consisted of just one event: Gentlemen's singles. The first winner in the history of this tournament was Spencer Gore.

The Ladies Singles event and the Gentlemen's doubles event were added to this championship in the year 1884. It was only 36 years later, in the year 1913, the Ladies Doubles event and Mixed Doubles event were added.

Through the years, there have been hardly any changes made to this tournament. There have only been changes made to improve the facilities for the audience, players and other members of the club. Many new buildings were built in addition to extra grass courts and extensive facilities for the players, press officials and the members of the club. The Millennium building today hosts an entrance building, museum, and bank and ticket office.

### *Active vocabulary*

draw up – tuzmoq; составлять

clay – loy; глина

to be located – joylashmoq; находиться

suburb – chekka joy; окраина

### *Answer the following questions.*

1. When was the All England Croquet club founded?
2. Where is it located?
3. Where was first game played?
4. On what court are Australian and French open tennis tournaments played?
5. When does the Wimbledon tennis tournament start?
6. Who was the first winner in the history of this tournament?

### *Swan Upping*

The third week of July, every year within the UK an ancient ceremony takes place on a 70 mile stretch of the River Thames called 'Swan Upping. This is the annual census of the swan population on stretches of the Thames in Middlesex, Buckinghamshire, Berkshire and



Oxfordshire. The ceremony dates from the 12th century and came about when the Crown claimed ownership of all mute swans, because back then swans were regarded as a delicious dish at banquets and feasts, of course today they are no longer eaten. The Crown still retains this ownership right, but only on unmarked swans in open water, but the Queen only exercises this right on certain stretches of the River Thames and its surrounding tributaries.

The Swan Upping Ceremony is carried out by the Queens Swan Marker and the Swan Uppers of the Vintners and Dyers livery companies who jointly own these swans after being granted to the rights of ownership by the Crown in the 15th century. It is a 5 day ceremony where the officials in traditional uniforms and in six traditional Thames rowing double Skiffs, flying the appropriate flags and pennants, row sections of the Thames to carry out this task.

Its purpose is to weigh measure and ring (giving identification numbers) any new cygnets, and to carry out a health check and count of the current Mute Swan population on a 70 mile stretch of the River Thames, through 5 counties. Once the process is complete the swans are set free again. On completion of the 5 days The Queen's Swan Marker produces a report which gives data on the number of swans including broods and cygnet, this data is then used to determine suitable conservation methods and other protections required for the Swans.

The Queens Swan Markers role is to carry out this function during the Swan Upping ceremony, but he is also has other duties including:

- Advisor to other organizations throughout the UK on swan welfare and incidents involving swans
- Monitors the health of local swan populations
- Briefs fishing and boating organizations on how to work with existing wildlife and maintain existing habitats
- Works closely with Swan rescue organizations
- Carries out the rescue of sick and injured swans
- Co-ordinates the temporary removal of swans from stretches of the Thames used for summer rowing regattas.

### *Active vocabulary*

census –ro'yhatga olish; перепись  
to claim – talab qilmoq; требовать  
to grant – taqdim etmoq; предоставлять  
completion – oxirlash; завершение  
to determine – belgilamoq; определять  
welfare – farovonlik; благополучие

*Answer the following questions.*

1. When does a ceremony called “Swan Upping” take place?
2. By who is the Swan Upping Ceremony carried?
3. How long does this Ceremony go on?
  
4. What is the purpose of the ceremony?
5. What is the Queen Swan Markers role during the Swan Upping ceremony?

### *Notting Hill Carnival*

The *Notting Hill Carnival* is an annual event that since 1965 has taken place on the streets of Notting Hill, Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, London, UK each August, over three days (Monday and the two days beforehand).

It is led by members of the West Indian community. The carnival has attracted around one million people in the past years, making it one of the largest street festivals in the world.

The roots of the Notting Hill Carnival come from two separate but connected strands. The Carnival began in January 1959 in St.Pancras Town Hall as a response to the depressing state of race relations at the time. This carnival organized by Claudia Jones, who is widely recognized as "the Mother of the Notting Hill Carnival", was a huge success, despite being held indoors. The other important strand was the "hippie" London Free School-inspired festival that became the first organized outside event in August 1966. The prime mover was Rhaune Laslett, who was not aware of the indoor events when she first raised the idea. This was a more diverse Notting Hill event to promote cultural unity. A street party for neighbourhood children turned into a carnival procession when Russell Henderson's steel band went on a walkabout.

The carnival's traditional starting point has been Emslie Horniman's Pleasance in nearby Ladbroke Grove.

As the carnival had no permanent staff and head office, the Mangrove restaurant in Notting Hill, run by Frank Crichlow, who came to function as an informal communication hub and office address for the carnival's organizers. By 1976, the event had become definitely Caribbean in flavor, with around 150,000 people attending. Prince Charles was one of the few establishment figures who supported the event.

In recent years, the event has been much freer from serious trouble and is generally viewed very positively by the authorities as a dynamic celebration of London's multi-cultural diversity, though dominated by the Caribbean culture in the best traditions of Rio.





But the size of the event resulted in Mayor, Ken Livingstone, setting up a Carnival Review Group to look into "formulating guidelines to safeguard the future of the Carnival". An interim report by the review resulted in a change to the route in 2002. When the full report was published in 2004, it recommended that Hyde Park.

In 2003, the Notting Hill Carnival was run by a limited company, the Notting Hill Carnival Trust Ltd. A report by the London Development Agency on the 2002 Carnival estimated that the event contributes around £93 million to the London and UK economy.

### *Harvest Festival*

Harvest Festival is one of the oldest known festivals. In the UK it is traditionally held on or near the Sunday of the Harvest Moon. This moon is the full moon around the time of the Autumn Equinox in September. Unlike the USA and Canada, the UK does not have a national holiday for Harvest Festival.

The celebration of Harvest in Britain dates back to pre-Christian times when the success of the crop governed the lives of the people. Saxon farmers offered the first cut sheaf of corn to one of their gods of fertility, in order to safeguard a good harvest the following year. The last sheaf was thought to contain the Spirit of the Corn, and its cutting was usually accompanied by the ritual sacrifice of an animal - often a hare caught hiding in the corn. Later, a model hare made from straw was used to represent the continuity of the Spirit. This practice eventually led to the making of plaited 'corn dollies', symbolizing the goddess of the grain. These were hung from the rafters in farmhouses until the next year. When the harvest was in, a celebratory supper was held to which the whole community was invited.

These traditions continued after Christianity arrived in Britain, sometimes in a slightly different form, and there were ceremonies and rituals at the beginning as well as the end of the harvest and church bells were rung on every day of the harvest. The horse bringing the last cart load was decorated with garlands of flowers and colorful ribbons. A magnificent harvest feast was held at the farmer's house and games played to celebrate the end of the harvest.

The tradition of celebrating Harvest Festival in churches began in 1843, when the Reverend Robert Hawker invited parishioners to a special

thanksgiving service at his church at Morwenstow in Cornwall. This led to the custom of decorating churches with home-grown produce for the Harvest Festival service.

The traditional ways of celebrating the harvest still survive today in rural communities. Nowadays, children also take gifts of fruit and vegetables to church and present them during the harvest service whilst the harvest hymn:

'We plough the fields and scatter the good seed on the land,  
But it is fed and watered by God's almighty hand'

is sung. After the service, these gifts are distributed to the elderly and needy of the community. Many schools also have a Harvest Festival assembly and the gifts of fruit and vegetables are distributed in the local community.

### *Halloween*

Halloween is celebrated on October 31. Halloween is not a bank holiday in the United Kingdom. Schools, businesses, stores and other organizations are open as usual. Public transport services run on their normal timetables.

Halloween celebrations in the United Kingdom include parties where guests are often expected to arrive in a costume to reflect the day's theme. Other people gather together to watch horror films, either at home or at a cinema. Traditionally children go trick-or-treating. This means that they dress up and go to other peoples' houses, knocking on the door for treat of sweets or a snack. Those who do not give out a treat may be tricked with a joke instead.

Halloween has its origins in pagan festivals held around the end of October in England, Wales, Scotland and Ireland. People believed that, at this time of year, the spirits of dead people could come 'alive' and walk among the living. They thought that it was important to dress up in costumes when venturing outside, to avoid being harmed by the spirits. This may be the origin of the Halloween costumes seen today. In Puritan times, Halloween celebrations were outlawed, but they were revived in later times.

Halloween used to be called All Hallows Eve, or the day before All Saints' Day, observed on November 1. Halloween is also known as Nut-crack Night, Thump-the-door Night or Apple and Candle Night. Some people call Halloween Bob Apple Night or Duck Apple Night. This comes from a traditional game played at this time of year and known as 'apple bobbing' or 'apple ducking'. A bucket or other container is filled with water and one or more apples are floated on the water. The contestants take turns trying to catch an apple with their teeth. They must hold their hands behind their backs at all times.

## ***GUY FAWKES NIGHT (BONFIRE NIGHT)***

Guy Fawkes Night is one of the most popular festivals in Great Britain. It commemorates the discovery of the so-called Gunpowder Plot,<sup>1</sup> and is widely celebrated throughout the country. Bonfire Night is a deep seated tradition and is marked by public and private fireworks displays and huge public bonfires all over the UK. In fact, many people say that November 5th, Bonfire Night, is the smokiest night in the realm. Bonfire Night, is a uniquely British festival that combines commemoration of a historic event with bonfire celebrations that reach back to the Celtic harvest festival of Samhain.



The historic origins of Guy Fawkes date to the conflict between virtually outlawed Catholics and the Protestant establishment of the 16th and early 17th century. On November 5, 1605, Guy Fawkes and a group of Catholic conspirators were captured in the act of trying to blow up Parliament with barrels of gunpowder when the Protestant King James I was present.

Many of the celebration's traditions have changed with the times. As recently as 20 years ago, groups of children, with their stuffed "guys" begging for "A Penny for the Guy?" were a common sight on many street corners. The pennies were meant to buy fire crackers. Since children can no longer buy fireworks in most places and private fireworks displays are, in general, on the decline, this is now rare.

People used to stick sausages on sticks into the bonfire and roast potatoes on the coals. Nowadays people are more conscious of health and safety and getting that close to the huge bonfires is prevented by barriers at most public events. But sausages and potatoes or bangers and mash remain a popular Guy Fawkes supper.

<sup>1</sup>. *Gunpowder Plot*. Conspiracy to destroy the English Houses of Parliament and King James I when the latter opened Parliament on Nov. 5, 1605. Engineered by a group of Roman Catholics as a protest against anti-Papist measures.

### ***Remembrance Day***

**Remembrance Day** (also known as Poppy Day or Armistice Day) is a memorial day observed in United Kingdom since the end of World War I to remember the members of their armed forces who have died in the line of duty. Remembrance Day is observed on 11 November to recall the end of hostilities of World War I on that date in 1918. World War I officially ended with the signing of the Treaty of Versailles on 28 June 1919. The day was specifically dedicated by King George V on 7 November 1919 as a day



The Cenotaph at Whitehall, London of remembrance for members of the armed forces who were killed during World War I.

The red remembrance poppy has become a familiar emblem of Remembrance Day due to the poem "In Flanders Fields".

The main national commemoration is held at Whitehall, in Central London. Members of the British Royal Family walk through the Foreign and Commonwealth Office towards the Cenotaph, assembling to the right of the monument to wait for Big Ben to strike 11:00 a.m., and for the King's Troop, Royal Horse Artillery at Horse Guards Parade, to fire the cannon marking the commencement of the two minutes of silence. Following this, "Last Post" is sounded by the buglers of the Royal Marines. "The Rouse" is then sounded by the trumpeters of the Royal Air Force, after which wreaths are laid by the Queen and senior members of the Royal Family attending in military uniform and then, to "Beethoven's Funeral March", by attendees in the following order: the Prime Minister; the leaders of the major political parties from all parts of the United Kingdom.

### ***St Andrew's Day***

St. Andrew's Day falls on November 30. St Andrew's Day is a bank holiday in Scotland. The amount of disruption to public life varies greatly. Generally schools are closed. Some other organizations and businesses may be closed, but others are likely to be open.

Public transport services may run to their usual or holiday timetables. St Andrew's Day is not a bank holiday in England, Wales and Northern Ireland on November 30.



St Andrew was born in Bethesda on the shores of the Sea of Galilee and was the younger brother of St Peter. Both he and his brother became disciples of Jesus. He is said to have died bound to an “X” shaped cross at Patras in Achaea in Greece. This shape is now reflected in the Scottish flag, known as the Saltier. St Andrew has been recognized as the patron saint of Scotland since at least the ninth century.

The bill to make St Andrew's Day a bank holiday in Scotland was first introduced in 2003. In 2005, it was rejected by the Scottish Parliament on its first reading. The main objections were that the introduction of another bank holiday would have a negative impact on the Scottish economy. After further negotiations, the bill was supported by the First Minister of Scotland. One of the results of these negotiations was that the new law should not give employees an extra holiday, but that a holiday on St Andrew's Day should replace an existing local holiday. The first St Andrew's Day bank holiday was observed on November 30, 2007. The Scottish government used this as an opportunity to support celebrations of Scottish culture all over the world.

### *Christmas*

Christmas Day is observed on the 25<sup>th</sup> of December. In Britain this day was, a festival long before the conversion to Christianity. The English historian the Venerable Bede relates that “the ancient peoples of Angli began the year on the 25<sup>th</sup> of December, and the very night was called in their tongue *modranecht*, that is ‘mother’s night’. Thus it is not surprising that many social customs connected with the celebration of Christmas go back to pagan times, as, for instance, the giving of presents. Indeed, in 1644 the English puritans forbade the keeping of Christmas by Act of Parliament, on the grounds that it was a heathen festival. At the Restoration Charles II revived the feast.

Though religion in Britain has been steadily losing ground and Christmas has practically no religious significance for the majority of the population of modern Britain, it is still the most widely celebrated festival in all its parts except Scotland. The reason for this is clear. With its numerous, often rather quaint social customs, it is undoubtedly the most colourful holiday of the year.

There are a lot of traditions connected with Christmas but the most important one is the giving of presents. Family members wrap up their gifts and leave them at the bottom of the Christmas tree to be "bound on Christmas morning.

At some time on Christmas Day the family will sit down to a big turkey dinner followed by Christmas pudding.

In the afternoon they may watch the Queen on the television as she delivers her traditional Christmas message to the United Kingdom and Commonwealth. Then they enjoy a piece of Christmas cake or eat a hot mince pie.

On the Sunday before Christmas many churches hold a service where special hymns are sung. Sometimes singers can be heard on the streets as they collect money for charity.

Most families decorate their houses with brightly-coloured paper or holly, and they usually have a Christmas tree in the corner of the room, glittering with coloured lights and decoration. 26<sup>th</sup> December is also a public holiday, called Boxing Day.

This is the time to visit friends and relatives or be a spectator at one of the many sporting events.

Everyone in Great Britain is waiting and enjoying this holiday very much!

### *Active vocabulary*

to wrap up — заворачивать, упаковывать

gift — подарок

turkey — индюшка

*Answer the following questions.*

1. What is the most important festival in Great Britain?
2. Is it difficult to catch a train on 24th December?
3. Are there many traditions connected with Christmas in Great Britain?
4. What do the family do during this holiday?
5. Do you like the way Christmas is celebrated in Great Britain?

*Christmas customs and traditions*

“The Christmas Day in the United Kingdom is celebrated on 25 December, as well as in the most of European countries. Pope Julius I (A.D. 337-352), after much inquiry, came to the conclusion that a very old tradition giving 25 December as the right date of the Birth of the Lord was very probably true. This date already had a sacred significance for thousands of people throughout the Roman Empire because it was the Birthday of the Unconquered Sun, and also the chief festival of the Phrygian god, Attis, and of Mithras, the soldier’s god, whose cult was carried to Britain and many other countries by the Roman army. In the barbarian North, also, the long celebration of Yule was held at this period. The Christian Church, therefore, following its ancient practice of giving Christian meaning to pagan rituals, eventually adopted 2 December for the Christmas Day.

Many of the British modern Christmas customs and traditions are directly derived from pagan ceremonies belonging to ancient midwinter feasts. One of the oldest is probably the decoration of houses with greenery. Evergreens, which are symbols of undying life, were commonly used to adorn the dwellings of forefathers, and their sacred buildings, at the time of the winter solstice, and they have been so used ever since.

The curious custom of kissing under the mistletoe seems to be altogether English in origin, and to appear in other European countries only when Englishmen have taken it there. It has almost vanished nowadays, but can still be met in the northern regions of England. The kissing bough, the lovely garland that used to hang from the ceiling of the living room in so many houses before the coming of the Christmas tree, had a bunch of mistletoe attached to its base. It was a crown, or a globe, of greenery, adorned with lighted candles, red apples, rosettes and ribbons, with the mistletoe hanging below. Sometimes small presents were suspended from it. The Christmas tree succeeded it in many homes in the middle of the nineteenth century, but it never faded away altogether.

The Christmas tree came originally from Germany and went to America with German settlers before it reached the British Isles in the first half of nineteenth century. The first Christmas tree in Britain is believed to be set up at a children party in 1821. By 1840 the custom became quite well-known in

Manchester, but what really established the Christmas tree and made it one of the British cherished Christmas customs was the setting-up by Prince Albert of a Christmas tree at Windsor castle in 1841. With little more than twenty years, the Christmas trees were to be seen in countless British homes, and thousands were annually on sale at Covent Garden Market. A century later the tradition has overflowed from the houses into the streets and squares. Churches of every denomination have their lighted and decorated trees, and since 1947 Oslo had made an annual gift to the people of London, in the form of an immense tree which stands in Trafalgar Square, close to Nelson's Monument.

The giving of presents and the exchange of Christmas cards are almost equally essential parts of the Christmas festival in Britain today. The first one has its roots in the pre-Christian times, and the latter is little more than a century old. Presents were given to kinsfolk and to the poor at the feast of the Saturnalia in pagan Rome, and so they were at the three-day Kalends of January, when the New Year was celebrated. The Christmas cards began life in the late eighteenth century as the "Christmas piece", a decorated sheet of paper on which schoolchildren wrote polite greetings for the season in their best handwriting, to be presented to their parents at the end of the winter term. Sometimes, also, adults wrote complimentary verses for their friends. It is now usually supposed that the artist J.C.Horsley designed the first genuine pictorial Christmas card at the instigation of Sir Henry Cole in 1843.

Father Christmas is the traditional gift-bringer in the United Kingdom. Originally he was Odin, one of the pagan gods that were brought to the British Isles from the ancient Scandinavia. When Christianity swept away the old gods, Odin's role was overtaken by St. Nicholas, who was the Bishop of Myra during the fourth century, and who now appears in some European countries (such as Germany, Austria, Switzerland and others) wearing Episcopal robes, being accompanied by a servant carrying a sack of gifts.

Still one should note that the pure British Father Christmas seems to have been more a personification of the joys of Christmas than just a gift-bringer. He was first mentioned in a fifteen-century carol, then abolished by Parliament in 1644 (along with everything else connected with the Feast of Christmas), came back after Restoration, and is nowadays one of the British living traditions. In the nineteenth century he acquired some of the attributes of the Teutonic Santa Claus, and now is being thought of as the essential gift-bringer, coming by night from the Far North in a reindeer-drawn sleigh, and entering the houses he visits by way of the chimney.

Christmas food has always been largely a matter of tradition, but its nature has changed a great deal with passage of time. The turkey which is now the most usual dish on Christmas Day didn't appear in Britain until about 1542. Its predecessors were goose, or pork, or beef, or a huge pie made

up of a variety of birds. In the grater houses venison, swans, bustards, or peacocks in their feathers were eaten. The ancestor of another traditional British food, the Christmas pudding, was plum porridge (until 1670).

Another feature of the Christmas time in Britain is represented by carols, which are the popular and happy songs of the Christian religion which came into being after the religious revival of the thirteenth century, and flourished more strongly in the three centuries that followed. Carols were swept away by Puritanism during the Commonwealth, and they didn't come back into general favor for about 200 years afterwards, but never vanished altogether. Now, nearly all British churches have their carol service. In many towns, the people gather round the communal Christmas tree, or in the town hall, to sing carols under the leadership of the local clergy, or of the mayor.

### *Active vocabulary:*

- relative — родственник; родственница
- departmentstore — универсальный магазин
- tochoose — выбирать, избирать
- carefully — тщательно, аккуратно; внимательно; осторожно
- Christmastree — рождественская елка
- nut — орех
- candy — леденец; конфета; сладости
- biscuit — сухое печенье
- frost — мороз; иней
- toscatter — разбрасывать, раскидывать; рассыпать; посыпать, усыпать
- branch — ветка
- Martin Luther — Мартин Лютер
- stable — конюшня
- holly — падуб
- mistletoe-омела (в Англии традиционное украшение дома на Рождество)
- topluck — срывать, щипать, собирать
- berry — ягода
- eve — канун, преддверие
- tohave — вести себя, поступать, держаться
- punishment — кара, наказание
- wealth — богатство
- theDutch — датчане
- tobring — приносить, привозить; приводить; доставлять
- carol — веселая песня; гимн
- pie — пирог; амер. торт, сладкий пирог

turkey — индюк; индейка

cranberrysauce — соус из клюквы

pudding — пудинг, запеканка

household — хозяйство; двор, дом

tostir — мешать, помешивать, размешивать; взбалтывать

coin — монета, мелкая монета

Christmas comes but once a year — посл. Рождество приходит только раз в году.

***Answer the following questions.***

1. Is Christmas a popular holiday in Great Britain?
2. How do people get prepared for this holiday?
3. How is the Christmas tree decorated?
4. Who was the first to use the Christmas tree?
5. When did the Christmas tree become popular in Great Britain?
6. Who was the first to place a star on the top of the Christmas tree?
7. What do children usually do on the eve of Christmas in Great Britain?
8. Where did Santa Claus get his name from?
9. What is the carol?
10. What does a typical Christmas lunch include?

### ***Boxing Day***

In England Boxing Day celebrated on December 26th, is traditionally a time to give gifts to tradesmen, servants, and friends.

It originated in medieval times, when every priest was supposed to empty the alms box of his church and distribute gifts to the poor. Wealthy people indulged in huge Christmas feasts, and when they were finished, packed up the remains of feasts in boxes and gave them out to their servants. It didn't become widely celebrated though until Victorian England.

In Ireland there is an Irish custom called "feeding the wren". The custom is based on a legend of St. Stephen. Once he was forced to hide in a bush, but a chattering wren gave him away. In the past Children caged the wren to help it do penance for this misdeed. Nowadays children carry a long pole with a holly bush at the top - which is supposed to hide a captured wren.

In the UK Boxing Day is still a public holiday, some shops and supermarkets open nowadays, but banks and most offices remain closed.

***PUBLIC HOLIDAYS AND CELEBRATIONS OF  
THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA***

**January**

- 1st New Year's Day
- the third Monday Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

**February**

- 2nd February Groundhog Day
- 14th Valentine's Day
- the third Monday George Washington's Birthday

**April**

- 1st April Fool's Day
- 22<sup>nd</sup> Earth Day
- last Friday – Arbor Day

**May**

- the second Sunday Mother's Day
- the last Monday - Memorial Day

**June**

- 14th – Flag Day
- the third Sunday Father's Day

**July**

- 4th Independence Day

**September**

- 11th – Patriot Day
- the first Monday Labor Day

**October**

- 
- 31st Halloween
- the second Monday Columbus Day

**November**

- 11th Veterans Day
- the fourth Thursday Thanksgiving Day

**December**

- 25th Christmas

## *New Year*

New Year's Day falls on January 1 and marks the start of a new year according to the Gregorian calendar. It marks the end of New Year's Eve celebrations in the United States and gives many Americans a chance to remember the previous year.

Many people go to parties and masquerade balls, where, according to an old tradition, guests unmask at midnight.

Thousands of Americans gather in Times Square in the heart of New York City, This is probably the noisiest and the most crowded New Year's Eve celebration in the world!

At one minute before midnight, a lighted ball drops slowly from the top of a pole on one of the buildings. People count down at the same time as the ball drops. When it reaches the bottom, bells ring, sirens sound, firecrackers explode, people hug and kiss, and shout "Happy New Year!" Everyone drinks a toast to the New Year and sings "Auld Lang Syne"

Government offices, organizations, schools and many businesses are closed in the USA on New Year's Day. Public transit systems do not run on their regular schedules. Where large public celebrations have been held, traffic may be disrupted by the clean-up operation. In general, public life is completely closed down.

A common symbol of New Year's Day is Baby New Year. This is often a white male baby dressed in a diaper, a hat and a sash. The year he represents is printed on his sash. He rarely a newborn baby, as many pictures show him sitting up or even standing alone. According to mythology, Baby New Year grows up and ages in a single year. At the end of the year he is an old man and hands his role over to the next Baby New Year. Other symbols of New Year's Day are spectacular fireworks exploding over landmarks and clocks striking midnight as the year begins.



It is believed that everything done or not done on the opening day of the year would influence the succeeding twelve months.

Nothing is allowed to be taken out of the house on New Year's Day. Thus, normally generous people would flatly refuse to lend anything on this day.

### *Active vocabulary*

heralded – e'lon qilmoq, оповещать,

event – hodisa, событие

recovery – qayta tiklash, восстановить

disrupt – yirtib tashlamoq, разорвать

resolution – qaror qabul qilmoq, резолюция

diaper – romb shaklida bezash, украшать ромбовидным рисунком

*Answer the following question.*

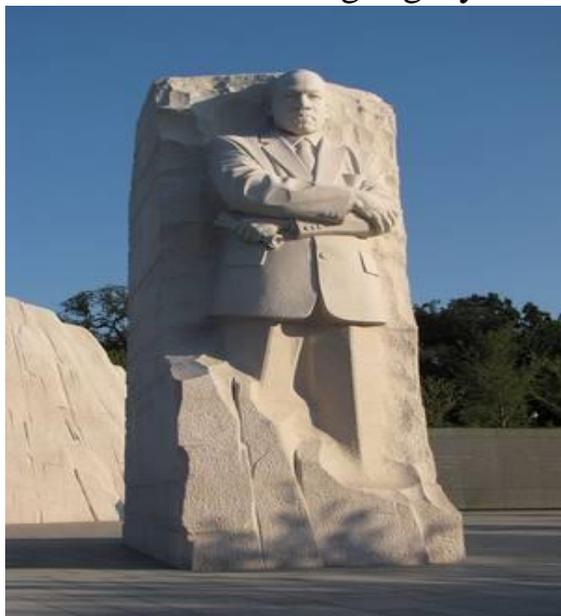
1. When do people in the USA celebrate New Year?
2. What are people going to do in New Year?
3. What is a common symbol of New Year?
4. What does this symbol represent?

### *Martin Luther King's Day*

Americans honor the Reverend Martin Luther King Jr. with a national holiday celebrated on the third Monday of each January.

The holiday was established to serve as a time for Americans to reflect on the principles of racial equality and nonviolent social change advocated by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

As a political organizer and advocate of nonviolent protest, King was pivotal in persuading his fellow Americans to end the legal segregation that prevailed throughout the South, and in gaining support for the civil rights legislation that established the legal framework for racial equality in the United States. Dr. King created a powerful and enduring legacy for all Americans by calling upon our Nation



to ensure equal justice under law and uphold our founding ideals of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness for all people.

Since his **assassination** in 1968, memorial services have marked his birthday on January 15. On November 2, 1983, President Ronald Reagan signed legislation establishing January 15 as a legal holiday honoring the civil rights leader. The ceremony was attended by Mrs. Coretta Scott King and family, members of Congress, and business and religious leaders.

In 1986, January 15 was replaced by the third Monday of January, which was declared a national holiday. It was observed for the first time on January 20, 1986. Many states were reluctant to observe the holiday but on January 17, 2000, for the first time, all 50 states officially observed the holiday.

Americans are encouraged to observe this day with appropriate civic, community, and service programs and activities in honor of the memory and legacy of Dr. King. Martin Luther King`s memorial in Washington

### *Active vocabulary*

equality – tenglik, равенство

nonviolent – zo`ravonlikka qarshi, противникнасилия

legislation - qonunlar tuzish va chiqarish, закон

prevail – ustun bo`lmoq, преобладать

reluctant – noilojlik, вынужденный

### *Answer the following questions.*

1. When Americans celebrate Martin Luther King`s Day?
2. What did Martin Luther King establish?
3. When was his birthday marked?
4. What did President Ronald Reagan sign?
5. When was this national holiday replaced?

### *Groundhog Day*

Groundhog Day is celebrated February 2<sup>nd</sup> in the United States. Groundhog Day comes from Candlemas Day, observed for centuries in parts of Europe on February 2 where the custom was to have the clergy bless candles and distribute them to the people. This seems to have derived from the pagan celebration of Embolic, coming at the mid-point between the Winter Solstice and the Spring Equinox. The Roman Legions, it is said, brought the tradition to the Germans.

By the 1840s the idea had caught on in the U.S., particularly in Pennsylvania whose earliest settlers were German immigrants. If the groundhog sees its shadow on a "bright and clear" day, six more weeks of winter are ahead. If the day is cloudy he does not see his shadow, he takes it as a sign of spring and stays above ground.

Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania is the headquarters of the celebration where the groundhog "Punxsutawney Phil" regards his shadow at Gobbler's Knob, a wooded knoll just outside the town.



### *Active vocabulary*

clergy – ruhoniylk, духовенство

distribute – taqsimlamoq, распределять  
pagan – ko'p xudolilik, язычество  
equinox – tengkunlik, равноденствие  
knoll – tepalik, холм

***Answer the following questions.***

1. When Groundhog Day is celebrated in the USA?
2. Where from comes Groundhog Day?
3. What happens if groundhog sees its shadow?
4. What happens if groundhog does not see its shadow?

***St. Valentine's Day***

St. Valentine's Day has roots in several different legends. One of the earliest popular symbols of the day is Cupid, the Roman god of Love, who is represented by the image of a young boy with a bow and arrow.

Three hundred years after the death of Jesus Christ, the Roman emperors still demanded that everyone believe in the Roman gods. Valentine, a Christian priest, had been thrown in prison for his teachings. On February 14, Valentine was beheaded. The night before he was executed, he wrote the jailer's daughter a farewell letter signing it, «From Your Valentine.

Another legend tells us that this same Valentine, well-loved by all, wrote notes from his jail cell to children and friends who missed him.

February 14 was also a Roman holiday, held in honour of a goddess. Young men randomly chose the name of a young girl to escort to the festivities.

St. Valentine's Day is now a day for sweethearts. It is the day that you show your friend or loved one that you care. You can send candy to someone you think is special. Or you can send roses, the flower of love. Most people send «valentines, a greeting card named after the notes that St. Valentine wrote from jail. Valentines can be sentimental, romantic and heartfelt. They can be funny and friendly. If the sender is shy, valentines can be anonymous.

Americans of all ages love to send and receive valentines. Handmade valentines are created by cutting hearts out of coloured paper. Valentines can be heart-shaped, or have hearts, the symbol of love, on them. In elementary schools, children make valentines for their classmates and put them in a large decorated box, similar to a mailbox. On February 14, the teachers open the box and distribute the valentines to each student. After the students read their valentines, they have a small party with refreshments.

You can write a short rhyme inside the heart:

Roses are red,  
Violets are blue,  
Sugar is sweet,

And so are you!

Or you can buy valentines with messages in them. If you are shy, you can sign it, «Your Secret Admirer».

### *Active vocabulary*

image — образ, изображение

to execute — казнить

to behead — обезглавливать

jail — тюрьма

to distribute — раздавать

symbol — символ

### *Answer the following questions.*

1. What is one of the first popular symbols of St. Valentine's Day?
2. What did the Roman emperors demand?
3. Why had Valentine been thrown in prison?
4. What does another legend tell us?
5. What do most people send on this day?

### *Valentine's Day customs and traditions*

In USA, Valentine's Day is a major card- and gift-giving festival. This day is not a public holiday here. Offices, schools, stores and organizations are open as usual. However, the markets can be seen wearing a festive look and loaded with gifts to lure customers, days before the actual day arrives. Cards have been exchanged in USA since the early 1700s. Some other popular gifts that are exchanged on Valentine's Day are fresh flowers, especially red roses, chocolates, candy baskets, candy boxes, lingerie and champagne or sparkling wine. Most of the candy boxes are heart-shaped and tied with red ribbons. Some people take a step ahead by presenting lavish gifts such as jewellery, diamonds, etc. On Valentine's Day, classrooms are decorated with lace and paper hearts. Programs are also organized, where children perform songs, dances, skits and plays. Friends and teachers are presented with handmade gifts and cards from paper doilies, red paper, wallpaper samples and pictures cut from magazines. The evenings see the romantic couples hanging outside in restaurants and hotels. Special dinner and dance parties are organized across the country to mark the occasion. Those couples who stay in different cities and are unable to meet up exchange their greetings through e-cards and send Valentine's Day gifts to each other, through online shopping stores.



The tradition of exchanging heart-shaped gifts symbolizes the giving of one's

whole heart and emotions to the one they love. According to U.S. Greeting Card Association, approximately one billion Valentine cards are sent each year worldwide, making the day as the second largest card-sending holiday of the year, behind Christmas. A time to express love and appreciation for loved ones, this day has people taking out time from their busy schedules to spend time with their beloveds. With celebrations varying in size and scope, Valentine's Day roots down to telling a partner how much one treasures having him/her in his/ her life and rejoice shared experiences. In USA, Valentine's Day is also very popular date for weddings.

### *Active vocabulary*

lure - jozibadorlik, привлекательность  
lavish – sahovatli, щедрый  
exchange – alishmoq, обмениваться  
appreciation – baho, оценка  
scope – imkoniyatga ega bo'lish, иметь возможности

Answer the following questions.

1. What kind of holiday is Valentine's Day?
2. What kind of gifts are exchanged on this Day?
3. How classrooms are decorated?
4. What do children do on this holiday?
5. How many Valentine cards are sent each year?

### *George Washington's Birthday*

George Washington was the military leader of the American Revolution and the first president of the United States of America. He took his oath of office as the President of the United States on April 30, 1789.

The birthday of George Washington has been a legal holiday since 1885. It was originally celebrated each February 22. In 1968, legislation (HR 15951) was enacted that affected several federal holidays. One of these was Washington's Birthday, the observation of which was shifted to the third Monday in February each year whether or not it fell on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. This act was designed to simplify the yearly calendar of holidays.

In 1971 President Richard Nixon proclaimed the third Monday of February to be a federal holiday. Although popularly known as Presidents' Day, according to federal law it is the official observance of Washington's Birthday. Because a number of states (but not the federal government) also officially celebrate the February 12<sup>th</sup> birthday of Abraham Lincoln, many Americans have come to believe incorrectly that the third Monday of



February is a consolidated "Presidents' Day" honoring both Washington and Lincoln, and indeed all U.S. presidents.

In 1976, Congress posthumously promoted Washington to the rank of six-star general of the armies, assuring that he would continue to outrank all other members of the military, now and in the future.

### *Active vocabulary*

oath – qasam, клятва

enact – qaror qilmoq, постановить

simplify – soddallashtirmoq, упростить

consolidate – birlashtirmoq, объединить

posthumously – bir umr, посмертно

### *Answer the following questions.*

1. Who was George Washington?
2. When it was originally celebrated?
3. What President Richard Nixon proclaimed in 1971?
4. When Congress posthumously promoted Washington to the rank of six-star general?

### *April Fools' Day*

In 1708 a correspondent wrote to the British Apollo magazine asking, "Whence proceeds the custom of making April Fools?" The question is one that many people are still asking today. The puzzle that April fool's Day presents to cultural historians is that it was only during the eighteenth century that detailed references to it (and curiosity about it) began to appear. But at that time, the custom was already well established throughout northern Europe and was regarded as being of great antiquity.

How had the tradition been adopted by so many different European cultures without provoking more comments in the written record? References to April fool's Day can be found as early as the 1500s. However, these early references were infrequent and tended to be vague and ambiguous. Shakespeare, writing in the late sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries, made no mention of April fool's Day, despite being, as Charles Dickens Jr. put it, a writer who "delights in fools in general." Many theories have been put forward about how the tradition began. Unfortunately, none of them are very compelling.

So the origin of the "custom of making April Fools" remains as much a mystery to us as it was back in 1708. April Fools' Day is always celebrated on April 1<sup>st</sup>. It is the name given to the custom of playing practical jokes on friends, or sending them on fools' errands. Sometimes, elaborate practical jokes played on friends or relatives might last the entire day. Even the news

media and major companies sometimes get involved. Whatever the prank, the trickster usually ends it by yelling to his victim, "April Fool!"

The history of April Fools' Day, sometimes called All Fools' Day, is not clear. There is no first "April Fools' Day" that can be pinpointed on the calendar, although it is known to date back at least to the sixteenth century. Most historians believe that April fool's Day originated in continental northern Europe and then spread to Britain.

### *Active vocabulary*

errand – topshiriq, задание

elaborate – puxtalik bilan, тщательно

entire- butun, to'liq, полный

prank – hazil, проказа

pinpoint – batafsil, детальный

### *Answer the following questions.*

1. When April Fools' Day is always celebrated?
2. What do people do on this Day?
3. How usually trickster ends his joke?

### *Earth Day*

Earth Day is the largest, most celebrated environmental event worldwide.

Earth Day is celebrated in many countries on the Vernal Equinox (March 20<sup>th</sup> or 21<sup>st</sup>) which marks the moment that spring begins in the Northern Hemisphere and autumn in the Southern Hemisphere. In the United States and several other countries, Earth Day is primarily celebrated on April 22<sup>nd</sup> of each year.

The concept of Earth Day began in the spring of 1970. Exactly how and when it was conceived, as well as who was responsible for its origination, is still debated.

The first celebration of Earth Day was on March 21, 1970 as a day to celebrate the natural wonders of our planet and to think about Earth's tender seedlings of life. This celebration was first proposed by John McConnell in early October 1969 in San Francisco, California.

UN Secretary General U.Thant supported John McConnell's global initiative and spoke in its behalf at a Peace Bell Ceremony at the United Nations on March 21, 1971. The United Nations Earth Day ceremony continued each year with the ringing of the U.N. Peace Bell at the precise moment of the Equinox, followed by two minutes of silent prayer or reflection.

The Earth Society is largely responsible for these ceremonial activities. One of the member nations of the United Nations arranges to sponsor the event. Corresponding ceremonies are held at the same time in various cities around the world.

The common April 22<sup>nd</sup> celebration of Earth Day was also first celebrated in 1970. This event, spearheaded by Wisconsin Senator Gaylord Nelson and Harvard University student Denis Hayes, involved teach-ins that addressed decades of environmental pollution.

### *Active vocabulary*

hemisphere – yarim shar, полушарие

concept – g'oya, идея

conceive – anglamoq, постигать

prayer – ibodat, молитва

seedling – ko'chat, саженец

### *Answer the following questions.*

1. When Earth Day is primarily celebrated?
2. When the concept of Earth Day began?
3. How the United Nations continued Earth Day ceremony each year?
4. Who is largely responsible for these ceremonial activities?

### *Arbor Day*

In 1872, J. Sterling Morton from Nebraska City proposed a tree planting holiday to be called "Arbor Day" at a meeting of the State Board of Agriculture. Prizes were offered to counties and individuals for properly planting the largest number of trees on that day. It was estimated that more than 1 million trees were planted in Nebraska on the first Arbor Day.



During the 1870s, other states passed legislation to observe Arbor Day and the tradition began in schools in 1882.

By 1894 Arbor Day was celebrated in every state and has now spread to other countries. The first event was observed by twenty million Americans, most of them students. Arbor Day activities were modified to emphasize the critical importance of the environment and to make the American public aware of the destruction of the earth's natural preserves. The sponsors hoped to start an environmental movement that would alter industrial practices and human consumption.

The event inspired the US Congress to pass clean air and water acts and to establish the Environmental Protection Agency. Since the first event in 1970, the holiday has been an annual event for people around the world to celebrate the earth and renew their commitment to building a safer, healthier and cleaner world. Although Earth Day is not a federal holiday, it has helped Americans realize that they can and should do something to protect the environment.

### *Active vocabulary*

emphasize – ta’kidlamoq, подчеркнуть  
consumption – iste’mol qilish, потребление  
commitment – burch, обязанность  
protect – himoya qilmoq, защищать  
safer – havfsiz, безопасный

### *Answer the following questions.*

1. Why Arbor Day activities were modified?

### *Mother’s Day*

Mother's Day is always the second Sunday in May. Mother’s Day is set aside to acknowledge, show appreciation for and honor your "mom" (and other moms in your life).

Anna Jarvis, born in 1864 in Webster, West Virginia, is credited as the force behind the official Mother's Day observance. When Jarvis was 41, her mother died. On the second anniversary of her mother's death (the second Sunday in May 1908), Jarvis made public her plans to establish a day to honor mothers. The observance became official in 1914.

The aspiration of Anna Marie Reeves Jarvis and her daughter, Anna Jarvis, was to establish a national memorial day dedicated to all mothers, both alive and deceased. After her mother's death in 1905, Anna Jarvis was relentless in achieving this goal. Jarvis was successful in getting West Virginia Governor Glasscock to proclaim a statewide Mother's Day in 1910. Four years later, President Woodrow Wilson signed into law a U.S. House of Representatives resolution, introduced at Jarvis' request, making the second Sunday in May the national Mother's Day. Mother's Day has since become an international holiday, celebrated in over 100 countries.



### *Active vocabulary*

observance – amal qilish, соблюдение

aspiration – intilish, стремление  
dedicate – bag'ishlamoq, посвящать  
relentless – shavqatsiz, жестокий  
decease – o'lim, кончина

***Answer the following questions.***

1. When Mother's Day is always celebrated?
2. Who was Anna Jarvis?
3. When the observance became official?
4. What was the aspiration of Anna Marie Reeves Jarvis and Anna Jarvis?

### ***Memorial Day***

Memorial Day is observed on the last Monday of May. It is a day to honor those who died defending their nation.

Memorial Day was originally called Decoration Day and originated in the aftermath of the 1861–65 Civil War, during which more American soldiers died than in any other war before or since. After the Civil War, grieving citizens around the nation began holding memorial ceremonies, decorating the graves of Civil War soldiers with flags and tributes. Waterloo, New York, is officially considered the "birthplace" of Memorial Day because it was the first to make the practice of honoring the Civil War dead a citywide event when it held its first Decoration Day in 1866.

General John A. Logan, commander-in-chief of the veterans' group the Grand Army of the Republic, made a formal proclamation designating May 30, 1868, as a day of remembrance of the nation's war dead. The holiday was originally intended to honor the Civil War dead. After World War I, Decoration Day was expanded to honor those killed in all of the nation's wars, and after World War II it became known as Memorial Day.

In 1971, Congress designated the last Monday in May as the national Memorial Day holiday. It has become a day on which the dead of all wars and the dead generally, are remembered in special programs held in cemeteries, churches, and other public meeting places.

The traditional observance of Memorial Day has diminished over the years. On Dec. 28, 2000, the White House Commission on the National Moment of Remembrance was established to promote the spirit of unity and remembrance through a minute-long observance. Congress wanted to bring the country together in an act of national unity, ensure that the nation remembers the sacrifices of America's fallen, and to put 'memorial' back into Memorial Day.

### ***Active vocabulary***

defend – himoya qilmoq, защищать

aftermath – oqibat, последствия  
grave – mozor, могила  
diminish – kamaymoq, убывать  
promote – so’rmoq, продвигать  
sacrifice – qurbonlik, жертвоприношение

***Answer the following questions.***

1. When Memorial Day is observed in the USA?
2. How was Memorial Day originally called?
3. Who was General John A. Logan?
4. What did the White House Commission establish?

***Flag Day***

National Flag Day is always the 14<sup>th</sup> day of June. The Fourth of July is traditionally celebrated as America's birthday, but the idea of an annual day specifically celebrating the Flag is believed to have first originated in 1885.



B.J. Cigrand, a schoolteacher, arranged for the pupils in the Fredonia, Wisconsin Public School, to observe June 14 (the 108<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Flag Resolution and the official adoption of The Stars and Stripes) as 'Flag Birthday'. In numerous magazines and newspaper articles and public addresses over the following years, Cigrand continued to enthusiastically advocate the observance of June 14 as 'Flag Birthday', or 'Flag Day'.

In 1894, the governor of New York directed that on June 14 the Flag be displayed on all public buildings. With B.J Cigrand and Leroy Van Horn as the moving spirits, the Illinois organization, known as the American Flag Day Association, was organized for the purpose of promoting the holding of Flag Day exercises. On June 14<sup>th</sup>, 1894, the first general public school children's celebration of Flag Day in Chicago was held in Douglas, Garfield, Humboldt, Lincoln, and Washington Parks, with more than 300,000 children participating.

Inspired by these three decades of state and local celebrations, Flag Day was officially established by the Proclamation of President Woodrow Wilson on May 30<sup>th</sup>, 1916. While Flag Day was celebrated in various communities for years after Wilson's proclamation, it was not until August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1949, that President Truman signed an Act of Congress designating June 14<sup>th</sup> of each year as National Flag Day.

***Active vocabulary***

adoption – bola asrab olish, усыновление  
participate – qatnashmoq, участвовать  
establish – o’rnatmoq, установить

various – turli xil, различный

***Answer the following questions.***

1. When National Flag Day is always celebrated?
2. When celebrating the Flag is believed to have first originated?
3. What the governor of New York directed in 1894?
4. When and by whom Flag Day was officially established?

***Father's Day***

Modern version of Father's Day celebration originated in United States of America and thereafter the tradition spread in countries around the world. The world owes thanks to Ms Sonora Louise Smart Dodd a loving daughter from Spokane, Washington as it is because of her struggle that Father's Day saw the light of the day.

The idea of Father's Day celebration originated in Sonora's mind when she per chance listened to Mother's Day sermon in 1909. Fairly mature at the age 27, Sonora pondered if there is a day to honor mother then why not for father? Sonora felt strongly for fathers because of the affection she received from her own father Mr. William Jackson Smart, a Civil War veteran. Sonora's mother died while childbirth when she was just 16. Mr. Smart raised the newborn and five other children with love and care.

Inspired by Ms. Anna Jarvis's struggle to promote Mother's Day, Ms Dodd began a rigorous campaign to celebrate Father's Day in US. The Spokane Ministerial Association and the local Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) supported Sonora's cause. As a result Spokane celebrated its first Father's Day on June 19, 1910. Though there was initial hesitation the idea gained gradual popularity all over US and Fathers Day came to be celebrated in cities across the country.

Looking at the heightened popularity of Father's Day in US, President Woodrow Wilson approved of this idea in 1916. President Calvin Coolidge too supported the idea of a national Father's Day in 1924 to, "establish more intimate relations between fathers and their children and to impress upon fathers the full measure of their obligations". After a protracted struggle of over four decades, President Lyndon Johnson signed a presidential proclamation declaring the third Sunday of June as Father's Day in 1966. Then in 1972, President Richard Nixon established a permanent national observance of Father's Day to be held on the third Sunday of June. Sonora Smart Dodd was honored for her contribution at the World's Fair in Spokane in 1974. Mrs. Dodd died in 1978 at age 96. Father's Day is always the third Sunday in June. Father's Day honors the role of dads and men who serve in father-like roles in the lives of others. Fathers, grandfathers, stepfathers, fathers-to-be all have a day to stand in the spotlight on Father's Day. As "non-

traditional" family structures become more common, any nurturing man – "big brothers," brothers-in-law, uncles, neighbors and others who are "like a father" – is likely to be honored on Father's Day.

Although Congress passed several resolutions over the years in support of Father's Day, it did not become an official U.S. holiday until 1972, when then-President Nixon issued a proclamation declaring the third Sunday in June as Father's Day in the United States.

### ***Active vocabulary***

siblings – aka-uka, братья и сестры

nurturing – tarbiya, воспитание

encourage – ma'qullamoq, одобрять

declare – e'lon qilmoq, объявлять

### ***Answer the following questions.***

1. When Father's Day is always celebrated in the USA?
2. Who was Sonora Dodd?
3. What Sonora Dodd did?
4. What President Nixon issued?

### ***Independence Day***

The Fourth of July, or Independence Day, honors the nation's birthday - the signing of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776. It is a day of picnics and barbecues, patriotic parades, and a night of concerts and fireworks. The flying of the American flag is widespread.

The history of our Independence Day celebration dates back to the 1770s, when the original 13 colonies were still under the rule of England's King George III. Although they had no representation in Parliament, they had to pay tax to England. For years, Congress sought unsuccessfully to resolve the dispute between England and the colonies. Finally, in 1776, the Second Continental Congress appointed a committee, headed by Thomas Jefferson, to draft a declaration of independence. On July 4, 1776, Congress officially adopted the document declaring their freedom from England. Although the signing of the Declaration was not complete until August, the Fourth of July has been accepted as the official anniversary of American independence.

By the early 1800s the tradition of parades, picnics and fireworks was established as the way to celebrate America's birthday. The holiday was already widely observed throughout the nation when Congress declared it a federal holiday in 1870.

Active vocabulary:

commemorate – yodga olmoq, упоминать

deliverance- halos bo'lish, освобождение  
representation – tasvir, изображение  
accept – qabul qilish, принимать  
appoint – tayinlamoq, назначать  
draft – qoraburul, черновик

Answer the questions:

1. When was Independence Day established?
2. What were the words of Founding Father John Adams?
3. What did the Second Continental Congress in 1776?
4. When Congress declared it as federal holiday?

*Independence Day*

*On July 4 the Americans celebrate their national holiday — Independence Day. The United States gained independence as a result of gradual and painful process.*

*By the mid 1700's, it became difficult for thirteen British colonies in the New World to be ruled by a king 3000 miles across the ocean. The British empire imposed high taxes upon the colonies.*

*In 1774, the First Continental Congress drew up a list of grievances against the British crown. This document was the first draft of the document that would formally separate colonies from England.*

*In 1775, the Revolutionary War began. On July 2, 1776, the Second Continental Congress presented a second draft of the list of grievances. On July 4, the Continental Congress approved the Declaration of independence. But the War of independence lasted until 1783. After the war Independence Day became an official holiday.*

*On July 4, Americans have holiday from work. People have day-long picnics with favourite foods like hot dogs, ham-burgers, potato salad, baked beans. Lively music is heard everywhere. People play baseball or compete at three-legged races or pie-eating or water-melon-eating contests.*

*Some cities have parades with people dressed as the original founding fathers who march to the music of high school bands. In the evening people gather to watch firework displays.*

*Wherever Americans are around the globe they will get together to celebrate Independence Day.*

*Questions:*

- 1. When do Americans celebrate Independence Day?*
- 2. Was the process of gaining independence easy?*
- 3. What was the draft of the Declaration of independence?*
- 4. When was the Declaration of independence approved?*
- 5. Do Americans work on this day?*
- 6. What is the traditional July 4 meal?*
- 7. What activities are popular on this day?*

*Vocabulary:*

*independence — независимость*

*to celebrate — праздновать*

*gradual — постепенный*

*painful — болезненный*

*to impose taxes — облагать налогами*

*grievance — претензия*

*draft — проект*

*Revolutionary War — война за независимость*

*War of independence = Revolutionary War*

*Continental Congress — континентальный конгресс*

*to approve — утвердить*

*Declaration of independence — Декларация независимости*

*tree-legged races — бег наперегонки в парах; у каждой*

*пары две ноги связаны*

*pie-eating/water-melon-eating contests — соревнование, цель которого съесть как можно больше пирога или арбузов*

*founding fathers — отцы-основатели*



## **Patriot Day**

Patriot Day is observed on September 11<sup>th</sup>.

Patriot Day was signed into law on December 18, 2001 as a day to remember those who lost their lives in the terrorist attacks on our country.

On Patriot Day, Americans should fly their flags at half-staff and observe a moment of silence to honor those individuals who lost their lives as a result of the terrorist attacks.

On September 11, 2001, two hijacked civilian aircraft crashed into the towers of the World Trade Center in New York City. A third hijacked aircraft crashed into the Pentagon outside Washington, D.C. And a fourth hijacked aircraft crashed in southwestern Pennsylvania after passengers tried to take control of the aircraft in order to prevent the hijackers from crashing the aircraft into an important symbol of democracy and freedom. Thousands of innocent people lost their lives in this tragedy.

Active vocabulary:

observe-tomoshaqilmoq, наблюдать  
hijack- olibqochmoq, похищать  
civilian – fuqarolik, гражданский  
prevent – oldini olish, предотвращать  
innocent – aybsiz, невинный

Answer the questions:

1. When Patriot Day is observed in the USA?
2. When Patriot Day was signed into law?
3. What Americans should do on this Day?

## **Labor Day**

Labor Day, the first Monday in September, is a creation of the labor movement and is dedicated to the social and economic achievements of American workers. It constitutes a yearly national tribute to the



contributions workers have made to the strength, prosperity, and well-being of our country.

### *Founder of Labor Day*

More than 100 years after the first Labor Day observance, there is still some doubt as to who first proposed the holiday for workers.

Some records show that Peter J. McGuire, general secretary of the Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners and a cofounder of the American Federation of Labor, was first in suggesting a day to honor those "who from rude nature have delved and carved all the grandeur we behold."

But Peter McGuire's place in Labor Day history has not gone unchallenged. Many believe that Matthew Maguire, a machinist, not Peter McGuire, founded the holiday. Recent research seems to support the contention that Matthew Maguire, later the secretary of Local 344 of the International Association of Machinists in Paterson, N.J., proposed the holiday in 1882 while serving as secretary of the Central Labor Union in New York. What is clear is that the Central Labor Union adopted a Labor Day proposal and appointed a committee to plan a demonstration and picnic.

Active vocabulary:

creation – yaratilish, создание  
contribution – ehson qilish, пожертвование  
carve – kesmoq, tilmoq, резать  
delv – qidirmoq, titmoq, рыться, копать  
grandeur – boylik, богатство

Answer the questions:

1. What kind of holiday is Labor Day?
2. Who was Peter J. McGuire?
3. Who was Matthew Maguire?
4. What did the Central Labor Union?

### *Halloween*

Halloween is a festival that takes place on October 31. In the United States children wear costumes and masks and go trick-or-treating. Many of them carve jack-o'-lanterns out of pumpkins. Fortunetelling and storytelling about ghosts and witches are popular activities.

Halloween developed from New Year festivals and festivals of the dead. Christian church established a festival on November 1 called All Saints' Day so that people could continue to celebrate their festivals.

The Mass said on All Saints' Day was called Allhallowmass. The day before All Saints' Day was known all hallows' Eve or All Hallow e'en.

The main Halloween activity for children is trick-or-treating. Children dress in costumes and masks and go from door to door saying "trick or treat". The neighbours give children such treats as candy, fruit and pennies so that children do not play tricks on them.

Jack-o'-lanterns are hallowed-out pumpkins with face carved into one side. Most jack-o'-lanterns contain a candle inside. An Irish legend says that jack-o'-lanterns are named after the man called Jack.

He could not enter heaven because he was a miser, and he could not enter hell because he had played jokes on devil. As a result, Jack has to walk on the earth with his lantern until Judgment Day.

Fortunetelling is an important part of Halloween. For example, a coin, a ring, and a thimble were baked into a cake. It was believed that the person who found the coin would become wealthy. The one who found the ring would marry soon. And the person who found the thimble would never get married. Today people practice cardreading or palmistry.

People once believed that there were many ghosts and witches on the Earth and that they met on October 31 to worship the devil. Today, people do not believe in ghosts and witches but they like to tell stories about them on Halloween.

Halloween first was celebrated in the United States in the 1840s, when Irish Catholics, fleeing from the potato famine, brought Halloween customs with them to America. The tradition of carving jack-o'-lanterns originated with Irish children who first carved out the centers of rutabagas, turnips and potatoes and placed candles inside. This symbolized a mythical ghost doomed to walk the earth forever because he had angered both God and the devil. The new Americans found that pumpkins made even better jack-o'-lanterns than the other items they had used in Ireland.

## Vocabulary:

Halloween — Хэллоуин; канун Дня всех святых

to trick-or-treat — выпрашивать угощение

"trickortreat" — "угощайте, а не то подшутим"

Jack-o'-lantern — фонарь

fortunetelling — гадание

ghost — привидение

witch — ведьма

to establish — установить

All Saints Day — День всех святых

mass — месса

eve — канун,

treat — угощение

hallowed-out pumpkins — тыквы, пустые внутри

candle — свеча

Irish — ирландский

heaven — рай

miser — скряга, скупец

hell — ад

Judgment Day — Судный день

coin — монета

ring — кольцо

thimble — наперсток

wealthy — богатый

cardreading — гадание на картах

palmistry — хиромантия, гадание по руке

toworship — поклоняться

Birthday - Деньрождения



## Questions:

1. What are the most popular activities on Halloween?
2. What is the origin of Halloween?
3. What does the word "Halloween" mean?
4. What is trick-or-treating?
5. What is jack-o'-lantern?
6. What methods of fortunetelling do you know?

## Columbus Day

Columbus Day is celebrated on the second Monday in October.

On October 12, 1492, Italian explorer Christopher Columbus landed in the New World. The discovery of America happened before dawn, on October 12, 1492, when the lookout of the "Pinta" shouted "Tierra! Tierra!"

In the late 15<sup>th</sup> century, India was a source of precious spices and other rare goods, but reaching it by sailing east was difficult because Africa blocked the way. Columbus proposed to reach India by sailing west from Spain. This of course presumed that the world was round. Contrary to modern popular belief, sailors and other educated people of the 15<sup>th</sup> century already understood this.

Columbus had a difficult time funding his voyage, not because the experts thought the Earth was flat, but because they calculated how far India was to the west of Spain, and concluded that the distance was far too great. Indeed, if the American continent had not existed, the experts would have been vindicated. Columbus with his tiny ships could never have crossed an ocean as wide as the Atlantic and Pacific combined.

After many years of rejection, it was King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella of Spain who finally agreed to provide financing for the dangerous and speculative expedition. Columbus set sail with 90 men in August 1492 on three ships: the Santa Maria, the Nina and the Pinta. After sailing west for five weeks, the expedition reached land on October 12. Columbus believed he had found a new route to India, hence the use of the word Indians to describe the peoples he met. Columbus would make three subsequent voyages and would die believing that he had found a new route to India and Asia, and not, in fact, the gateway to North and South America.

Columbus was not the first European to successfully cross the Atlantic. Viking sailors are believed to have established a settlement in Newfoundland sometime in the 11<sup>th</sup> century, and scholars have argued for a number of other possible pre-Columbian landings. Columbus, however, is credited for initiating the lasting encounter between Europeans and the indigenous peoples of the Western Hemisphere.

Italian immigrants were the first to celebrate the holiday annually in U.S. cities where they had settled in large numbers, in part as a celebration of their heritage, since Columbus was believed to be Italian. In 1937, President Franklin D. Roosevelt proclaimed Columbus Day a national holiday, then held every October 12. In 1971, Congress moved the U.S. holiday from October 12 to the second Monday in October, to afford workers a long holiday weekend.

Active vocabulary:

presume – taxmin qilmoq, предполагать

vindicate – isbotlamoq, доказывать

hence – shu yerdan, отсюда

encounter – tasodifan, послучайности

indigenous – mahalliy, местный

Answer the questions:

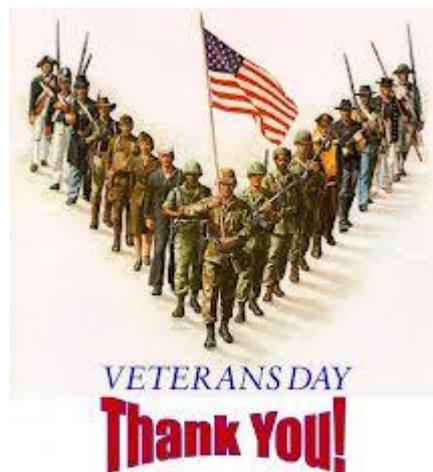
1. When Columbus Day is celebrated?
2. Who was Columbus?
3. Who finally agreed to provide financing for the dangerous and speculative expedition?
4. What President Franklin D. Roosevelt proclaimed in 1937?

## **Veteran's Day**

In 1918, on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day in the eleventh month, the world rejoiced and celebrated. After four years of bitter war, an armistice was signed. The "war to end all wars" was over.

November 11, 1919 was set aside as Armistice Day in the United States, to remember the sacrifices that men and women made during World War I in order to ensure a lasting peace. On Armistice Day, soldiers who survived the war marched in a parade through their home towns. Politicians and veteran officers gave speeches and held ceremonies of thanks for the peace they had won.

Congress voted Armistice Day a federal holiday in 1938, 20 years after the war ended. But Americans realized that the previous war would not be the last one. World War II began the following year and nations great and small again participated in a bloody struggle. After the Second World War, Armistice Day continued to be observed on November 11. In 1953 townspeople in Emporia, Kansas called the holiday Veterans' Day in gratitude to the veterans in their town. Soon after, Congress passed a bill introduced by a Kansas congressman renaming the federal holiday to Veterans' Day. In 1971 President Nixon declared it a federal holiday on the second Monday in November. Americans still give



thanks for peace on Veterans' Day. There are ceremonies and speeches and at 11:00 in the morning, most Americans observe a moment of silence, remembering those who fought for peace.

After the United States' involvement in the Vietnam War, the emphasis on holiday activities has shifted. There are fewer military parades and ceremonies. Veterans gather at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C. to place gifts and stand quiet vigil at the names of their friends and relatives who fell in the Vietnam War. Families who have lost sons and daughters in wars turn their thoughts more toward peace and the avoidance of future wars. Veterans Day is celebrated on November 11<sup>th</sup>.

Originally called Armistice Day, this holiday was established to honor Americans who had served in World War I. It falls on November 11, the day when that war ended in 1918. Congress proclaimed the day a federal holiday in 1938. In 1954, Congress changed the holiday's name to Veterans Day, in recognition of those who served during the Second World War and the Korean conflict.

Today, Veterans Day recognizes all members of the armed forces, living and dead, who served during times of peace or war. It is a celebration to honor America's veterans for their patriotism, love of country, and willingness to serve and sacrifice for the common good. Veterans' organizations hold parades, and the president customarily places a wreath on the Tomb of the Unknowns at Arlington National Cemetery, across the Potomac River from Washington, D.C.

Active vocabulary:

rejoice – hursand qilmoq, радовать

recognition – eslamoq, распознать

willingness – tayyor turish, готовность

wreath – gulchambar, венок

tomb – qabr, могила

Answer the questions:

1. When Veterans Day is celebrated?
2. Why Veterans Day was established?
3. What do Veterans' Organizations?
4. When Congress voted Armistice Day as federal holiday?
5. When Congress changed the holiday's name?

**Thanksgiving Day**

Many Americans enjoy a local Thanksgiving parade, or the annual Macy's department store parade, televised live from New York City. Others watch televised American football, while all give thanks together for their food, shelter and other good things.

The holiday dates back to 1621, the year after the Puritans arrived in Plymouth, Massachusetts, determined to practice their dissenting religion without interference. After a rough winter, in which about half of them died, they turned for help to neighboring Indians, who taught them how to plant corn and other crops. Two Wampanoag men, Samoset and Squanto (or Tisquantum), taught the Pilgrims how to cultivate the new land. The next fall's bountiful harvest inspired the Pilgrims to give thanks by holding a feast.

Thanksgiving festivals continued throughout colonial and early American times, but for much of that period, the holiday wasn't celebrated every year. In 1777, the Continental Congress declared the first national American Thanksgiving following the providential victory at Saratoga. National Thanksgivings were proclaimed annually by Congress from 1777 to 1783.

After a five year hiatus, the practice was revived by President Washington in 1789, the year of his inauguration. He issued another proclamation in 1795. In 1827, Boston Ladies' Magazine editor Sarah Josepha Hale began a campaign to have Thanksgiving Day permanently proclaimed as a national holiday.

On October 3, 1863, in the middle of the Civil War, President Abraham Lincoln appointed a national day of Thanksgiving to be observed on the last Thursday in November. Every president after Lincoln issued an annual proclamation to set the date of Thanksgiving. This continued until 1941 when a joint congressional resolution officially set the date as the fourth Thursday in November.



Today the holiday traditionally revolves around sharing a hearty meal featuring such favorites as turkey, stuffing, sweet potatoes, cranberry sauce, and pumpkin pie. Before the meal begins, families or friends usually pause to give thanks for their blessings, including the joy of being united for the occasion.

Active vocabulary:

determine – aniqlab olmoq, определять

providential – omadli, удачный  
revive – qayta tirilmoq, оживать  
revolve – aylanmoq, вращаться  
blessings – minnatdorchilik, благословение  
inauguration – marosim, церемония

Answer the questions:

1. What Many Americans do on this holiday?
2. Who were Samoset and Squanto?
3. What the Continental Congress declared in 1777?
4. What President Abraham Lincoln appointed On October 3, 1863?
5. What is the traditional food of thanksgiving holiday?

### *Thanksgiving (1)*

*Almost in every culture in the world there is a celebration of thanks for rich harvest. The American Thanksgiving began as a feast of thanksgiving almost four hundred years ago.*

*In 1620, a religious community sailed across the Atlantic Ocean to settle in the New World. They settled in what is now known as the state of Massachusetts.*

*Their first winter in America was difficult. They arrived too late to grow a rich harvest. Moreover, half the colony died from disease. The following spring the Iroquois Indians taught them how to grow corn. Indians showed them also how to grow other crops and how to hunt and fish.*

*In the autumn of 1621 they got a beautiful harvest of corn, barley, beans and pumpkins. The colonists had much to be thankful for, so they planned a feast. Local Indian chief and ninety Indians were present. The colonists learned from Indians how to cook cranberries and dishes of corn and pumpkins.*

*In following years many of the colonists celebrated the harvest with a feast of thanks. After the United States gained independence, Congress recommended one yearly day of thanksgiving for the whole country.*

*Later, George Washington suggested the date November 26 as Thanksgiving Day. Then, after the Civil war, Abraham Lincoln suggested the last Thursday in November to be the day of thanksgiving.*

*On Thanksgiving Day, family members gather at the house of an older relative, even if they live far away. All give thanks for everything good they have. Charitable organizations offer traditional meal to the homeless.*

*Foods, eaten at the first thanksgiving, have become traditional. The traditional thanksgiving meal consists of roast turkey stuffed with herb-flavoured bread, cranberry jelly, mashed potatoes, pumpkin pie. Other dishes may vary as to region: ham, sweet potatoes, creamed corn.*

*Questions:*

- 1. Who were the people that started the celebrating of American Thanksgiving?*
- 2. What difficulties did they face in their first winter in the New World?*
- 3. What were they taught by the American Indians?*
- 4. Who participated in the first feast of Thanksgiving?*
- 5. What is the date of Thanksgiving and how it was adopted?*
- 6. What are the traditional plates on Thanksgiving?*

*Vocabulary:*

*Thanksgiving — День благодарения*

*thanksgiving — воздаяние благодарности*

*harvest — урожай*

*to settle — поселиться*

*to grow — выращивать*

*desease — болезнь*

*Iroquois Indians — индейцы из племени ирокезов*

*corn — кукуруза*

*crops — овощи*

*to hunt — охотиться*

*to fish — ловить рыбу*

*bountiful — обильный*

*barley — ячмень*

*beans — бобы*

*pumpkin — тыква*

*Civil war — гражданская война*

*charitable — благотворительный*

*stuffed turkey — фаршированная индейка*

*herb-flavored bread — хлеб с пряностями*

*cranberry* — *клюква*  
*cranberry jelly* — *клюквенное желе*  
*Clashed potatoes* — *картофельное пюре*  
*ham* — *ветчина*

## **Christmas**

Christmas is always observed on December 25<sup>th</sup>.

Christmas is a Christian holiday celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ. Decorating houses and yards with lights, putting up Christmas trees, giving gifts, and sending greeting cards have become traditions even for many non-Christian Americans.

In the third century, efforts were made to find out the date of the Nativity, but only in the year 336 was the date of the December 25 festival set in commemoration of Jesus' birth. Pope Julius formally selected December 25 as the day of Christmas in 349 A.D.

The Christmas Tree is a German tradition, started as early as 700 A.D. In the 1800s the tradition of a Christmas tree was widespread in Germany, then moved to England and then to America through Pennsylvanian German immigrants. In Victorian times, people had already started decorating trees with candies and cakes hung with ribbon. In 1880, Woolworths first sold manufactured Christmas tree ornaments, and they caught on very quickly. Martin Luther, in the 16<sup>th</sup> century, is credited as being the first person to put candles on a tree, and the first electrically lighted Christmas tree appeared in 1882. In 1923, Calvin Coolidge ceremoniously lit the first outdoor tree at the White House.

Santa Claus started with a real person, Saint Nicholas, a minor saint from the fourth century. Nicholas' reputation for generosity and kindness gave rise to legends of miracles he performed for the poor and unhappy. In the Middle Ages, devotion to Nicholas extended to all parts of Europe, but eventually faded in all the Protestant countries of Europe except Holland, where his legend persisted as Sinterklaas (a Dutch variant of the name Saint Nicholas). Dutch colonists took this tradition with them to New Amsterdam (now New York City) in the 17<sup>th</sup> century. Sinterklaas was adopted by the country's English-speaking majority under the name Santa Claus, and his legend of a kindly old man was united with old Nordic folktales of a

magician who punished naughty children and rewarded good children with presents.

Active vocabulary:

manufacture – ishlab chiqarmoq, производить

select – saylamoq, выбирать

extend – cho'zmoq, простираться

devotion – sodiqlik, преданность

punish – jazolamoq, наказывать

reward – mukofot, награда

Answer the questions:

1. When Christmas is always observed?
2. What have become traditions even for many non-Christian Americans?
3. What did Martin Luther?
4. Who was Calvin Coolidge?
5. Who is Santa Claus?

*The Christmas Feast and Santa Claus*

*Christmas takes place on December 25. There are some traditions connected with it. One of them is to give presents to each other. It is not only children and members of family who give presents to each other. It's a tradition to give Christmas presents to the people you work with, to give presents to friends, to send them Christmas cards. Another tradition is to have a Christmas Feast.*

*On Christmas day, the year's greatest feast was served. Although now we have different foods, the idea is still the same. The feast was started off with drinks and music. Once everyone was seated, the food was served, after dessert, people drank and danced. The banquet lasted hours and was the highlight of the day. During the Feast they served beef, meat pies, roasted duck, geese, pigs, porridge, fancy cakes, and toast. Christmas was a huge celebration filled with lots of eating, drinking, singing, dancing, and gift giving.*

*The beginning of custom of gift giving during Christmas started from the three wise men, with their three gifts for the Christ child\* Since then people have made up different things to tell their children where their Christmas*

*presents came from. Saint Nicholas was known in early Christian legends for saving storm-tossed sailors, standing up for children, and giving gifts to the poor. Although many of his stories can't be proven true, his legend spread throughout Europe, and he was soon known for his extreme generosity and gift giving.*

*Many stories include him riding through the sky on a horse and wearing his red bishop's cloak, sometimes accompanied by Black Peter, an elf whose job was to punish the bad children. The most known legend is when he walks through the streets in his bishop clothes, carrying a sack full of presents, and leaving a gift on the windowsills of children's houses.*

*From the different parts of the world, there are different names of Santa Claus, but the spirit of Christmas remains the same. Spanish children call their Santa Balthasar, children in Italy have a female Santa named La Befana, Denmark has a gnome named Jule-Nissen, Holland has Sinter Klaas, Germany has Sanct Herr, Russia and Ukraine Dedushka Moroz and there are even some places that believe the Christ child brings their presents.*

*Christmas is a holiday, when all fairy tales come alive. It is time when aunt Happiness and uncle Goodness strolling around, while Dedushka Moroz and Santa Claus give gifts.*

*Questions:*

- 1. When does Christmas take place?*
- 2. What traditions can be connected with Christmas?*
- 3. What was the feast on Christmas day?*
- 4. Where did the custom of gift giving during Christmas start from?*
- 5. What was Saint Nicholas known for?*
- 6. What is the most known legend about Saint Nicholas?*
- 7. What kind of holiday is Christmas?*

*Vocabulary:*

*to connect — связывать*

*feast — праздник*

*highlight — основной момент*

*roasted duck — жареная утка*

*goose ( мн.ч. geese) — гусь*

*fancy — разукрашенный, необычный*

*huge — огромный*

*wise — мудрый*

*to save — спасать*

*to toss* — бросать, выбрасывать  
*bishop* — епископ  
*cloak* — плащ  
*to accompany* — сопровождать  
*to punish* — наказывать  
*sack* — мешок  
*window sill* — подоконник  
*spirit* — дух



*to stroll around* — бродить, прогуливаться

### **New Year's Day**

In Christendom, under which the Gregorian Calendar developed, New Year's Day traditionally marks the Feast of the Circumcision of Christ, which is still observed as such by the Anglican Church and the Lutheran Church.

The Romans dedicated New Year's Day to Janus, the god of gates, doors, and beginnings for whom the first month of the year (January) is also named. After Julius Caesar reformed the calendar in 46 BC and was subsequently murdered, the Roman Senate voted to deify him on the 1st January 42 BC in honor of his life and his institution of the new rationalized calendar. The month originally owes its name to the deity Janus, who had two faces, one looking forward and the other looking backward. This suggests that New Year's celebrations are founded on pagan traditions. Some have suggested this occurred in 153 BC, when it was stipulated that the two annual consuls (after whose names the years were identified) entered into office on that day, though no consensus exists on the matter. Dates in March, coinciding with the spring equinox, or commemorating the Annunciation of Jesus, along with a variety of Christian feast dates were used throughout the Middle Ages, though calendars often continued to display the months in columns running from January to December.

New Year's Day is celebrated on the first day of the year, January 1st. It is a statutory holiday throughout Canada. When New Year's Day falls on a Sunday, the next working day is considered a legal holiday.

The celebration of this holiday begins the night before, when people gather to wish each other a happy and prosperous coming year. People may dance, sing, and drink a toast to the year ahead. Horns are blown at midnight, and people hug and kiss to begin the new year with much love and happiness. At the stroke of midnight on New Year's Eve, people cheer and sing "Auld Lang Syne." The song, which means "old long since" or roughly "the good old days," was written by Robert Burns in 1788. In one tradition, the old year is represented by "Father Time," an elderly man with a flowing gray beard, and the new year is represented by an infant. Making New Year's resolutions

– pledges to change for the better in the coming year – is another common activity associated with this holiday.

**Active vocabulary:**

statutory-                   установленный законом;  
o'rtatilgan qonunlar  
prosperous-                   преуспевающий;  
muvaffaqiyatli  
to hug- обнимать; quchoqlamoq  
roughly- примерно; taxminan  
elderly-пожилой; keksa  
infant-несовершеннолетний; voyaga yetmagan  
pledge-заявление; ariza



**Questions:**

1. When is New Year's Day celebrated?
2. Which song do people sing at the stroke of midnight on New Year's Eve?
3. What does this song mean?
4. By whom was New Year represented?
5. What is another common activity associated with this holiday?

**Sir John A. Macdonald Day**

Sir John A. Macdonald Day is held every year on January 11 marking the birth of Sir John Alexander Macdonald, the first Prime Minister of Canada and one of the Fathers of Confederation.

Sir John Alexander Macdonald (11 January 1815 – 6 June 1891), was the first Prime Minister of Canada. The dominant figure of Canadian Confederation, he had a political career which spanned almost half a century. Macdonald served 19 years as Canadian Prime Minister.

Macdonald was born in Scotland; when he was a boy his family emigrated to Kingston, Upper Canada (today in eastern Ontario). He articulated with a local lawyer, who died before Macdonald qualified, and Macdonald opened his own practice, although not yet entitled to do so.

Every January 11, Canadians organize activities and events in his honour. Teachers and youth leaders often use this day as an opportunity to teach young people about our first prime minister and the founding of our country.

Sir John A. Macdonald Day was established as an Act, the Sir John A. Macdonald Day and the Sir Wilfrid Laurier Day Act, which came into effect in March 2002.

In 2005 a non-partisan group of Kingston citizens from political, academic, artistic and tourism sectors, led by Arthur Milnes, began encouraging Canadian citizens and governments to recognize more fully the life and works of Sir John A. Macdonald, Canada's principal architect and founding Prime Minister.



In 2011 this group's activities were formally merged with those of Kingston's Macdonald Festival to operate as The Sir John A. Macdonald Bicentennial Commission to plan and organize a national celebration of Sir John A's 200th birthday in 2015.

The Commission received start-up funding from corporations, foundation partners and private donors, all of whom are dedicated to celebrating our country's heritage and Canadian heroes. The commission also received funding from all three levels of government and SALON Theatre.

**Active vocabulary:**

to organize- организовывать; tashkil qilmoq  
an activite- мероприятие, действия; tadbir  
an opportunity- возможность; imkoniyat  
founding- основание; asos

**Questions:**

1. By whom is the 11 of January linked?
2. Who was Sir John Alexander Macdonald?
3. How do teachers and youth leaders often use this day?

**Canadian Flag Day**

Flag Day, officially named National Flag of Canada Day is observed annually on February 15, commemorating the inauguration of the Flag of

Canada on that date in 1965. The day is marked by flying the flag, occasional public ceremonies, and educational programs in schools. It is not a public holiday, although there has been discussion about creating one. It has been suggested that Flag Day should be declared a national statutory holiday.

The Canadian national flag, also known as the "maple leaf flag", is flown on many buildings, including private homes on National Flag of Canada Day. Some people wear pins in the form of the flag. Many schools often hold special lessons on the Canadian national flag and its history around this time of the year.

Special public events are held in some years. For example, one million flags were distributed in the "One in a Million National Flag Challenge" in 1996 so Canadians could display them on Flag Day in 1997. Celebrations were held in 2005 for the 40th anniversary of the flag's inauguration. Some businesses distributed flags or decorated buildings with large versions of the red and white maple leaf flag. There has been a movement to make Flag Day a national statutory holiday recently.

### Active vocabulary:

annually- ежегодно; har  
yili

occasional- редкий;  
kamyob, noyob

an educational program-  
образовательная программа;  
ta'lim programmasi

discussion-обсуждение; muhokama

commemorate- праздновать; nishonlamoq



### Questions:

1. When is Canadian Flag Day celebrated?
2. When was the inauguration of the Flag of Canada?
3. By what is this day marked?
4. How is also known the Canadian national flag?

### Heritage Day

Heritage Day is celebrated in Canada on the third Monday of every February. Heritage Day was established in 1973 by the Heritage Canada Foundation to encourage the preservation and promotion of Canada's nationally significant historic, architectural, natural and scenic heritage. It is a

time for Canadians across the country to explore and celebrate their own personal heritage.

In some areas, Heritage Day is celebrated as an optional civic holiday. In Alberta, Heritage Day is celebrated on the first Monday in August. Yukon celebrates Heritage Day on the Friday before the last Sunday in February.

Since 1973, several attempts have been made to try and make Heritage Day a statutory holiday so Canadians across the country can celebrate. So far, the attempts have failed, but that doesn't stop Canadians from recognizing and celebrating this day.

A major event that takes place during this time of the year is the Servus Heritage Festival, which celebrates Canada's multicultural heritage. It is also known as the Edmonton Heritage Festival. It has, in the past, featured about 60 pavilions representing more than 75 cultures. Since its inception, attendance at the festival has steadily increased with a record of up to 420,000 people in 2006.



### Active vocabulary:

preservation-сохранение; saqlash

promotion-продвижение; rivojlanish

significant- существенный, важный;

muhim

civic- гражданский; fuqarolik

attempt-попытка; harakat, urinish

### Questions:

1. When and by whom was Heritage Day established?
2. When is Heritage Day celebrated in Alberta?
3. When is Heritage Day celebrated in Yukon?
4. Since what time have been several attempts made to try and make Heritage Day a statutory holiday?

## Daylight Saving Time

Daylight Saving Time begins on the second Sunday in March and ends on the first Sunday in November (but not in most of Saskatchewan and parts of Quebec, Ontario, and British Columbia).

The clock goes forward one hour at 2:00 AM on the second Sunday in March and back to normal time at 2:00 AM on the first Sunday in November. (Spring forward, Fall back) Prior to 2007, daylight time in Canada began on the first Sunday in April and ended on the last Sunday in October.

The Canadian Association of Fire Chiefs (CAFC) recommends that you schedule battery replacements when resetting clocks in the fall with the end of daylight saving time.

The main purpose of Daylight Saving Time (called "Summer Time" in many places in the world) is to make better use of daylight. We change our clocks during the summer months to move an hour of daylight from the morning to the evening.

According to some sources, DST saves energy. Studies done by the U.S. Department of Transportation in 1975 showed that Daylight Saving Time trims the entire country's electricity usage by a small but significant amount, about one percent each day, because less electricity is used for lighting and appliances

**Active vocabulary:**

replacement-замена; o'rnini bosuvchi

to schedule- планировать; planlashtirish

to reset- повторнозапускать; qaytadan yurgizmoq

to save- сохранить; saqlamoq

prior-предшествующий; ilgari

**Questions:**

1. When does Daylight Saving Time begin?
2. When did Daylight Saving Time end?
3. When did Daylight Saving Time begin and end prior to 2007?
4. What does The Canadian Association of Fire Chiefs (CAFC) recommend?
5. How is also called Daylight Saving Time?



**Commonwealth Day**

Commonwealth Day is celebrated on the second Monday of March. Commonwealth Day is the day when Commonwealth countries, which represent a quarter of all humanity, acknowledge their common bonds and the contribution of the Commonwealth of Nations to the creation of a

harmonious global environment. The holiday is celebrated with a different theme every year.

The second Monday in March was chosen as Commonwealth Day because it is a day when all schools throughout the Commonwealth are in session. Commonwealth leaders agreed that the day should be used to promote knowledge of the Commonwealth, particularly among the young people of their countries.

Since 1977, schools all over the Commonwealth have organized special activities to promote the understanding of the association. Many places hold events such as games, exhibitions and parties. There are folk dancers and displays of national costumes, and parades of national flags.

Many children correspond with pen pals from schools in other Commonwealth countries. Such activities are mainly designed to stimulate the children's interest and make learning about the Commonwealth fun.

**Active vocabulary:**

Commonwealth- содружество; hamdustlik

to acknowledge- признавать; e'tirof qilmiq

bond- связь; bo'g'lanish

harmonious- гармоничный; o'zaro mos

association-ассоциация, связь; birikma

**Questions:**

1. When is Commonwealth Day celebrated?
2. Which does this holiday represent?
3. Why was the day of the second Monday in March celebrated?
4. What have schools been doing since 1977?
5. What kind of events did many places held?
6. What kind of activities are designed to stimulate the children's interest?

## St. Patrick's Day

St. Patrick's Day is observed each year on March 17. St. Patrick's Day is not an official national holiday in Canada. It is, however, a provincial holiday in Newfoundland.

St. Patrick's Day invokes the spirit of St. Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland who is credited with bringing Christianity to the island.

Observed as a religious occasion in Ireland, in Canada, it is often marked with festive parades and the wearing of green. The Toronto St. Patrick's Day Parade is one of the largest in North America. Since it began in 1988, the parade has grown to include 100 organizations, 32 Irish county associations, 2,000 marchers, 30 floats, 14 bands as well as an assortment of wolfhounds, leprechauns and talking shamrocks.

It is believed that Patrick was born in Kilpatrick Scotland. When Patrick was in his early teens, he was captured during a raid and taken to Ireland as a slave. There he learned to tend and herd sheep.

At this time, Druids and pagans occupied Ireland. Patrick learned the practices and language of his captors. Because of the hardships he faced, Patrick turned to God.

When Patrick was twenty, God came to him in a dream and advised him to go to the coast. Patrick escaped and sailors took him back to Britain where he was reunited with his parents. But Ireland beckoned to the young man through his dreams, so Patrick entered the priesthood, was ordained as a bishop and returned to the Emerald Isle in March 433. He traveled across the country converting the people to Christianity.

His greatest legacy was a platoon of scholar-monks, who sought to preserve the classical works of Greece and Rome. While the Romans were burning down the Great Library at Alexandria, Irish Catholics were faithfully copying much of what was being lost.

The shamrock as a symbol of St. Patrick's Day recognizes the saint's use of the clover to explain the Christian concept of the Trinity – the three leaves



representing the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, with the stem representing the Godhead. It has been associated with St. Patrick's Day and Ireland for centuries.

Legend has it that Patrick stood on a hill overlooking the sea, staff in hand and banished all snakes from the Isle forever. This probably

symbolizes the end of pagan practices. Saint Patrick died on March 17, 461 at Sale, where he built the first church.

**Active vocabulary:**

to invoke- призывать; chaqirmoq  
wolfhound-волкодав; bo'ribosar  
to capture- захватить; mahkam ushlamoq  
to tend- ухаживать; boqmoq  
a captor- захватчик; bosqinchi  
legacy-наследство; meros  
shamrock-трилистник; uchbarg

**Questions:**

1. When is St. Patrick's Day observed?
2. What did St. Patrick's Day credit?
3. When was, as it is believed, St. Patrick's Day born?
4. What happened with him in his early teens?
5. When did he return to the Emerald Isle?
6. What is the symbol of St. Patrick's Day?

**Easter**

The meaning of many different customs observed during Easter Sunday have been buried with time. Their origins lie in pre-Christian religions and Christianity. All in some way or another are a "salute to spring," marking re-birth. The white Easter lily has come to capture the glory of the holiday. The word "Easter" is named after Eastre, the Anglo-Saxon goddess of spring. A festival was held in her honor every year at the vernal



equinox.

People celebrate the holiday according to their beliefs and their religious denominations. Christians commemorate Good Friday as the day that Jesus Christ died and Easter Sunday as the day that He was resurrected. Protestant settlers brought the custom of a sunrise service, a religious gathering at dawn, to the United States.

In Canada Easter is observed on a Sunday between March 22 and April 25. The commonly stated rule, that Easter is the first Sunday after the full moon that occurs next after the vernal equinox, is somewhat misleading because it is not a precise statement of the actual ecclesiastical rules.

The actual conditions to determine the date for Easter are

- Easter must be on a Sunday;
- this Sunday must follow the 14th day of the paschal moon;
- the paschal moon is that of which the 14th day (full moon) falls on or next follows the day of the vernal equinox
- the equinox is fixed in the calendar as March 21.

Easter is a religious holiday that commemorates the resurrection of Jesus Christ three days after his death by crucifixion some 2,000 years ago. For Christians, Easter is a day of religious services and the gathering of family.

The genesis of Easter was rooted in pagan gods that were worshiped prior to Canada's existence; but for Canada, Easter began and continues to be celebrated as a Christian event.

In many churches Easter is preceded by a season of prayer, abstinence, and fasting called Lent. This is observed in memory of the 40 days' fast of Christ in the desert. In Eastern Orthodox churches Lent is 50 days. In Western Christendom Lent is observed for six weeks and four days.

Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent, gets its name from the practice, mainly in the Roman Catholic church, of putting ashes on the foreheads of the faithful to remind them that "man is but dust." Palm Sunday, one week before Easter, celebrates the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem. Holy Week begins on this day. Holy Thursday, or Maundy Thursday, is in memory of the Last Supper of Christ with his disciples. Good Friday commemorates the crucifixion.

**Active vocabulary:**

resurrection-воскрешение; tirilmoq

vernal equinox- весеннее равноденствие; bahoriy kuntenglik

prayer-молитва; duo

abstinence-воздержание; nafsini tiyish

fast-пост; ro'za

Lent- Великий пост; Buyuk ro'za



6. What is the first day of Lent?

### Questions:

1. When is Easter observed?

2. What are the actual conditions to determine the date for Easter?

3. What does this holiday commemorate?

4. How is a season of prayer, abstinence, and fasting called?

5. What is Lent observed?

### **Earth Day**

Celebrated every April 22, Earth Day is the largest, most celebrated environmental event worldwide. More than 6 million Canadians join 500 million people in over 180 countries in staging events and projects to address local environmental issues. Nearly every school child in Canada takes part in an Earth Day activity.

Earth Day is celebrated in many countries on the Vernal Equinox (March 20th or 21st) which marks the moment that Spring begins in the Northern Hemisphere and Autumn in the Southern Hemisphere. In Canada, the United States and several other countries, Earth Day is primarily celebrated on April 22nd of each year.

The concept of Earth Day began in the spring of 1970. Exactly how and when it was conceived, as well as who was responsible for its origination, is still debated.

**Active vocabulary:**

staging-организация; tashkillashtirish  
primarily- преждевсего; avvalam bor  
concept-концепция; konsepsiya  
to conceive- задумывать; o'ylamoq

**Questions:**

1. When is Earth Day celebrated?
2. When is Earth Day celebrated in many other countries?
3. When did the concept of Earth begin?

## **Workers Mourning Day**

Workers' Memorial Day is an opportunity to highlight the preventable nature of most workplace accidents and ill health and to promote campaigns and union organisation in the fight for improvements in workplace safety. The slogan for the day is *Remember the dead – Fight for the living*.

Workers' Memorial Day was started by the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) in 1984. The Canadian Labour Congress declared an annual day of remembrance in 1985 on April 28, which is the anniversary of a comprehensive Workers Compensation Act (refer to the entry Workplace Safety & Insurance Board), passed in 1914. In 1991, the Canadian Parliament passed an Act respecting a National Day of Mourning for persons killed or injured in the workplace.

Workers Mourning Day is always observed on April 28. Each year on this day, the Canadian Labour Congress holds a Memorial ceremony in Ottawa in observance of the workers killed or hurt at work.

Although not a legal holiday, April 28 is recognized by the labour movement across Canada as the day to mourn victims of workplace accidents and for the renewal of the pledge to making the workplace safer.

**Active vocabulary:**

observance-соблюдение; amal qilish  
mourning-траур; aza  
renewal-возобновление; yangilash  
workplace- рабочееместо; ish joyi

**Questions:**

- 1.In memory of whom is this holiday celebrated?
- 2.When was this day recognized by Parliament?
- 3.What does the Canadian Labour Congress do each year on this day?
4. What is the slogan of this day?



Mother's Day is always the second Sunday in May. Mother's Day is set aside to acknowledge, show appreciation for and honor your "mom" (and other moms in your life).

Anna M. Jarvis, born in 1864 in Webster, West Virginia (U.S.), is

credited as the force behind the official Mother's Day observance. When Jarvis was 41, her mother died. On the second anniversary of her mother's death (the second Sunday in May 1908), Jarvis made public her plans to establish a day to honor mothers. The observance became official in 1914.

Although today it is customary to give cards, flowers, and other gifts on Mother's Day, Anna Jarvis was a strong opponent to the commercialization of the holiday. In particular, she was known to berate people who purchased greeting cards, saying they were too lazy to write personal letters "to the woman who has done more for you than anyone in the world." She was arrested for disturbing the peace while protesting at a Mother's Day celebration in New York, and eventually wished she never would have started the day because it became so commercialized.

**Active vocabulary:**

to acknowledge- признавать  
appreciation-признательность  
anniversary-годовщина  
to berate- ругать  
to purchase- покупать

**Questions:**

1. When is Mother's Day celebrated in Canada?
2. Who is credited as the force behind the official Mother's Day observance?

3. When did Jarvis make public her plans to establish a day to honor mothers?
4. When did the observance become official?
5. For what was she arrested?

## **Victoria Day**

Victoria Day is celebrated on the first Monday preceding May 25th. It is a statutory holiday throughout all of Canada except the Atlantic provinces (New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island).

Victoria Day falls on the second to last Monday in May, which is usually the third weekend, but can be the fourth in years like 1999 where the 31st falls on a Monday. It falls on the weekend preceding Memorial Day in the United States. Some cities celebrate this day with fireworks in the evening.

Victoria Day is officially the Sovereign's birthday. The Sovereign's birthday was first observed in Ontario (then called Canada West) in 1845



to celebrate the birthday of Queen Victoria of England (1837-1901).

After the death of Queen Victoria, an Act was passed by the Parliament of Canada establishing a legal holiday on May 24 in each year (or May 25 if May 24 fell on a Sunday) under the name Victoria Day. An amendment to the Statutes of Canada in 1952 established the celebration of Victoria Day on the Monday preceding May 25, making it the first long weekend of the summer season.

In 1957, Victoria Day was permanently appointed as the Queen's birthday in Canada. In the United Kingdom, the Queen's birthday is celebrated in June.

Alexandrina Victoria was born in London, England on May 24, 1819. She took the throne in 1837 and ruled for almost 64 years, the longest ruling monarch in British history.

She gave permission to four British provinces in North America to form a confederation in 1867, creating the Dominion of Canada. This established a federal government in Canada with a House of Commons, a senate, and a justice system. The documents approved by Victoria remained in use until Canada ratified its own constitution in 1982.

Victoria Day has also been known as the Queen's Birthday, Empire Day, and Commonwealth Day. The holiday name was changed to Empire Day in the 1890s when enthusiasm for the British Empire was at a peak. By the mid-20th century, however, the Empire had given way to the Commonwealth, so the holiday became known as Commonwealth Day. In 1977 Commonwealth Day was moved to the second Monday in March and Canadians continued to celebrate Victoria Day in May.

In Québec, since 2003 it has also been known as National Patriots' Day to honor the rebellion against the British in 1837.

**Active vocabulary:**

preceding- предыдущий  
amendment-поправка  
permanently- постоянно  
enthusiasm-энтузиазм  
peak-пик

**Questions:**

1. When is Victoria Day celebrated?
2. Except what provinces is this holiday throughout all of Canada a statutory holiday?
3. When and where was first The Sovereign's birthday observed?
4. What happened in Canada in 1957?
5. How has Victoria Day been known also?

**Father's Day**

Father's Day is always the third Sunday in June. Father's Day honors the role of dads and men who serve in father-like roles in the lives of others.

Fathers, grandfathers, stepfathers, fathers-to-be all have a day to stand in the spotlight on Father's Day. As "non-traditional" family structures become more common, any nurturing man – "big brothers," brothers-in-law, uncles, neighbors and others who are "like a father" – is likely to be honored on Father's Day.

Father's Day originated in the United States in 1909 when a woman named Sonora Dodd came up with the idea. Mrs. Dodd's father, William Jackson Smart, had raised her and her five siblings after their mother died in childbirth. While listening to a Mother's Day sermon at a church near her family's home in eastern Washington State, Mrs. Dodd thought about the sacrifices her father had made for his children and the fine job he had done in raising them. Because her father had been born in June, she decided to encourage the churches in her area to honor fathers in June. Through her efforts, the first Father's Day was celebrated in Spokane, Washington, in June 1910.

**Active vocabulary:**

to nurture- лелеять

siblings-роднойбрат (сестра)

sermon-проповедь

sacrifice-жертва

to encourage- поддерживать

**Questions:**

1. When is Father's Day?
2. Where and when was Father's Day originated?
3. Who came up with the idea of celebrating this day?
4. Why did she decide to encourage the churches in her area?
5. Where and when was Father's Day first celebrated?

**Canada Day**

On June 20, 1868, Governor General the Viscount Monck issued a royal proclamation asking for Canadians to celebrate the anniversary of the

confederation. However, the holiday was not established statutorily until 1879, when it was designated as Dominion Day, in reference to the designation of the country as a Dominion in the British North America Act. The holiday was initially not dominant in the national calendar; up to the early 20th century, Canadians thought themselves to be primarily British, being thus less interested in celebrating distinctly Canadian forms of patriotism. No official celebrations were therefore held until 1917—the golden anniversary of Confederation—and then none again for a further decade.

Canada Day is celebrated on July 1st. If it falls on a Sunday, the next day is considered a legal holiday. Canada Day is a statutory holiday throughout Canada. In Newfoundland and Labrador, Canada Day is also known as Memorial Day.

Canada Day was established by statute in 1879, under the name Dominion Day. It is a commemoration of the day in 1867 that the first colonies of British North America entered Confederation as the Dominion of Canada.

Other names used in the past for Canada Day include: First of July, July the First, Confederation Day, and Dominion Day. On October 27, 1982, July 1st, then known as "Dominion Day", was decreed by Parliament to be known as "Canada Day".

Canada Day is celebrated with barbecues, parades, music, and of course fireworks in the evening.

**Active vocabulary:**

commemoration-ознаменование

colony-колония

to decree- постановлять

barbecue- барбекю

**Questions:**

1. Where is Canada Day also known as Memorial Day?
2. When was this holiday established?
3. What are other names used in the past for Canada Day?

**Civic Holiday**

The Civic Holiday is a holiday observed in most provinces and territories on the first Monday of August. The holiday has various names from Civic Holiday (in Manitoba, Northwest Territories, Nunavut and in parts of Ontario and Nova Scotia), Heritage Day (Alberta), Natal Day (in parts of Nova Scotia), New Brunswick Day, Saskatchewan Day, British Columbia Day to the individual municipal holidays in Ontario (eg, Simcoe Day, Toronto; John Galt Day, Guelph; Colonel By Day, Ottawa). Quebec, Yukon, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland and Labrador do not have this mid-summer holiday.

There are references to civic holidays dating back to the mid 1850s when various cities in Upper Canada (now Ontario) began to have a public holiday in August (eg, London, 1856; Hamilton, 1862) or at the close of summer (eg, Toronto, 1861 and the town of Guelph, 1862). The date of the holiday varied year by year and was proclaimed by the mayor. Shops were closed and the day was spent with picnics and railway and steamer excursions. The idea spread quickly, even into neighbouring Manitoba; Winnipeg had its first public holiday in 1874.

In parts of Canada, the term "Civic Holiday" is a name referring to the annual holiday on the first Monday of August. However, this definition is far from uniform nationwide as three provinces and one territory do not recognize it at all, and five other provinces do not oblige employers to offer holiday pay on this day, thus making it a civic holiday in the legal sense. No universal name is recognized for this holiday — the official name varies between the provinces and even between municipalities within Ontario.

This holiday is commonly referred to as "August Long Weekend" but this is not a government term.

**Active vocabulary:**

term- термин

nationwide- общенациональный

to oblige- обязывать

legalsense- юридический смысл

commonly- обычно

**Questions:**

1. When is Civic Holiday celebrated?
2. How many provinces do not this holiday recognize?
3. What is is commonly referred to?
4. In which provinces is not this holiday celebrated?

## Labour Day

Labour Day is celebrated on the first Monday of September. It is a statutory holiday throughout Canada.

The Canadian labour movement can justly claim the title of originator of Labour Day. Peter J. McGuire, one of the founders of the American Federation of Labour has traditionally been known as the 'Father of Labour Day'. Historical evidence indicates that McGuire obtained his idea for the establishment of an annual demonstration and public holiday from the Canadian trade unionist.

Earliest records show that the Toronto Trades Assembly, perhaps the original central labour body in Canada, organized the first North American 'workingman's demonstration' of any significance for April 15, 1872. The beribboned parade marched smartly in martial tread accompanied by four bands. About 10,000 Torontonians turned out to see the parade and listen to the speeches calling for abolition of the law which decreed that trade unions were criminal conspiracies in restraint of trade.



The freedom of 24 imprisoned leaders of the Toronto Typographical Union, on strike to secure the nine-hour working day, was the immediate purpose of the parade, on what was then Thanksgiving Day. It was still a crime to be a member of a union in Canada although the law of criminal conspiracy in restraint of trade had been repealed by the United Kingdom parliament in 1871.

### Active vocabulary:

to claim- требовать, утверждать

originator- создатель

to indicate- указывать

martial- военный

tread-шаг  
abolition-отмена  
restraint-ограничение

### Questions:

1. Who has traditionally been known as the 'Father of Labour Day'?
2. From whom did McGuire obtain his idea for the establishment of an annual demonstration and public holiday?
3. Who organized the first North American 'workingman's demonstration'?
4. Why did about 10,000 Torontonians turn out to see the parade and listen to the speeches?
5. When was the law of criminal conspiracy in restraint of trade repealed?

### Thanksgiving Day

Thanksgiving Day is celebrated on the second Monday of October. It is a statutory holiday throughout all of Canada except the Atlantic provinces (New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island).

Before the first Europeans arrived in North America, the farmers in Europe would hold celebrations at harvest time. To give thanks for their good fortune and the abundance of food, the farm workers filled a curved goat's horn with fruit and grain. This symbol was called a cornucopia or "horn of plenty". When they came to Canada they brought this tradition with them.

The first North American Thanksgiving was celebrated in 1578 when the English Navigator, Martin Frobisher, held a formal ceremony in what is now called Newfoundland, to give thanks for surviving his long sea journey. Other settlers arrived after him and continued these ceremonies.

During the American Revolution, Americans who remained loyal to England moved to Canada where they brought the customs and practices of the American Thanksgiving to Canada. There are many similarities between the two Thanksgivings such as the cornucopia and the pumpkin pie.

The first Thanksgiving Day in Canada after Confederation was observed on April 15, 1872, to celebrate the recovery of The Prince of Wales (later King Edward VII) from a serious illness. In 1879, Parliament declared November 6th a national holiday of Thanksgiving.

Most families in Canada celebrate Thanksgiving with a special dinner for family and friends. The dinner usually includes a roasted turkey and pumpkin pie. Thanksgiving provides an opportunity to look at pioneer life, and it is an ideal time to celebrate the importance of Canadian farmers for all Canadians.

**Active vocabulary:**

abundance-изобилие

goat-коза

cornucopia-рогизобилия

pumpkin pie- тыквенный пирог

roasted turkey- жареная индейка

**Questions:**

1. When is Thanksgiving Day celebrated?
2. In which provinces isn't this holiday celebrated?
3. When was the first Thanksgiving Day observed in Canada?
4. What is special dinner for this holiday?



## **Remembrance Day**

Remembrance Day is observed on November 11th. It is a statutory holiday throughout all of Canada except Ontario and Québec.

Remembrance Day commemorates Canadians who died in the First and Second World Wars and the Korean War.

The first Remembrance Day was conducted in 1919 throughout the Commonwealth. Originally called Armistice Day, it commemorated the end of the First World War, "the War to end all Wars", on Monday, November 11, 1918 at 11:00 AM (the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month).

From 1923 to 1931, Armistice Day was held on the Monday of the week in which November 11 fell. Thanksgiving was also celebrated on this day. In 1931, M.P. Allan Neill introduced a bill to hold Armistice Day on a fixed day - November 11. During the bill's introduction, it was decided the word "Remembrance" would be used instead of "Armistice". The bill passed and Remembrance Day was conducted on November 11, 1931. Thanksgiving Day was moved to October 12 that year.

The poppy is the symbol that individuals use to show that they remember those who were killed in the wars and peace keeping operations that Canada has been involved in. Replica poppies are sold by the Royal Canadian Legion to raise money for needy veterans.

The tradition of wearing poppies in honor of Canada's war dead takes its origin from the poem "In Flanders Fields," written in 1915 by Lieutenant-Colonel John McCrae. John McCrae was a Canadian Medical Officer during the First World War. His poem reflects his first hand account of what he

witnessed while working from a dressing station on the bank of the Yser Canal.

**Active vocabulary:**

to conduct- проводить

bill-документ

poppy-мак

to reflect- отражать

to witness- свидетельствовать

**Questions:**

1. When was the first Remembrance Day conducted?
2. What was the other name of this day?
3. What did it commemorate?
4. Who introduced a bill to hold Armistice Day on a fixed day?
5. What is the symbol of this day?
6. What does the poem "In Flanders Fields" reflect?



Boxing Day is celebrated on December 26th. It is a statutory holiday in the federal jurisdiction and in Ontario. If it falls on a Saturday or a Sunday, the working day immediately preceding or following Boxing Day is considered a legal holiday.

Boxing Day, also known as the Feast of St. Stephen (after the first Christian martyr), originated in England in the middle of the nineteenth century under Queen Victoria. It originated as a holiday for members of the merchant class to give boxes containing food and fruit, clothing, and/or money to trades people and servants. The gifts were an expression of gratitude similar to the bonuses many employers offer their employees today. These gifts, usually given in boxes, gave the holiday its name, "Boxing Day."

Also related to the origin of Boxing Day is the tradition of opening the alms boxes placed in churches over the Christmas season. The contents of these boxes were distributed amongst the poor, by the clergy, the day after Christmas.

Today, Boxing Day is a holiday in the United Kingdom, Canada, and many other Commonwealth nations. It is a time for family and friends to gather with lots of food and fun. Outdoor sports such as soccer, horse racing and hunting are popular on this holiday. Retailers offer huge savings on many items on this day, making it the biggest shopping day of the year in Canada.

Throughout the Christmas season, many organizations keep the original tradition of Boxing Day alive by donating their time, energy, and money to fill the Food Bank and provide gifts for the poor.

**Active vocabulary:**

feast- праздник

merchantclass- торговый класс

alm- милостыня

clergy- духовенство

todonate- жертвовать

**Questions:**

- 1.How is also Boxing Day known?
- 2.Where does this holiday originate?
- 3.For whom, as it is originated, were gifts given?

## **January**

- 1st New Year
- 26th Australia Day

## **February**

- 2nd Monday in February Royal Hobart Regatta
- 14th Valentine's Day

## **March**

- 1st Monday in March Labour Day
- 2nd Monday in March Adelaide Cup
- Canberra Day
- Eight Hours Day

## **April**

- 25th April Anzac Day

## **May**

- 1st May Day

## **June**

- 1st Monday in June Western Australia Day
- 2nd Monday in June Queen's Birthday

## **August**

- 1st Monday in August Picnic Day

## **October**

- 1st Monday of 3rd term school holidays Family & Community Day

## **November**

- 1st Monday in November Recreation Day
- 1st Tuesday of November Melbourne Cup

## **December**

- 24th December Christmas Eve
- 25th December Christmas Day
- 26th December Boxing Day
- 26th December Proclamation Day
- 31st December New Year's Eve

## New Year

New Year is the time at which a new calendar year begins and the calendar's year count is incremented. In many cultures, the event is celebrated in some manner. The New Year of the Gregorian calendar, today in worldwide use, falls on 1 January, as was the case with the Roman calendar. There are numerous calendars that remain in regional use that calculate the New Year differently.

The order of months in the Roman calendar was January to December since King NumaPompilius in about 700 BC, according to Plutarch and



Macrobius. It was only relatively recently that 1 January again became the first day of the year in Western culture. Until 1751 in England and Wales (and all British dominions) the New Year started on 25 March – Lady Day, one of the four quarter days (the change to 1 January took place in 1600 in Scotland). Since then, 1 January has been the first day of the year. During the Middle Ages several other days were variously taken as the beginning of the calendar year (1 March, 25 March, Easter, 1 September, 25 December). In many countries, such as the Czech Republic, Italy, Spain and the UK, 1 January is a national holiday.

For information about the changeover from the Julian calendar to the Gregorian calendar and the effect on the dating of historical events etc., see Old Style and New Style dates.

With the expansion of Western culture to many other places in the world during recent centuries, the Gregorian calendar has been adopted by many other countries as the official calendar, and the 1 January date of New Year has become global, even in countries with their own New Year celebrations on other days (such as Israel, China and India). In the culture of Latin America there are a variety of traditions and superstitions surrounding these dates as omens for the coming year. The most common modern dates of celebration are listed below, ordered and grouped by their appearance relative to the conventional Western calendar.

What do people do?

Major Australian cities have special New Year's Eve events that include parades, music and entertainment. Celebrities are often invited as guests of honor or hosts for large New Year's Eve events. New Year's Eve balls are popular and have various themes such as masquerade, black-tie and formal wear, tropical, or gangster and glamour. Prizes for most intriguing or best-dressed outfits are awarded at these events. Many people also prepare their New Year's resolutions for the next day.

Many Australians celebrate New Year's Eve on boat cruises, urban parklands or beaches. Others hold special parties or barbecues at their own homes. Public countdowns to New Year's Day are made at large events in major cities, such as Sydney, and are often televised so those at home can join in the celebrations. As the clock strikes midnight to mark New Year's Day, fireworks are launched to farewell the old year and to welcome the new year. People often hug, shake hands or kiss each other on the cheek to show their joy and appreciation for the old and new years. Many people also toast their glasses and drink champagne or wine to commemorate this occasion.

Public life

New Year's Eve is not a public holiday in Australia. However, schools and educational institutions are closed on this day as it is in the school

holiday period. Some government offices may be closed or have limited staff as many public servants get time off during this period.

### Background

New Year's Eve is the last day of the year and the day before New Year's Day, which marks the start of a new year according to the Gregorian calendar, which was introduced to Australia by European settlers. Pope Gregory XIII introduced the Gregorian calendar in 1582. It was adopted immediately in some areas of Europe but it was not used in Great Britain until 1752.

It is important to note that not all cultures in Australia follow the Gregorian calendar in observing New Year's Eve and New Year's Day. For example the New Year in the Hindu, Chinese, Coptic, Jewish, Islamic calendars differ to that of the Gregorian calendar. Moreover, Australia's financial, or fiscal, year ends on June 30 and the new tax year begins on July 1.

### Symbols

Fireworks symbolize the crossover from New Year's Eve, which marks the end of the old year, to New Year's Day, which marks the beginning of the New Year. The largest and most elaborate fireworks occur at midnight between these two days as a way of saying good bye to the past and welcoming the future. The Sydney Harbour is an iconic Australian landmark that is a special symbol of New Year's Eve celebrations in Australia. On this night, the harbor is lit with spectacular fireworks, where hundreds of cultures unite for the Harbour of Light parade.

### Active Vocabulary

Variety – разнообразие – xilma-xillik

Omen – предзнаменование – belgi

Appearance – появление – ko`rinish

Incremented – увеличенный – ko`paytirgan

Changeover – переключение, изменение – o`zgarish

Conventional – обычный – oddiy

Landmark – веха – ishoratqozig`i

Elaborate – сложный - murakkab

**Answer the questions:**

1. When does Scotland change New Year to 1 January?
2. When did people in England celebrate New Year until 1751?
3. Which countries do New Year consider as a national holiday?
4. What do people do on this day?
5. Is New Year public holiday of Australia?



**Australia Day**

Australia Day (previously known as Anniversary Day, Foundation Day, and ANA Day) is the official national day of Australia. Celebrated annually on 26 January, the date commemorates the arrival of the First Fleet at Sydney Cove, New South Wales in 1788 and the proclamation at that time of British sovereignty over the eastern seaboard of Australia (then known as New Holland).

Although it was not known as Australia Day until over a century later, records of celebrations on 26 January date back to 1808, with the first official celebration of the formation of New South Wales held in 1818. It is marked by the presentation of the Australian of the Year Awards on Australia Day Eve, announcement of the Australia Day Honours list and addresses from the Governor-General and Prime Minister. It is an official public holiday in every state and territory of Australia, unless it falls on a weekend in which case the following Monday is a public holiday instead. With community festivals, concerts and citizenship ceremonies, the day is celebrated in large and small communities and cities around the nation. Australia Day has become the biggest annual civic event in Australia.

What do people do?

Many people have a day off work and use the day to picnic in a park, to go shopping or to play or to watch sports events. In some places, particularly Lake Burley Griffin, spectacular public fireworks displays are held. In addition, the Australian of the Year Awards are presented. These are awards for Australians who have made an outstanding contribution to their country or community.

In some towns and cities, citizenship ceremonies are held on Australia Day. These are ceremonies to welcome immigrants to the country who have been granted Australian citizenship. Although official, these ceremonies often have a festive atmosphere.

#### Public life

Australia Day is a public holiday in all states and territories. All schools and post offices are closed. Some public transport services do not operate and others run a reduced service. Stores are often open, but may have reduced opening hours. There may be some congestion on roads, particularly close to major events.

#### Background

On January 26, 1788, the First Fleet of 11 ships from Great Britain arrived at Port Jackson, which now forms Sydney Harbour. The First Fleet was led by Captain Arthur Philip. He established the Colony of New South Wales, the first penal colony in Australia. By 1808, January 26 was being celebrated as “First Landing Day” or “Foundation Day” with drinking and merriment.

Thirty years after the arrival of the First Fleet, in 1818, the Governor of Australia ordered a 30-gun salute, hosted a dinner ball at Government House and gave government employees a holiday. In the following years, employees of banks and other organizations were also given holidays. In the following decades, horse racing and regattas were popular activities on January 26.

In 1838, Foundation Day was Australia's first public holiday. It was also the occasion of the first public celebrations of the founding of Australia. The shores of Sydney Harbour were crowded and there was a firework display. By 1888, January 26 had become known as 'Anniversary Day' was celebrated in all colonies except Adelaide. In 1888, the centenary of the arrival of the First Fleet was celebrated with ceremonies, exhibitions, banquets, regattas, fireworks and the unveiling of a statue of Queen Victoria.

By 1935, January 26 was known as Australia Day in all states except New South Wales, where it was still called Anniversary Day. In 1938, large

scale celebrations were held. These included a re-enactment of the landing of the First Fleet, which did not mention the convict status of many of the passengers on these ships. The re-enactment is included the removal of a group of Aborigines. Shortly before the celebrations, a group of Aboriginal activists arranged a “Day of Mourning”. They used this to campaign for citizenship and equal rights for Aborigines.

From 1946, January 26 was known as Australia Day in all states. However, the public holiday was moved to the Monday nearest to January 26 to create a long weekend. Since 1994, the Australia Day public holiday has been on January 26 in all states and territories.

The anniversary of the first permanent European settlement in Australia is not a cause for celebration for all citizens. Indigenous Australians often feel that the celebrations on Australia Day exclude them and their culture, which was thriving for thousands of years before the arrival of the First Fleet.

#### Symbols

The main symbols of Australia Day are the symbols of Australia. These include the Australian national flag, with its representations of the Union Jack, the Commonwealth Star and the five stars of the Southern Cross, and the national anthem "Advance Australia Fair". Other symbols include the Golden Wattle, which is the national floral emblem, the opal, which is the national gemstone and the national colors of green and gold.

#### Active Vocabulary:

the proclamation – провозглашение–tantanalisuratdabildirish

sovereignty – суверенитет–davlatningmustaqilligi

civic –гражданский – grajdanlik

contribution – вклад –omonat

merriment – веселье – quvnoqlik

occasion – случай– voqea

thriving – процветание–yashnash

floral – цветочный–gulgaoid

the opal – опал - opal

#### Answer the questions:

1. When is Australia day celebrated?
2. What is the history of this holiday?
3. Are the schools and post-offices opened on Australia Day?
4. How do people celebrate this holiday?

5. What is The main symbols of Australia Day?

### **Royal Hobart Regatta**

The Royal Hobart Regatta began in 1838, is a series of aquatic competitions and displays held annually in Hobart, Tasmania, Australia and is Tasmania's oldest sporting event. The regatta runs for three days, ending on the second Monday in February, and dominates the whole river for the duration of the event.

It was begun by the then Governor of Tasmania, Sir John Franklin. Franklin provided free food and beer for all of the spectators, and the tradition of free entry continues to this day. The Monday was declared as a public holiday by the governor, and is now the oldest public holiday still continuing in Australia.

The regatta is held in grounds known as the "Regatta Ground" at the Queens Domain along the western side of the River Derwent. The grounds are now dominated by the Hobart Cenotaph, a war memorial to Tasmania's war dead.



It is normally well attended by public and competitors and is usually well supported by the Royal Australian Navy, which sends a warship to be a flagship for the regatta, and sometimes the Royal Australian Air Force, who provide fly-pasts with military aircraft. Often the RAAF Roulettes will do aerobatic performances. The Australian Army's elite Red Beret parachute regiment provides sky diving displays.

The events includes sailing, rowing, open water swimming, wood chopping, jet ski racing, dragon boat racing, a tug of war and a trans-Derwent swim across the 1.6 km width of the river. There is also a Miss Regatta girl competition, and the Regatta always has an official attendance ceremony by the Governor.

In recent years the regatta has also always included a side-show alley, with amusements, challenges and show-rides.

### **Active Vocabulary**

Aquatic – водный - suvli

Rowing – гребля– eshkakeshish  
a tug – рывок -siltash  
attendance –обслуживание –xizmatko`rsatish  
memorial –мемориал - memorial  
performance – выступление - chiqish  
regiment – полк- polk

**Answer the questions:**

- When does The Royal Hobart Regatta begin?
- What is the holiday like?
- Which competitions does The Royal Hobart Regatta include?
- Who declared this public holiday?
- What do the RAAF Roulettes do ?



**Valentine` Day**

Valentine's Day is celebrated in the memory of Saint Valentine, the Christian martyr who gave his life in the honor of love. King Claudius decapitated Saint Valentine in 269 A.D. for performing illegal marriages of Roman soldiers, who were apparently barred from marrying. Almost two centuries later, in 496 A.D., Pope Gelasius resolved to honor this sacrifice by observing February 14 as a feast day, without little thought or idea on the kind of consequence it would have on the entire world 1,500 years later. Today, Saint Valentine has come to be regarded as the patron of love, and Valentine's Day, the ultimate jubilation for lovers. Valentine's Day, the festival of love, is celebrated across the globe. Flowers, cards, gifts and celebrations are integral parts of this special occasion. Although the celebrations are more or less the same everywhere, some countries have exclusive V-day traditions unique to them. And, U.K is no exception! In Britain, this wonderful day is not only celebrated by youngsters and lovers, but also by the kids. Children sing special songs and are generously rewarded for this. This is also a day to savor special Valentine buns baked with

caraway seeds, plums or raisins. Read on to discover more about Valentine's Day tradition in Britain.

Although cards, flowers and chocolates make an indispensable part of V-day celebrations, the British like to celebrate this day in their own unique way. It's a V-day tradition in Britain to pen quixotic verses, lyrics and sonnets as a tribute to the icon of love, Saint Valentine. On this day, all the wild-eyed lovers come together and scribble poetic lines to commemorate the occasion.

Songs are the fun part of all celebrations and a day as special as Valentine's Day is no different. On this day, the English people, especially the kids dole out their favorite romantic tracks or love ballads and are generously rewarded with candies, toys and truffles, in return.

On V-day, the young girls wake up early in the morning, stand near the window, and keep an eye on the people passing by. There is a long-existing belief in Britain that the first man a girl sees on the morning of Valentine's Day is the man meant for her.

There is this legendary belief among the people of U.K. that on 14th of February, i.e. on Valentine's Day, birds come together to find their mates. Thanks to Geoffrey Chaucer, this belief has come to be an indispensable part of Valentine's Day legend today. In certain parts of U.K., Valentine's Day is commemorated as 'Birds Wedding Day'. It is a custom to eat baked buns topped with caraway seeds, plums and raisins on this day.

In U.K., Valentine's Day marks the end of winter and commencement of spring. Hence, this day is rejoiced with great jubilation. Apart from the customary tradition of penning verses, people exchange cozy moments, cute gifts and cards to bring in the day.

Valentine's traditions in U.K. may vary from the rest of the world. However, that doesn't take away from the people and the celebration its unique appeal and significance.

### ***Active Vocabulary***

martyr-мученик

barred-taqiqlangan- запрещенный

sacrifice-o`lja - жертва

consequence-meros-последствие

jubilation-ликование

raisins-mayiziyum

indispensable-ma`suliyatlik- обязательный

rejoiced-xursandqildi-радовал

cozy-qulay-удобный

### ***Answer the questions:***

1. In the honor of whom is Valentine's Day celebrated?
2. When is this holiday celebrated?
3. In what country this wonderful day is celebrated also by the kids?
4. Why do the girls in Britain stand near the window, and keep an eye on the people passing by?
5. What is the legendary belief among the people of Britain on 14th of February about?

### **Labour Day**



Labour Day (Labor Day in the USA) is an annual holiday to celebrate the achievements of workers. Labour Day has its origins in the labour union movement, specifically the eight-hour day movement, which advocated eight hours for work, eight hours for recreation, and eight hours for rest.

Celebrating the Australian labour movement and specifically the achievement of a working day limited to eight hours, the Labour Day public holiday is fixed by the various state and territory governments, and so varies considerably. It is the first Monday in October in the Australian Capital Territory, New South Wales and South Australia. In both Victoria and Tasmania, it is the second Monday in March (though the latter calls it Eight Hours Day). In Western Australia, Labour Day is the first Monday in March. In both Queensland and the Northern Territory, it is the first Monday in May.

What do people do?

Many people use the Labour Day holiday as part of a long weekend where they can relax, spend time with friends or family members, play or watch sport, have barbecues. Some people plan a getaway trip to a coastal region, the mountains or the countryside where they can engage in various activities such as picnics, wine-tasting at a winery, bush-walking, or camping.

Throughout the nation, Labour Day is an occasion for unions, community groups and the general public to join in celebration. In Queensland's capital city of Brisbane there are marches held on or around

Labour Day. They are often led by the state's key political leaders and influential key figures. Union members often take part in these marches.

### Public life

Labour Day is a public holiday in all states and territories in Australia. It is observed in Western Australia on the first Monday in March and on the second Monday in March in Victoria and Tasmania. It is celebrated in the Northern Territory and Queensland on the first Monday in May. It is held on the first Monday of October in the Australian Capital Territory, New South Wales and South Australia.

During this holiday government offices are closed, as are post offices, schools and many businesses. Those planning on using public transport on this holiday need to check with the local transport authorities prior to travelling.

### Background

The history of Labour Day in Australia spans over a century. It is an important annual event that remembers those who struggled and succeeded to ensure decent and fair working conditions in Australia. During the mid to late 1800s the working day was long and arduous, where some employees would work up to 12 hours a day, six days a week.

Many Australians saw the need for better working conditions and in the 1850s there was a strong push for this. On April 21, 1856, stonemasons at the University of Melbourne marched to Parliament House to push for an eight-hour working day. An agreement with employers for a 48-hour week was eventually reached and Australian workers welcomed the new eight-hour day. A victory march was held on May 12 that year and each year after that. In 1856 the new work regulations were recognized in New South Wales, followed by Queensland in 1858 and South Australia in 1873.

In 1874, Tasmania joined the other states in adopting the shorter eight-hour working day. In 1879 the Victorian Government made one further step towards better conditions for employees by proclaiming a paid public holiday that year. In light of the labour movement's successful push for an eight-hour day, a large May Day meeting was held in Melbourne in 1890. On May 1 that year a local newspaper made reference to that day as May Day.

One of the first May Day/Labour Day marches in Australia occurred on May 1, 1891 in Queensland. More than 1000 people participated in the march and carried banners. The leaders wore blue sashes and the Eureka flag was carried. It was reported that cheers were given for “the eight-hour day”. The Labour Day date was moved from May to the second Monday in March in some parts of Australia after World War II. Since 1948, Labour Day in Western Australia has been observed on the first Monday in March. It marks the granting of the eight hour working day to Western Australians.

### Symbols

The number eight has often been spotted on many union buildings in Australia to symbolize an eight-hour working day. For example, the Eight-Hour monument featuring a golden globe bearing the 888 symbol was erected in Spring Street in Melbourne in 1903.

Renowned Australian writer and poet Henry Lawson (1867-1922) wrote a poem “Freedom on the Wallaby” to mark one of the largest Labour Day demonstrations in Queensland in 1891 where it was reported that cheers were made for “the eight-hour day”. There have been other songs and poems that refer to the theme behind this holiday and the efforts of the labour movement in modern times such as “The Eight-Hour Day” by John Warner, calling for Australians to stand up united and maintain their rights to an eight-hour work day.

### Active Vocabulary

Labour – труд - mehnat

Recreation – отдых – dam olish

Coastal – прибрежный – qirg'oqbo'yidagi

March – марш - marsh

Influential – влиятельный – obro'li

Prior – предшествующий – oldingi

Span – промежуток – oraliq

Condition – состояние – holat

Stonemason- каменщик – g'ishtteruvchi

Agreement – соглашение - bitim

### Answer the questions:

- When is Labour Day celebrated?
- Do people work on this holiday?
- What do people do on Labour Day?

- What is the history of this holiday?
- Who wrote a poem about Labour Day?

### **The Adelaide Cup**

The Adelaide Cup is a SAJC Group 2 Thoroughbred horse race held in South Australia. It is handicap race run over 3,200 metres (two miles) at Morphettville Racecourse in Adelaide Australia. Total prize money for the race is A\$400,000.



The cup is held on the second Monday of March since March 2006. Before 2006 it was held in May. It was first run in 1864, just three years after the Melbourne Cup commenced. The day received public holiday status in 1973 and has become a major social event in South Australia.

What do people do?

Adelaide Cup is one of the biggest events of the year for many people in South Australia. It is a social event in Adelaide that attracts horse racing enthusiasts and socialites alike. Those involved in the horse racing industry, including horse owners, trainers and jockeys, participate for prize money that is awarded to winning horses on the day. Many people bet on their favorite horse in hope of taking their winnings home. The first race generally starts between 11.45am and 12.30pm. There are usually eight races throughout the day that are 40 minutes apart.

Many people who attend the event dress up in their best outfits, watch or are chosen to take part in fashion shows, listen to live music, and socialize with celebrity guests on the field. Marquees are set up near the tracks where special guests can indulge in gourmet food and drinks. Those who do not

attend the race track to watch the event may choose to watch it from their televisions at home.

Adelaide Cup is part of a long weekend so it is also a time for many people to plan a short vacation or camping trip to other parts of the state or other states within Australia. In previous times, some people chose celebrate Volunteer's Day instead of the Adelaide Cup in South Australia.

### Public life

Adelaide Cup is a state holiday in South Australia. State government offices, schools and many businesses in South Australia are closed on the second Monday of March.

### Background

Horse racing in Adelaide began in 1838 and the inaugural Adelaide Cup was run on the Thebarton Course on April 21, 1864. From this point onwards, the Adelaide Cup was an observance that became part of the state's annual racing schedule. A wartime ban on racing was introduced in 1942 but the ban was lifted in 1944 and the Adelaide Cup was run again. Adelaide Cup received its public holiday status in 1973 and became officially known as the SKYCITY Adelaide Cup in 2005.

Previously held on the third Monday of May, the Adelaide Cup date was changed in 2006 due to rainy weather that often coincided with the racing date in previous years. The newly proposed date needed to fit with the Australian national racing calendar. The South Australian government's decision to move the date to a warmer time of the year (in the southern hemisphere), which would improve financial returns, was a success. The Adelaide Cup date was fixed to be annually held on the second Monday of March from 2006 onwards.



### **Active Vocabulary**

Handicap – препятствие – to`siq

Major – главный–asosiy

Jockeys – жокеи - jokeylar

Gourmet – гурман – mazaхо`r

Observance – соблюдение– rioyaqilish

the ban – запрещение – taqiqlabqo`yish

vacation – каникулы, отпуск – ta`til

### **Answer the questions:**

- o What is The Adelaide Cup like?
- o How much is the total prize?
- o What do people do on this holiday? How do they celebrate it?
- o When did Horse racing in Adelaide begin?
- o When did Adelaide Cup become officially known as the SKYCITY?



### **Canberra Day**

Canberra Day is a public holiday held annually on the second Monday in March in the Australian Capital Territory (ACT) to celebrate the official naming of Canberra. Canberra was named at a ceremony on 12

March 1913 by Lady Denman, the wife of the then Governor-General Lord Denman. In 2012 Canberra Day falls on 12 March. In 2013 it falls on 11 March.

On 3 March 2007, ACT Minister Andrew Barr introduced a bill to change the day of Canberra Day to the second Monday in March so it falls closer more often to the actual birthday of Canberra. Previously it had been held on the third Monday in March.

Annual events associated with Canberra Day include the Canberra Festival, which runs from 11-20 March 2011, the Chief Minister's Canberra Day Awards Ceremony, and the Canberra Festival Balloon Spectacular.

What do people do?

Canberra Day is one of the major highlights of the Celebrate Canberra festival where people in Australia's capital city celebrate its qualities such as its physical beauty and cultural diversity. Various forms of entertainment that comprise the festival include:

Exhibitions and displays.

Sporting events.

Music.

Film.

Dance.

Theatre.

Celebrate in the Park – Canberra's biggest birthday party.

The Canberra Citizen of the Year is named around this time. Those who received this honor in previous years were recognized for their work in areas such as:

Improving Indigenous affairs.

Volunteer work for the terminally ill.

Assisting refugees to settle in the community.

Advocating on behalf of the elderly and/or aged care.

Contributing to various charities or community organizations.

The Canberra Day holiday falls on a Monday so some people may organize long-weekend getaway trips. Retreats may include campout trips, shopping trips to other cities such as Sydney, or a driving trip to the countryside.

Public life

Canberra Day is a public holiday in the ACT so territory government offices, educational institutions and many businesses are closed on the day. People who intend on travelling via public transport on the day will need to check with their local transport authorities as transport schedules and ticket prices may vary. For example, Canberra's bus service, ACTION, offers off-peak tickets on public holidays.

### Background

According to the Australian Government's Culture and Recreation Portal, the Canberra region has been home to a group of Indigenous Australians, known as the Ngunnawal people, for about 21,000 years. Many Aboriginal people continued to live in the area after the Europeans settled in there in the 1820s, often working on sheep properties, but their numbers reduced over the years.

The European settlement expanded and the area known today as Canberra became center of attention when it was chosen as Australia's new capital city as a result of an international competition, which received more than 130 entries, in 1911. American architect Walter Burley Griffin and his wife Marion Mahony Griffin won the competition to design a new capital city. Their plans for Canberra included green bands surrounding settlement areas, wide boulevards lined with large buildings, formal parks and water features.

The ACT was declared on January 1, 1911, and became a self-governing territory in 1989. Canberra is the heart of the ACT and is the hub of Australia's federal politics. Canberra Day was celebrated on the third Monday of March, according to the ACT's Holidays Act 1958, until 2008, when it was officially changed to the second Monday of March. The change brought the public holiday closer to day city was officially founded, which was March 12 in 1913.

### Symbols

Canberra is the seat of federal government and is home to important cultural landmarks such as:

The Australian War Memorial.

The National Gallery of Australia.

The High Court.

Parliament House.

Old Parliament House.

The Aboriginal Tent Embassy.

The National Library of Australia.

Images of these landmarks, particularly Parliament House, are seen in many promotions for the city, as well as books, postcards and other publications about Australia.

### **Active Vocabulary**

Spectacular – зрелищный – tomoshagaoid

Diversity – разнообразие – турли-туманлик

Indigenous – местный - mahalliy

Advocating – защита – himoya

Charities – благотворительная деятельность – jamiyatixayriya

Schedules – списки – ro'uxatlar

### **Answer the questions:**

- When is Canberra Day celebrated?
- Why does the holiday get this name?
- What forms of entertainment does the festival include?
- In which works were people recognized on Canberra Day?
- Which landmarks do Canberra consider as a home?

### **Eight-hour day**

The eight-hour day movement or 40-hour week movement, also known as the short-time movement, had its origins in the Industrial Revolution in Britain, where industrial production in large factories transformed working life and imposed long hours and poor working conditions. With working conditions unregulated, the health, welfare, and morale of working people suffered. The use of child labour was common. The working day could range from 10 to 16 hours for six days a week.

Robert Owen had raised the demand for a ten-hour day in 1810, and instituted it in his socialist enterprise at New Lanark. By 1817 he had formulated the goal of the eight-hour day and coined the slogan Eight hours labour, Eight hours recreation, Eight hours rest. Women and children in England were granted the ten-hour day in 1847. French workers won the 12-

hour day after the February revolution of 1848. A shorter working day and improved working conditions were part of the general protests and agitation for Chartist reforms and the early organization of trade unions.



The International Workingmen's Association took up the demand for an eight-hour day at its convention in Geneva in August 1866, declaring The legal limitation of the working day is a preliminary condition without which all further attempts at improvements and emancipation of the working class

must prove abortive, and The Congress proposes eight hours as the legal limit of the working day.

Although there were initial successes in achieving an eight-hour day in New Zealand and by the Australian labour movement for skilled workers in the 1840s and 1850s, most employed people had to wait to the early and mid-twentieth century for the condition to be widely achieved through the industrialized world through legislative action.

The eight-hour day movement forms part of the early history for the celebration of Labour Day, and May Day in many nations and cultures.

### **Active Vocabulary**

Welfare – благосостояние - farovonlik

Trade – торговля - savdo

Emancipation – эмансипация – ozodlik

Convention – соглашение – muvosa

Abortive – неудавшийся – o`ngmagan

Initial – начальный – boshlang`ich

Legislative – законодательный – qonunchiqaruvchi

### **Answer the questions:**

1. What is The eight-hour day like?
2. How many hours a day did French workers win after revolution of 1848?
3. How many hours were women and children in England granted in 1847?
4. What were the main part of the general protests and agitation for Chartist reforms?

5. When did The International Workingmen's Association take up the demand for an eight-hour day at its convention in Geneva? What did they decide?

### **Anzac Day**

Anzac Day is a national day of remembrance in Australia and New Zealand, originally commemorated by both countries on 25 April every year to honour the members of the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps (ANZAC) who fought at Gallipoli in the Ottoman Empire during World War I. It now more broadly commemorates all those who served and died in military operations for their countries. Anzac Day is also observed in the Cook Islands, Niue, Pitcairn, and Tonga. It is no longer observed as a national holiday in Papua New Guinea or Samoa.

An Australian veteran on Anzac Day.

Anzac Day marks the anniversary of the first campaign that led to major casualties for Australian and New Zealand forces during the First World War. The acronym ANZAC stands for Australian and New Zealand Army Corps, whose soldiers were known as Anzacs. Anzac Day remains one of the most important national occasions of both Australia and New Zealand, a rare instance of two sovereign countries not only sharing the same remembrance day, but making reference to both countries in its name. When war broke out in 1914, Australia and New Zealand had been dominions of the British Empire for thirteen and seven years respectively.

What do people do?

Many ceremonies, parades and other activities are held on ANZAC Day to remember the lives of those who participated or died in military action, particularly on the Gallipoli Peninsula in World War I. Dawn prayer or church services are a particularly important aspect of ANZAC Day. These represent the comradeship that the soldiers experienced as they rose each morning to prepare for another day of military action. After the services, gunfire breakfast (coffee with rum in it) is often served.



In major cities and many smaller towns, parades, marches and reunions of current and past military personnel and memorial services are held. The fourth stanza or verse of a well-known poem, known as The Ode, is read aloud at many ceremonies. The poem is called "For The Fallen" and was written by Laurence Binyon in 1914. It commemorates those who died and can never grow old.

After the formal events, many people play games of "two-up". This is a gambling game played using two coins. This form of gambling is usually illegal in many Australian states. However, the authorities usually turn a blind eye to it on ANZAC Day.

#### Public Life

ANZAC Day is on April 25 and is celebrated Australia-wide. However, holiday arrangements vary in states and territories. In the Australian Capital Territory and in Western Australia, the day off for many workers and students falls on the following Monday if April 25 is on a Saturday or Sunday. In New South Wales, the Northern Territory, Queensland, and South Australia, if April 25 falls on a Sunday, the day off for many workers and students is on the following Monday. In Tasmania and Victoria, there is no day in lieu when ANZAC Day falls on a weekend (although there may be substitution arrangements in some cases).

Many remembrance ceremonies occur on April 25, regardless of the day of the week. In many areas, large retail outlets, including supermarkets, department stores and shops in designated shopping areas, are closed all day. Some small stores and those supplying building materials and motor vehicle parts and accessories are open from noon.

Many public transport systems operate a normal, weekend or reduced service depending on the location. Some public transport services do not run on ANZAC Day, while extra services may be provided around special events, such as the parades. It is wise to check the appropriate timetables carefully if you need to travel on ANZAC Day. There may be some disruption to traffic, particularly around parades and ceremonies.

It is important to note that in the year 2011, Anzac Day and Easter Monday both falls on Monday, April 25. The Council for the Australian Federation (CAF) announced that Anzac Day will be observed on Tuesday, April 26 due to this overlap with Easter Monday. However, all states and territories in Australia have their own legislation in place that designates

Anzac Day as a public holiday on April 25, so there have been varied approaches to when the holidays will be observed.

The Parliament in Tasmania rejected a proposed substitute holiday for Anzac Day and Easter Monday, thus both holidays will be observed on Monday, April 25, in 2011. However, Victorians will observe Easter Monday on April 25 and will have a substitute public holiday for Anzac day on Tuesday, April 26, in 2011.

In South Australia (SA), the Minister for Industrial Relations Paul Holloway proclaimed that Tuesday, April 26, 2011 as a special public holiday, creating an extended five-day Easter weekend. The Proclamation states that due to the dates of Easter Monday and Anzac Day both falling on April 25, Easter Monday will be observed on Tuesday, April 26, in 2011. The people of New South Wales will also observe Anzac Day on Monday, April 25, and have a substituted a public holiday for Easter Monday on Tuesday, April 26.

In Western Australia and the ACT, a special holiday was declared for Tuesday, April 26, however neither Easter Monday or Anzac Day have been substituted, because it was not considered appropriate to lessen the significance of either day by moving the observance to some other time, so Tuesday, April 26 was simply declared to be a holiday.

The Queensland Government has appointed Tuesday, April 26 as a substitute public holiday for Easter Monday in 2011.

#### Background

In the early months of 1915, World War I was raging in most of Europe, including the Ottoman empire in the geographical area that is now Turkey. Russian troops were fighting on many fronts, particularly against troops from Germany and the Ottoman and Austro -Hungarian empires. At dawn on April 25, 1915, forces from France, Great Britain and the British Empire, including Australia and New Zealand, landed at a number of places on the Gallipoli peninsula. The campaign aimed to open up new fronts for the Allied forces and a trade route to Russia.

In the ensuing battle, many lives were lost on both sides and the Allied forces did not succeed in opening a trade route to Russia. The last ANZAC forces withdrew from the Gallipoli Peninsula by December 20, 1915, in a successful operation with very few casualties. In spite of their losses, the ANZAC servicemen and many Australians and New Zealanders saw this

battle as the start of the ANZAC spirit. This is an Australasian ideal based on the "mateship" and cheerful suffering the forces showed during this campaign

ANZAC Day is also a public holiday and day of remembrance in New Zealand, the Cook Islands, Niue, Samoa and Tonga. It is also commemorated with special services and events on or around April 25 in a range of countries across the globe. These include: the United Kingdom, France, Turkey, Papua New Guinea, Indonesia, Canada and the United States (including Hawaii).

### **Active Vocabulary**

Honour – честь - sharaf

the anniversary – годовщина–yillik

comradeship – товарищество – o`rtoqlik

arrangement – договоренность – to`xtam

legislation – законодательство – qonunlarmajmui

troop – отряд – otryad

peninsula – полуостров – yarimorol

motorvehicle – автомашина – avtomashina

timetable – расписание - jadval

### **Answer the questions:**

- What is Anzac Day like?
- When is the holiday celebrated?
- To honour of whom is this holiday?
- Which poem was written by Laurence Binyon in 1914? What is it about?
- Which countries do celebrate this holiday too?

### **May Day**

May Day on May 1 is an ancient Northern Hemisphere spring festival and usually a public holiday; it is also a traditional spring holiday in many cultures.

Traditional May Day celebrations

May Day is related to the Celtic festival of Beltane and the Germanic festival of Walpurgis Night. May Day falls exactly half a year from November 1, another cross-quarter day which is also associated with various northern European pagan and the year in the Northern hemisphere, and it has traditionally been an occasion for popular and often raucous celebrations.

As Europe became Christianized, the pagan holidays lost their religious character and either changed into popular secular celebrations, as with May Day, or were merged with or replaced by new Christian holidays as with Christmas, Easter, Pentecost and All Saint's Day. In the twentieth and continuing into the twenty-first century, many neopagans began reconstructing the old traditions and celebrating May Day as a pagan religious festival again.



What do people do?

May Day ceremonies that stem from the traditional centuries-old May Day traditions are celebrated across the world. In Hawaii, May Day is known as Lei Day to celebrate the island's culture.

In the United Kingdom, May Day is still celebrated in many towns with the crowning of the May Queen. Maypoles can still be found in some towns and May Day traditions may include hobby horses and local people dressed in costumes. In Oxford, traditions are upheld for May Day celebrations, starting with the choir of Magdalen College singing from the top of the chapel tower.

May Day is also referred to as Labor Day in many countries, as it also evolved from efforts of the labor union movement to celebrate the economic and social achievements of workers. It is celebrated as a national holiday across many countries in continents around the world. In Mexico, it is referred to as Primero de Mayo, and is a national holiday honoring workers. Around this time of the year, students in educational institutions may discuss the modern evolution of the holiday and the effects of politics on this day.

## Public life

May 1 is a national holiday many European countries including (but not exclusive to): Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Norway, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain and Sweden. It is also celebrated in countries in Central America, such as Costa Rica and Panama, and in some parts of the Caribbean, including Cuba. It is also a national holiday in Mexico. In South America, it is observed in countries such as: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, Uruguay, and Venezuela. May 1 is also a national holiday in the Russian Federation and Asian countries such as China, Thailand, and Vietnam.

May Day is not a federal holiday in the United States, nor is it a bank holiday in the United Kingdom, on May 1. Schools, post offices, stores and other businesses and organizations are open as usual. Public transport services run to their usual schedules and no extra congestion on highways is to be expected. However, the Labor Day holiday, or Labour Day, is celebrated in the United States and countries such as Australia and Canada at different times of the year.

## Background

Originally a celebration of spring and the rebirth taking place in nature, May Day dates back pagan cults that worshipped trees and other symbols of nature. Traditionally, May Day is characterized by the gathering of flowers and the fertility rite of dancing around the maypole. In recent years, particularly in socialist and Communist countries, May Day has become a labor festival honoring the military and industrial efforts of the country.

The eight-hour movement to reduce the working day from 10 to eight hours began after the Civil War. It was a major aim of the National Labor Union, whose first congress met in 1866. By 1868 congress and six states passed an eight-hour legislation. In 1884 the National Federation of Organized Trades and Labor Assemblies decided to call for a general strike on May 1, 1886, to enforce demands for employers to observe the eight-hour day. In 1947, amidst the anti-Communist Cold War hysteria, the US Veterans of Foreign Wars renamed May 1 as "Loyalty Day" and a joint session of Congress later made the pronouncement official.

In many countries, the May 1 holiday was obtained by trade union agitation supported by socialist parties. However, in Germany where such agitation had proved fruitless, it was instituted in 1933 as a gift from Hitler,

being promptly followed by the abolition of trade unions. In the United Kingdom, a May Day Bank Holiday was instituted in 1978 for trade unionists to celebrate, but was held on the first Monday in May to minimize the damage to business.

In China, Labor Day was extended to three days during the 1990s. The Chinese government made it a seven-day holiday by moving the prior and upcoming weekends together with these three days. This holiday allowed millions of Chinese people to travel during this period. The People's Republic of China reduced this holiday period down to one day in 2008, while simultaneously reviving three traditional Chinese holidays: the Dragon Boat Festival, Tomb-Sweeping Day and the Mid-Autumn Festival

### Symbols and Superstition

Many ancient customs associated with May Day come from the old Roman festival of flowers. These include gathering branches and flowers, choosing or crowning a May Queen and dancing around a bush, tree or decorated pole (the May Pole). The sports and festivities held on this day symbolize the rebirth of nature as well as human fertility. In Spain, a tall pine tree is used as a Maypole. It is decorated with ribbons, beads, and eggshells as people dance around the pole and sing May songs.

There is a superstition in Norway, dating back to pre-Christian times, about hearing the cuckoo's first call in the spring. If the call comes from the south, the year will be good. If it is heard from the north, it is forecasted as a year of ill luck. If it comes from the west, one will be successful, and if it comes from the east, one will be lucky in love. For this reason, traditional Norwegian calendars show a bird perched in a tree on the mark for May 1.

### Active Vocabulary

Pagan – языческий – majusiylikkaoid

Raucous – хриплый - xirillagan

Secular – светский – oqsuyaklargaoid

Congestion – скопление – jamg`arish

Damage – ущерб – zarar

Pronouncement – заявление – bayonat

Hysteria – истерия – jazava

Eggshell – яичная скорлупа – tuxumpo`chog`i

Joint – заведение - korxonа

**Answer the questions:**

- When is May Day celebrated?
- When did neopagans begin reconstructing the old traditions and celebrating May Day as a pagan religious festival again?
- Is May Day a federal holiday in USA?
- What are the symbols of this holiday?
- Why was May Day held on the first Monday in May?

**Western Australia Day**



Western Australia Day (formerly known as Foundation Day) is a public holiday in Western Australia, celebrated on the first Monday in June (4 June in

2012) to commemorate the founding of the Swan River Colony in 1829. Because of the celebration of Western Australia Day, WA does not celebrate the Queen's Birthday Holiday in June, as most states do; it is held in September or October instead.

**Background**

HMS Challenger, under Captain Charles Fremantle, anchored off Garden Island on 25 April 1829. Fremantle officially claimed the western part of Australia for Britain on 2 May. The merchant vessel Parmelia, with Stirling, other officials and civilian settlers on board, sighted the coast on 1 June. It anchored in Cockburn Sound on 2 June. Another warship, HMS Sulphur, arrived on 6 June, carrying the British Army garrison. The Swan River Colony was officially proclaimed by Stirling on 11 June.

Ships carrying more civilian settlers began arriving in August, and on 12 August, Helen Dance, wife of the captain of Sulphur, cut down a tree to mark the founding of the colony's capital, Perth.

In 1834, Stirling decided that an annual celebration was needed to unite the colony's inhabitants, including both settlers and Aborigines, and "masters and servants" (the terms used at the time for employers and employees). He decided that an annual commemoration would be held on 1 June. It appears that the date was chosen by Stirling not only because it represented the sighting of the coast from Parmelia, but because it was also the date of a significant British naval victory in 1794, the "Glorious First of June".

What do people do?

A range of events are organized either on June 1 or on the first Monday in June. These include a Western Australia Day breakfast hosted by the Governor of Western Australia. The invitations to this event come in form of competition prizes. Entrants in the competition are usually asked to describe why a given community is strong, vibrant and inclusive. Other activities celebrate modern communities and the lives of the early white settlers and those of Indigenous Australians who had lived there for thousands of years.

Public life

Western Australia Day on the first Monday in June is a public holiday in Western Australia. Schools and other educational establishments are closed, as are many businesses and other organizations. Stores are usually closed, although small and specialty stores may be open. There are normally some changes to public transport services within Western Australia. Some services, particularly early in the morning may be cancelled but there may be extra buses or trains later in the day.

In the other states and territories of Australia, the first Monday in June is not a public holiday. Schools, businesses, stores and other organizations are open as usual.

### **Active Vocabulary**

Commemoration - Ознаменование -

Significant – Существенный – muhim

Naval - Военно-морской – harbiy-dengiz

Garrison – гарнизон – garnizon

Inhabitant – житель – yashovchi

Community – сообщество – uyushma

Competition – соревнование - musobaqa

### **Answer the questions:**

1. When is the holiday celebrated?
2. Who chose the date of Western Australia Day?
3. What is the history of this holiday?
4. Is this a public holiday? Do people work on Western Australia Day?
5. Do other states and territories of Australia celebrate it?

### **Queen's Official Birthday**



In Jersey, the lieutenant-governor hosts a reception for the public at Government House to mark the Queen's Official Birthday, at which he announces the names of recipients of Birthday Honours

The Queen's Official Birthday (King's Official Birthday in the reign of a male monarch) is the selected day on which the birthday of the monarch of the Commonwealth realms (currently Queen Elizabeth II) is officially celebrated in those countries. The date varies as adopted by each Commonwealth country, but is generally around the end of May to the start of June, to

coincide with a high probability of fine weather in the Northern Hemisphere for outdoor ceremonies.

The sovereign's birthday was first officially marked in the United Kingdom in 1748. Since then, the date of the king or queen's birthday has been determined throughout the British Empire and later the Commonwealth according to either different royal proclamations issued by the sovereign or governor or by statute laws passed by the local parliament. The exact date of the celebration today varies from country to country and except by coincidence does not fall on the day of the monarch's actual birthday (that of the present monarch being 21 April). In some cases, it is an official public holiday, sometimes coinciding with the celebration of other events. Most Commonwealth realms release a Birthday Honours List at this time.

Australia, except for Western Australia, observes the Queen's Birthday on the second Monday in June. Because Western Australia celebrates Western Australia Day (formerly known as Foundation Day) on the first Monday in June, the Governor of Western Australia proclaims the day on which the state will observe the Queen's Birthday, based on school terms and the Perth Royal Show. There is no firm rule to determine this date before it is proclaimed, though it is usually the last Monday of September or the first Monday of October. Queensland previously celebrated the holiday in June, however from 2012 it will be celebrated in October, with both dates public holidays in 2012.

The day has been celebrated since 1788, when Governor Arthur Phillip declared a holiday to mark the birthday of the King of Great Britain. Until 1936 it was held on the actual birthday of the Monarch, but after the death of George V it was decided to keep the date on the second Monday in June.



The only civic occasion of note associated with the day is the release of the "Queen's Birthday honours list," in which new members of the Order of Australia and other Australian honours are named.

This occurs on the date observed in the Eastern States, not the date observed in Western Australia. The Australian Football League clubs Collingwood Magpies and Melbourne Demons have traditionally played a game at the Melbourne Cricket Ground each year since 2001, and sporadically before that.

The Queen's Birthday weekend and Empire Day, 24 May, were the traditional times for public fireworks displays in Australia. Although they occasionally still occur the tradition has since been overshadowed by larger New Year's Eve fireworks. The sale of fireworks to the public was progressively banned by the states in the 1980s, and by the Australian Capital Territory on 24 August 2009. The Northern Territory is the only state or territory to still sell fireworks to the public.

### **Active Vocabulary**

Occasion – случай - hodisa

Sporadically – спорадически – tasodifiy

Firework – фейерверк - mushakbozlik

Coincidence – совпадение – bir-birigato`g`rikelish

Realm – царство – podsholik

Proclaim – объявить – ma`lumqilmoq

Reception – прием – qabulqilish

### **Answer the questions:**

1. Do all countries celebrate The Queen Birthday on the same day?
2. What does it depend on?
3. How do people celebrate this day?
4. When did they begin to celebrate The Queen Birthday?
5. When and why does the holiday change its date and name?

### **Picnic Day**

Picnic Day is a public holiday in the Northern Territory of Australia which takes place every year on the first Monday of August. It was originally declared a public holiday to commemorate the freeing of the Chinese Coolie indentured labourers who built the Darwin to Larrimah North Australia Railway. In a reversal of the existing policy the chinese workers were



given the right to stay in Australia as free settlers, and provided sufficient money for a steamer fare to Hong Kong. Instead they chose to go to Adelaide River for a picnic.

What do people do?

Many people observe Picnic Day as part of a long weekend when they can go on short trips or relax at home. Some people use the day to go on a picnic lunch at a park or at other outdoor places. Sporting events, such as baseball and netball games, are also held on the day.

The Harts Range annual races which fall on the Picnic Day long weekend. Held in the Harts Ranges about 215km (about 133.6 miles) northeast of Alice Springs, this sporting event features bull rides, a ute (utility truck) competition, children's novelty events, whip cracking, lizard races, and a rural ball.

People also visit the town of Adelaide River to participate in a traditional railway picnic on this day. The town of Adelaide River is about 114 km (about 69.6 miles) south of Darwin. The event's activities and games include tug-o-war, sack and three-legged races, as well as egg and spoon races. Traditional railway food and refreshments are served on the day.

Public life

Picnic Day is a statutory public holiday in the Northern Territory. Schools are closed and regular post services are closed (except for courier services, where orders must be made before the holiday). There are bus and ferry route variations in Darwin and other towns during the holiday, so travelers may need to check that their timetables are accurate.

Background

According to one source, Picnic Day was originally declared a public holiday so railway employees could go to Adelaide River to enjoy a picnic.

However, another story tells that it stemmed from a race meeting on November 27, 1947, that grew into what is now known as the Harts Range annual races. The meeting, which included riding, a barbecue and a dance, was such a big success that it became an annual event. An application was made to the Northern Territory Administrator for a central Australian holiday to be granted to coincide with the Harts Range Amateur Racing Club's future meetings. The administrator agreed to it and the holiday was gazetted as "Picnic Day".

### **Active Vocabulary**

a reversal – аннулирование – bekorqilish

a steamer – пароход – paroxod

lizard – ящерица - kaltakesak

rural – сельский – qishloqqa oid

refreshment – завтрак – nonushta

accurate – точный - aniq

route – маршрут – qatnovu`l

source – источник – chashma

policy – политика – siyosat

ferry – паром - parom

### **Answer the questions:**

1. How did this holiday appear?
2. What do people do on this day?
3. Which activities and games does The event include?
4. Where is Picnic Day considered as a statutory public? And what does it mean?
5. Which place do people prefer to go and have a picnic?

### **Family Day**

Family Day is the name of a public holiday in South Africa, in the Canadian provinces of Alberta, British Columbia, Saskatchewan, and Ontario, in the American



states of Arizona and Nevada, in Vanuatu, in Vietnam and  
(as "Family & Community Day") in the Australian Capital Territory.

#### Australian Capital Territory

Family & Community Day was celebrated on the first Tuesday of November in 2007, 2008 and 2009, coinciding with the Melbourne Cup. This public holiday was declared in 2007 under section 3(b) of the Holidays Act 1953 (ACT). It was announced in 2008 that it would continue on Melbourne Cup Day in 2008 and 2009. Mr. Andrew Barr, the ACT Minister for Industrial Relations stated the purpose of the new public holiday was:

"...to enable workers to take a break from their hectic working lives and to spend some quality time with their family and friends. ... Australians do work the longest hours of any country in the western world. We do deserve a break."

The ACT's Minister for Industrial Relations John Hargreaves announced in August 2009 that the territory's Family and Community Day would move to a different date from 2010 onwards.

Hargreaves announced that Family and Community Day would be on the first Monday of the September/October school holidays in 2010 (Monday, September 27, 2010). "However, in future years where the first Monday of the school holidays falls on the currently designated Labour Day public holiday, such as will occur in 2011 and 2012, the Family and Community Day will be moved to the second Monday of the term break".

The Family and Community Day public holiday will fall on the following dates in the next few years:

2010 - Monday, 27 September

2011 - Monday, 10 October

2012 - Monday, 8 October

2013 - Monday, 30 September

2014 - Monday, 29 September

#### **Active Vocabulary**

Hectic –беспокойный – tashvishli

Section – секция – bo`lim

Deserve – заслужить – loyiqbo`lmoq

the purpose – цель – maqsad

onwards – вперед – oldinga

province – область – mintaqa

Relation – отношение – munosabat

to enable – позволять – ijozatbermoq

**Answer the questions:**

1. When is the holiday celebrated?
2. Which countries do celebrate this holiday?
3. What did Mr. Andrew Barr, the ACT Minister for Industrial Relations state?
4. How was the holiday changed in 2009?
5. On which dates does the holiday fall?

**Recreation Day**

Recreation Day is a public holiday in northern Tasmania. It is held on the first Monday in November, and was instituted to offset Regatta Day in southern Tasmania. It is observed in all parts of Tasmania north of (but not including) Oatlands and Swansea. This area includes Strathgordon, Tarraleah and the West Coast.

What do people do?



Many people in northern Tasmania spend Recreation Day to catch up with family and friends and relax. Some people use the day to catch up on home maintenance or household chores. Others may spend time watching movies or enjoying outdoor activities as the weather heads towards the warmer months during the southern hemisphere’s summer.

Many people play or watch sport on this day. Those who observe or take part in sporting events on this day tend to enjoy popular Australian sports, especially cricket and Australian rules football, commonly known as “Aussie rules” or “the footy”. Some libraries are open for university students, who may use the day to study and prepare for any upcoming exams.

Public life

Recreation Day is a public holiday in northern Tasmania so many people in this area have a day off work. Many schools and businesses are closed in towns and cities such as Launceston. Some libraries, such as the University of Tasmania's Launceston campus library, are open. People who intend on travelling via public transport on the day will need to check with their local transport authorities as transport schedules may vary from area to area on this day.

### Background

Recreation Day does not have a great deal of historic, cultural or religious significance. Prior to 1989 it was simply known as the First Monday of November holiday. The Bank Holidays Act 1919 was amended in 1989 to delete all reference to the first Monday of November as a holiday. At that time it was proposed to make the day (known as Recreation Day) a holiday under the general powers of proclamation in section eight of that Act.

In 1991 the state government decided that Recreation Day would be observed on November 11. This was to coincide with the final day of the Australian Pacing Championship due to be held in Launceston at that time. The government's decision was proclaimed in the government gazette on September 18, 1991. Today, Recreation Day continues to be observed in northern Tasmania on the first Monday of November. Other parts of Tasmania do not observe this holiday. Instead they observe the Royal Hobart Regatta, which falls on the second Monday of February.

### Active Vocabulary

Amend – исправить – tuzatmoq

Reference – ссылка – surgun

Proclamation – провозглашение – e'lonqilish

Decision – решение – hukm

Observe – соблюдать – rioyaqilmoq

Prepare – готовиться – tayorlanmoq

Maintenance – обслуживание – xizmatqilish

Hemisphere – полушарие – yarimshar

### Answer the questions:

1. Where and when is Recreation Day celebrated?
2. What kind of activities are in this holiday?
3. Is it a public holiday? And do people have to work?
4. What is the history of Recreation Day?
5. When did government decide the date of this holiday?

## Melbourne Cup

The Melbourne Cup is Australia's major thoroughbred horse race. Marketed as "the race that stops a nation", it is a 3,200 metre race for three-year-olds and over. It is the richest "two-mile" handicap in the world, and one of the richest turf races. Conducted by the Victoria Racing Club on the Flemington Racecourse in Melbourne, Victoria, the event starts at 3pm (daylight saving time) on the first Tuesday in November.

The race has been held since 1861 (see list of Melbourne Cup winners) and was originally held two miles (about 3,218 metres) but following preparation for Australia's adoption of the metric system in the 1970s, the current distance of 3,200 metres was established in 1972. This reduced the distance by 18.688 metres (61.31 ft), and Rain Lover's 1968 race record of 3min.19.1sec was accordingly adjusted to 3min.17.9sec. The present record holder is the 1990 winner Kingston Rule with a time of 3min 16.3sec.



over  
race

What do people do?

Melbourne Cup Day is one of Australia's most popular social and racing events. The main racing event takes place at the Flemington Racecourse in Melbourne, Victoria. More than 100,000 people usually attend Flemington Racecourse. Local races are held throughout the country on this day and when the main race of the day occurs at the Flemington Racecourse it is televised on screens at race tracks across Australia. The race is televised live to an audience of about 650 million people worldwide. Many people stop what they are doing shortly before 3pm on Melbourne Cup Day to watch or listen to the main race either via television, Internet or the radio.

Those who live in Victoria have the day off work and the Australian Capital Territory (ACT) also observes a public holiday on the same day, where some people take the time to watch or participate in events focused on the Melbourne Cup. In other parts of Australia, some people plan a day off

work in advance to attend the local races. At the races, people dress up – many women wear their best or most colorful hats and dresses, with some participating in fashion parades on the field. Marquees are set up for VIP guests, including local, national and international celebrities who attend this festive event. Champagne, wine and gourmet finger foods are usually served on this day.

Many offices across the Australia stop work closer to the time of the main race to celebrate the event. Activities include office parties that feature hat and dress competitions, staff lunches at restaurants and afternoon teas where a television is available so workers can watch the main race. Bets are made on this day – even those who usually do not bet try their luck with a small wager or entry into a sweep, which is a lottery in which each ticket holder is matched with a randomly drawn horse. There are some Australians who deem horse racing as a cruel sport and have been vocal in their protests over the years.

#### Public life

Melbourne Cup Day is a public holiday in Victoria so many people in the state have the day off work. Although it is a legal holiday in only Victoria, it is observed in many towns and cities so there may be traffic congestion near race tracks in urban areas and parking may be difficult to find in these areas.

#### Background

Melbourne Cup Day has been observed in Australia since the first race was held at the Flemington Racecourse in Victoria in 1861. The race was won by Archer, who won it again the following year. The event features races, including the handicap race which is run by about 20 thoroughbreds for a couple million Australian dollars. The story of Phar Lap, a legendary New Zealand thoroughbred who won the Melbourne Cup in 1930 and was nicknamed “Australia's wonder horse”, was made into a movie. Some people believe he was poisoned when he died.

The first Tuesday in November, Melbourne Cup Day, was officially gazetted a full public holiday in 1877 in Melbourne. While all of Melbourne's 31 metropolitan councils celebrated the first Tuesday in November, there was a gap where some regional councils had not selected an 11th public holiday. Therefore, in 2008 the Victorian Parliament passed a new legislation that saw Melbourne Cup Day as a public holiday for all council areas in the state except those where other holidays have been designated. This means that Melbourne Cup Day is now officially a public

holiday throughout the state. There are similar races throughout Australia, as horse racing is popular, but Melbourne Cup Day is still the number one horse racing event in the country.

### **Active Vocabulary**

Turf – торф - torf

Adoption – принятие – qabulqilish

Adjusted – отрегулированный – to`g`rilangan

an audience – аудитория –

participate – участвовать –

congestion – скопление -

### **Answer the questions:**

1. What is The Melbourne Cup like?
2. Who conducted the holiday first time?
3. When was the first race held?
4. Where does the main racing event take place?
5. What is the story of Phar Lap about?

## *Christmas*

Most Australians have been dreaming of a white Christmas for centuries. But the traditional European Christmas is just a myth for Australians. Santas wearing thick woollen clothes don't fit with Australia's thirty-degree heat. Thankfully things are changing fast. Now they have their own Christmas, Australian style.

Australia is a country which is largely made up of desert and sandy beaches. For the first settlers, two hundred years ago, a plate of corned meat and a mug of billy tea might have been the best Christmas dinner available. As a new nation developed and grew richer, people tried to recreate the kind of Christmas that they used to have in Europe.

Christmas in Australia happens in the summer. However, we tried our best to deny the reality of a summer Christmas. In the class-room, children learned songs like Frosty the Snowman and Jingle Bells. Up until recently,

the only Christmas cards published portrayed white winter Christmases, All this was a bit ridiculous in a country where 80 per cent of the land has never witnessed a snowflake, even in winter.

However, the last ten years have witnessed some big changes in the Australian lifestyle. Many Australians now believe that the country should break its connections with Britain and the British Queen.

Now Australians see themselves as inhabitants of the Asia Pacific region. So now Christmas has got an Australian identity.

It's rare to find a flake of snow on Christmas cards these days. Now the publishers print Christmas cards with native Australian animals and landscape scenes of the Australian bush.

On Christmas day you'll find a large percentage of kids on the beach playing with their new surfboards, building sand-castles rather than snowmen. Indeed one of the most typical Australian Christmas presents is a beach towel.

It's not only with food and gifts that Australian Christmases differ from European ones. Because of the weather, the atmosphere of Christmas is different.

Instead of being a serious time where most families are indoors, Australians are usually outdoors in shorts and T-shirts, taking a cold six-pack of beer to a friend's barbecue. There are loads of summer festivals with people celebrating Christmas in carnival style.

What is unique though is something that most Australians are starting to dream of. That is a Christmas of sunshine, surf and sand. Although to many Europeans this may seem strange, to many Australians it's now the only Christmas worth dreaming of.

Vocabulary:

myth — миф

desert — пустыня

to recreate — развлекаться

to portray — изображать, рисовать

snowflake — снежинка

to dream of — мечтать о (чем-либо)

Questions:

1. What have most Australians been dreaming of for centuries?
2. Who doesn't fit with Australia's thirty-degree heat?
3. What did people try to recreate?
4. What did Christmas cards portray up until recently?

5. What do the publishers print Christmas cards with?
6. What is one of the most typical Australian Christmas presents?
7. What do Australians do on Christmas day?

### **Boxing Day**

Boxing Day is traditionally the day following Christmas Day, when servants and tradesmen would receive gifts from their superiors or employers, known as a "Christmas box". Today, Boxing Day is better known as a bank or public holiday that occurs on 26 December, or the first or second weekday after Christmas Day, depending on national or regional laws.

It is observed in the United Kingdom, Hong Kong, Australia, Canada, New Zealand and some other Commonwealth nations.



In South Africa, Boxing Day was renamed to Day of Goodwill in 1994. In Ireland it is recognised as St. Stephen's Day (Irish: LáFhéileStiofáin) or the Day of the Wren (Irish: LáanDreoilín).

In many European countries, including notably Germany, Poland, Scandinavia and the Netherlands, 26 December is celebrated as the Second Christmas Day.

In Canada, Boxing Day takes place on 26 December and is a federal public holiday. In Ontario, Boxing Day is a statutory holiday where all full-time workers receive time off with pay.

What do people do?

Many important sports events are held on Boxing Day. The Boxing Day test match is a cricket game at the Melbourne Cricket Ground. The game is between the Australian National cricket team and other national teams touring Australia. The match starts on Boxing Day and may last up to five days. Between 1999 and 2007, the Australian cricket team won all of the Boxing Day Test matches, marking a huge victory for the nation.

Another important sporting event that starts on Boxing Day is the Sydney to Hobart yacht race. This is also known as the Bluewater Classic and

covers a distance of 630 nautical miles between Sydney Harbour and Hobart on the island of Tasmania. Traditionally, it took about six days for the yachts to reach Hobart, but now the fastest yacht usually reaches the finish in less than two days. The media interest in these prominent sports mean television programs are dominated by sporting events on Boxing Day. People also spend the day travelling home from their relatives or to an intended destination for their summer holiday, which tends to coincide with the school holiday period.

In some parts of Australia, the post-Christmas sales begin on Boxing Day. Stores offer their excess stock that was not sold before Christmas Day at reduced prices. Many people take advantage of the sales to buy products or services at significantly lower prices.

#### Public life

Boxing Day is a public holiday. Schools, other educational establishments and many organizations are closed. In some states, all stores are allowed to open. In others only certain types of stores are open. Many shops are open in tourist areas. Most public transport systems operate a reduced service. However, in some areas, there is no public transport on Boxing Day.

#### Background

Boxing Day is a holiday in many countries, such as Australia, in the Commonwealth of Nations. It was traditionally a day for employers in England to give bonuses of money, leftover food or old clothing to their employees, or for lords to give agricultural tools and seeds for the coming year to their tenants. These gifts were presented in a box. Some people believe that this is the reason that December 26 is known as Boxing Day. Others think that the origin of the name is related to the box into which parishioners put church donations. In some areas, this box was opened on Boxing Day and the contents were distributed to the poor people of the parish.

Note: Many Australian states and territories state in their holiday legislation that Christmas Day and/or Boxing Day are public holidays on December 25 and 26 unless they fall on a Saturday and/or Sunday, in which the following days (eg. Monday or Tuesday) that are generally working days, are substituted public holidays.

## Active Vocabulary

Notably – особенно – xususan

Tradesman – торговец – savdogar

Servant – служащий, слуга – xizmatkor

a huge – огромный – g`oyatkatta

yacht – яхта – уахта

leftover – остаток - ortgani

agricultural – сельскохозяйственный – qishloqxo`jaligigaoid

destination – местоназначение, расположение – o`rnashganjoy

donation – пожертвование – fidoqilish

tenant – арендатор – ijarachi

parishioner – прихожанин – butxonaqavmlaridanbiri

## Answer the questions:

1. What do people do on Boxing Day?
2. How was the holiday renamed in 1994?



3. When is Boxing Day celebrated?
4. What is the history of the holiday?
5. Is there any public transport on Boxing Day?
6. Is it a public holiday? Have people got to work on Boxing Day?

## Proclamation Day

Proclamation Day is the name of official or unofficial holidays or other anniversaries which commemorate or mark an important proclamation. In some cases it may be the day of, or the anniversary of, the proclamation of a monarch's accession to the throne. A proclamation day may also celebrate the

independence of a country, the end of a war, or the ratification of an important treaty.

Proclamation Day in South Australia celebrates the establishment of government in South Australia as a British province. The proclamation was made by Captain John Hindmarsh beside The Old Gum Tree at the present-day suburb of Glenelg on 28 December 1836. The proclamation specified the same protection under the law for the local native population as for the settlers. The date 28 December as a public holiday in South Australia was modified to the first otherwise working day after the Christmas Day public holiday (i.e. usually 26 December). Formal ceremonies involving the most senior current officials and politicians, followed by public celebrations, continue to be held at the still-extant Old Gum Tree at Glenelg on 28 December.

The proclamation was printed by Robert Thomas (1782–1860), who came from England with his family on the *Africaine*, arriving at Holdfast Bay on 8 November 1836. Thomas brought with him the first printing press to reach South Australia. The press was a Stanhope Invenit No. 200, and was on display in the State Library until 2001. It may be surmised that, from the quilled text of the proclamation provided to him by the officials, it was Thomas himself who made a more striking layout for print and thus gave rise to the belief that the document was "The Proclamation...of South Australia".

The colonising fleet consisted of 10 vessels which had gathered at Nepean Bay before being directed to Holdfast Bay. The *Africaine* was the first to arrive, discharging settlers on 9 November 1836, followed by the *Emma*, the *John Pirie*, and the *Tam O'Shanter*. These deliberately preceded Governor John Hindmarsh on the *Buffalo* to enable preparations including the printing of the proclamation in advance of his formal arrival on 28 December. Thomas's wife Mary (who died in 1875) published *The Diary of Mary Thomas*, in which she described the journey on the *Africaine* and the early years in South Australia. An extract from the diary reads:

"About December 20th 1836, we built a rush hut a short distance from our tents for the better accommodation of part of our family... and in this place (about 12 feet square) the first printing in South Australia was produced."

One of the children of Robert and Mary Thomas was a surveyor who assisted Colonel William Light in the survey which led to the founding of the City of Adelaide. Another son, William Kyffin Thomas, inherited from his father the newspaper of the time, *The Register*, which his parents had set up. William had a son, also called Robert, who became senior proprietor of *The*

Register. He was knighted by King Edward VII in 1909 when President of the first great Press Conference in London. A majestic statue of that king stands prominently outside the South Australian Institute building in North Terrace, Adelaide.

Western Australia

Proclamation Day also refers to October 21, 1836, the day that responsible government was proclaimed in Western Australia. It used to be a public holiday in Western Australia, but gradually the celebrations were preempted by those who wished to celebrate the achievement of the eight-hour day. In 1919 it was renamed Labour Day, and shortly afterwards the celebration date changed, with the result that Proclamation Day is no longer a public holiday in Western Australia.

### **Active Vocabulary**

Accession – доступ –

Establishment – учреждение – muassasi

Survey – обзор – ko`rinish

the ratification – ратификация – ratifikatsiya

treaty – соглашение, договор – shartnoma

suburb – пригород – shaharatrofposelkasi

layout – расположение – o`rnashgan joy

preparation – подготовка – tayyorgalik

accommodation – жилище, размещение – joylash

proprietor – владелец – xo`jayin

the achievement – достижение – yutuq

responsible – ответственный – javobgar

majestic – величественный – ulug`vor

prominently – заметно - hiyla

### **Answer the questions:**

1. What is Proclamation Day like?
2. When do people celebrate it?
3. What is the history of this holyday?
4. Who printed the proclamation?
5. Who made the proclamation? What did the proclamation define?

## New Year's Eve



In the Gregorian calendar, New Year's Eve (also Saint Silvester's Day in many countries), the last day of the year, is on December 31. In many countries, New Year's Eve is celebrated at evening social gatherings, where many people dance, eat, drink alcoholic beverages, and watch or light fireworks to mark the New Year. Some people attend a watchnight service. The celebrations generally go on past midnight into January 1 (New Year's Day).

Island nations of Kiribati and Samoa are the first to welcome the New Year while Honolulu, Hawaii is among the last places to welcome the New Year. Australia

Each major city in Australia holds New Year's Eve celebrations, usually accompanied by a fireworks display and other events. Gloucester Park, a racecourse in central Perth, is the largest and most recognized display in the Western Australian city. In Brisbane events are held at Southbank. At night, 50,000 people gather at sites around the Brisbane River to watch a fireworks display.

The two largest celebrations in Australia are held in its two largest cities; Sydney and Melbourne. Each year, the celebrations in Sydney are accompanied by a theme with two pyrotechnic shows; the 9:00 pm Family Fireworks and the Midnight Fireworks. Centering on the Sydney Harbour

Bridge, the fireworks are synchronized to a blend of popular music and a lighting display called the "Bridge Effect", which displays various symbols and other images related to the current year's theme, is shown on the bridge itself. The "Midnight Fireworks" are regularly watched by more than one million people at Sydney Harbour. As one of the first major New Year's celebrations globally each year, Sydney's Midnight Fireworks are often broadcast throughout the world during the day of 31 December. They are regularly watched by one billion people.

### **Active Vocabulary**

Beverage – напитки – *ichimliklar*

a blend – смесь – *aralashma*

to attend – посещать – *boribko`rmoq*

the bridge – мост – *ko`prik*

a firework – фейерверк – *mushakbozlik*

service – обслуживание – *xizmatqilish*

accompanied by – сопровождаемый – *bo`libbormoq*

to gather – собираться – *yig`ilish*

### **Answer the questions:**

1. How do people usually celebrate New Year's Eve?
2. Where is the largest and most recognized display situated?
3. Who are the first and the last to welcome the New Year?
4. How do people in Australia welcome the New Year?
5. Where are the two largest celebrations in Australia held?

Describe them.

## **II. Customs, Weddings, Births and Christenings.**

### ***GETTING ENGAGED***

In Britain the custom of becoming engaged is still generally retained, though many young people dispense with it, and the number of such couples is increasing. As a rule, an engagement is announced as soon as a girl has

accepted a proposal of marriage, but in some cases it is done a good time afterwards. Rules of etiquette dictate that the girl's parents should be the first to hear the news; in practice, however, it is often the couple's friends who are taken into confidence before either of the parents. If a man has not yet met his future in-laws he does so at the first opportunity, whereas his parents usually write them a friendly letter. It is then up to the girl's mother to invite her daughter's future in-laws, to a meal or drinks. Quite often, of course, the man has been a frequent visitor at the girl's house long before the engagement, and their families are already well acquainted.

When a girl accepts a proposal, the man generally gives her a ring in token of the betrothal. It is worn on the third finger of the left hand before marriage and together with the wedding ring after it. Engagement rings range from expensive diamond rings to rings with Victorian semi-precious stones costing only a few pounds.

In most cases the engagement itself amounts only to announcements being made to the parents on both sides and to friends and relations, but some people arrange an engagement party, and among the better-off people it is customary to put an announcement in the newspaper.

In the book *Etiquette* the author writes that "as soon as congratulations and the first gaieties of announcement are over, a man should have a talk with the girl's father about the date of their wedding, where they will live, how well off he is and his future plans and prospects". Nowadays this is often not done, one of the reasons being that today the young people enjoy a greater degree of financial independence than they used to, to be able to decide these matters for themselves. However, in working class families, where the family ties are still strong and each member of the family is more economically dependent upon the rest, things are rather different. Quite often, particularly in the larger towns, the couple will have no option but to live after marriage with either the girl's or the man's people. Housing shortage in Britain is still acute, and the rents are very high. It is extremely difficult to get unfurnished accommodation, whereas a furnished room, which is easier to get, costs a great deal for rent. In any case, the young couple may prefer to live with the parents in order to have a chance to save up for things for their future home.

But if the young people, particularly those of the higher-paid section of the population, often make their own decisions concerning the wedding and their future, the parents, particularly the girl's, still play an important part in the ensuing activities, as we shall see later.

The period of engagement is usually short, three or four months, but this is entirely a matter of choice and circumstances.

a frequent visitor

a ring in token of the betrothal

semi-precious stones  
unfurnished accommodation  
the ensuing activities

### *The Ceremony*

The parents and close relatives of the bride and groom arrive a few minutes before the bride. The bridegroom and his best man should be in their places at least ten minutes before the service starts. The bridesmaids and pages wait in the church porch with whoever is to arrange the bride's veil before she goes up the aisle.

The bride, by tradition, arrives a couple of minutes late but this should not be exaggerated. She arrives with whoever is giving her away. The vergger signals to the organist to start playing, and the bride moves up the aisle with her veil over her face (although many brides do not follow this custom). She goes in on her father's right arm, and the bridesmaids follow her according to the plan at the rehearsal the day before. The bridesmaids and ushers go to their places in the front pews during the ceremony, except for the chief bridesmaid who usually stands behind the bride and holds her bouquet.

After the ceremony the couple go into the vestry to sign the register with their parents, best man, bridesmaids and perhaps a close relation such as a grandmother. The bride throws back her veil or removes the front piece (if it is removable), the vergger gives a signal to the organist and the bride and groom walk down the aisle followed by their parents and those who have signed the register. The bride's mother walks down the aisle on the left arm of the bridegroom's father and the bridegroom's mother walks down on the left arm of the bride's father (or whoever has given the bride away). Guests wait until the wedding procession has passed them before leaving to go on to the reception.

the bride's veil  
ushers  
The vergger signals  
walks down the aisle

### *Marriage in Scotland*

In Scotland, people over the age of sixteen do not require their parents' consent in order to marry. Marriage is performed by a minister of any religion after the banns have been called on two Sundays in the districts where the couple have lived for at least fifteen days previously. Weddings may take place in churches or private houses, and there is no forbidden time.

Alternatively, the couple may give notice to the registrar of the district in which they have both lived for fifteen days previously. The registrar will issue a Certificate of Publication which is displayed for seven days, and it will be valid for three months in any place in Scotland.

Marriage at a registry office in Scotland requires a publication of notice for seven days or a sheriff's licence, as publication of banns is not accepted. Such a licence is immediately valid but expires after ten days. One of the parties must have lived in Scotland for at least fifteen days before the application, which is often prepared by a solicitor.

a solicitor

### *The Reception*

The bride's parents stand first in the receiving line, followed by the groom's parents and the bride and groom. Guests line up outside the reception room and give their names to the major-domo who will announce them. They need only shake hands and say "How do you do?" to the parents, adding perhaps a word about how lovely the bride is or how well the ceremony went. The bride introduces to her husband any friends that he may not already know, and vice versa.

The important parts of the reception are the cutting of the cake and the toast to the bride and groom. There should never be any long speeches. When all the guests have been received, the major-domo requests silence and the bride cuts the cake, with her husband's hand upon hers.

The toast to the bride and groom is usually proposed by a relative or friend of the bride. He may say, "My Lords (if any are present), ladies and gentlemen, I have

pleasure in proposing the toast to the bride and bridegroom." He should not make a speech full of jokes or silly references to marriage. It should be short and dignified. The bridegroom replies with a few words of thanks. He may or may not then propose the health of the bridesmaids. The best man replies with a few words of thanks. If a meal is provided, the toasts will come at the end of it.

After the toasts the bride and groom may move around the room talking to their friends until it is time for them to go and change. When they are ready to leave, guests gather to see them off.

**Wedding Presents** can be anything, according to your pocket and your friendship with the bride or groom. Such presents are usually fairly substantial compared with most other presents, and should preferably be things useful for a future home. Some brides have lists at a large store near their homes. It is always wise to ask if there is one, as this eliminates your sending something the couple may have already. The list should contain items of all prices and when one is bought it is crossed off. A wedding is one of the few occasions when money can be given, usually as a cheque. Presents are sent after the invitations have been received, usually to the bride's home. You address the card to both the bride and bridegroom.

## *BIRTHS AND CHRISTENINGS*

When a child is born its parents may wish to announce the birth in a national or local newspaper. The announcement may read as follows:

Smith. On February 12<sup>th</sup>, 1999, at St. Mary's Hospital, Paddington, to Mary, wife of James Smith, 15 Blank Terrace, S. W. 3, a daughter. (The name can be added in brackets.)

The birth must be registered at the local registrar's office within six weeks in England and Wales and three weeks in Scotland. A child is usually christened in the first six months of its life.

At the christening there is one godmother and two godfathers for a boy and vice versa for a girl (but no godparents are necessary at a Church of Scotland christening). The godmother always holds the baby during the ceremony and gives it to the clergyman just before he baptizes it. She makes the responses during the ceremony and tells the clergyman the names when asked. The true role of godparents is to watch over the spiritual welfare of their godchildren until confirmation, or at least to show interest in them throughout their childhood.

Usually, but by no means always, the friends and relatives give a christening present. Traditionally, the godparents give a silver cup, which is probably going to be far more useful if it is a beer mug! Other presents should preferably be something intended to last a lifetime, such as a leather-bound bible or poetry book, a silver spoon or a crystal and silver scent bottle.

### Birthday

"What will you do on your birthday?" Most Americans celebrate their birthdays on the day on which they were born.

Like in Russia, friends and relatives share in the celebration. However, unlike in Russia, birthday parties have a more spontaneous, less planned guest list and agenda, and there is no particular attempt made to venerate one's guests with vast quantities of gourmet treats (A birthday person is not expected to spend his special day in the kitchen!). Something simple but elegant (not something you would eat any day) and a nice bottle of wine will suffice for this occasion.

In the United States an adult person having a birthday feels no particular social obligation to invite guests home for festivities. This time and space is usually reserved for the immediate family and close family friends. Co-workers may have an impromptu group gathering at coffee break time with cake and ice cream and a small gift for which all have contributed. Or they

may shout a 'birthday lunch' at a nearby restaurant for the special person or go out for drinks after work.

Children may bring cupcakes and candy to school or distribute invitations to their classmates for a party to be held at their home.

A cake is baked, group games are played, and prizes and souvenirs are passed out to all of the guests. Cone-shaped paper birthday hats may be worn and noise makers passed out to everyone present. Serving of the ornately decorated birthday cake is the highlight of the birthday celebration for the guests. First the cake is equipped with candles, one candle for each year of the birthday person's life. Then the candles are lit and everyone sings "Happy Birthday to You," after which the special person makes a 'secret wish' and blows the candles out.

The custom of putting candles on a birthday cake is said to have started about 200 years ago in Germany, renowned for its high-quality candles.

It was considered good luck to blow out all of the candles in one blow. Now it is considered as assurance that the birthday wish will come true. The custom of singing "Happy Birthday to You" began about 100 years ago in America when Mildred and Patty Hill made up the song which has since become a big hit and attracted lots of humorous variations.

For the birthday person the highlight of the celebration is often quite conspicuously the opening of the birthday presents. Now, more and more, this custom is reserved for the very formal gift-giving occasion of the wedding.

The most common way to wish someone a happy birthday, however, is with a simple birthday card, a custom that began in England about 100 years ago.

Some typical examples of simple birthday greetings are:

"On your mark, get ready, go! It's time for you to steal the show! Happy Birthday!"

"Today's your day, so stay tuned in for birthday fun that makes you grin!"

"You're № 1, so have fun on your special day! — Happy Birthday!"

They serve as testimony to the fact that in the United States the focus is definitely on the individual, at least on that one very special birthday each year.

Vocabulary:

to venerate — благоговеть, чтить

to suffice — быть достаточным, хватать

impromptu — импровизированный

highlight — основной момент

assurance — гарантия, уверенность

conspicuous — видный, заметный

stealth show — затмить всех

to grin — улыбаться

testimony — свидетельство

Questions:

1. What will you do on your birthday?
2. How do most Americans celebrate their birthdays?
3. What is the difference in birthday parties in America and in your country?
4. When did the custom of putting candles on a birthday cake start?
5. When did the custom of singing "Happy Birthday to You" begin?
6. What is the most common way to wish someone a happy birthday?

### *Sunday in England*

For many English families Sunday begins with the by now traditional "lie-in", when, instead of getting up at 7.30 or at 8 o'clock, as during the rest of the week, most people stay in bed for at least another hour. And there are many younger people — Saturday night revellers in particular — who never see the light of day before midday: what is usually referred to as "getting up at the crack of noon".

Church bells are another typical feature of an English Sunday morning, although by many their summons remains unanswered, especially by those in need of physical rather than spiritual comfort. But whether people get out of bed for morning service or not, their first meaningful contact with the world beyond the four walls of their bedroom will be the delicious aroma of bacon

and eggs being fried by mother downstairs in the kitchen. This smell is for most people so much a part of Sunday mornings that they would not be the same without it.

During the mid-morning most people indulge in some fairly light activity such as gardening, washing the car, shelling peas or chopping mint for Sunday lunch, or taking the dog for a walk. Another most popular pre-lunch activity consists of a visit to a “pub” — either a walk to the “local”, or often nowadays a drive to a more pleasant “country pub” if one lives in a built-up area. It is unusual for anyone to drink a lot during a lunchtime “session”, the idea being to have a quiet drink and a chat, perhaps discussing the previous evening’s entertainment or afternoon’s sport. One additional attraction of Sunday lunchtime drinks is that most men go to the pub alone, that is to say without their wives or girlfriends, who generally prefer to stay at home and prepare the lunch.

Sunday has always been a favourite day for inviting people — friends, relations, colleagues — to afternoon tea, and there are no signs that this custom is losing popularity nowadays.

In recent years television has become increasingly popular, and Sunday evening is now regarded as the peak viewing period of the week.

Concerning the differences between a typically English Sunday and a Sunday on the Continent, there are still many forms of entertainment which a visitor from Europe would be surprised to find missing on Sundays in England. Professional sport, for example, was for many years forbidden on Sundays, and although the restrictions have been relaxed in recent years, it is still difficult to find any large sporting fixture taking place on Sundays. This is in marked contrast to the situation in most European countries where Sunday afternoon is the most popular time for so-called “spectator sports” — football, horse-racing and, in Spain of course, bullfighting. On the Continent museums and art galleries also attract large numbers of visitors on Sundays, whereas in England it is only in recent times that such places as the National Portrait Gallery and “The Tate” have been open on such days — at present between 2 p. m. and 6 p. m. One of the most popular attractions in London on Sunday afternoons, especially in summer, is the Tower, although this too was closed for many years on Sundays.

### ***FIREPLACES***

In English homes, the fireplace has always been, until recent times, the natural centre of interest in a room. People may like to sit at a window on a summer day, but for many months of the year they prefer to sit round the fire and watch the dancing flames. In the Middle Ages the fireplaces in the halls of large castles were very wide. Only wood was burnt, and large logs were carted in from the forests, and supported as they burnt, on metal bars. Such

wide fireplaces may still be seen in old inns, and in some of them there are even seats inside the fireplace.

Elizabethan fireplaces often had carved stone or woodwork over the fireplace, reaching to the ceiling. There were sometimes columns on each side of the fireplace.

In the 18<sup>th</sup> century, space was often provided over the fireplace for a painting or mirror. When coal fires became common, fireplaces became much smaller. Grates were used to hold the coal. Above the fireplace there was usually a shelf on which there was often a clock, and perhaps framed photographs.

### ***DANCING***

Dancing is popular, and the numerous large and opulent-looking public dance-halls are an important element in the folklore and courtship procedures of all but the upper and middle classes. They manage to survive against the competition of the moremodern, smaller, noisier discotheques. They are strictly places for dancing, with good floors and good bands, but often no tables for people to sit at when they are not actually dancing, only rows of chairs round the walls. They are visited mainly by young unmarried people. Girls tend to go in groups of two or three, friends from the same street or the same or officece, relying much on each other's support as they go in; the young men sometimes go in groups too, but often alone. All the girls tend to congregate together between dances, and the young men similarly. At the beginning of each dance a man chooses a girl from the mass, and will ask the same girl to dance with him again if he finds her company agreeable, but the girl may refuse. Most of the dancers go home as they come — but not quite at all. If a couple like one another the young man may offer an invitation to go to a cinema on some future night, and this invitation may be succeeded by others. After several pre-arranged meetings a

couple may regard themselves as “going steady” together though for a long time they will meet only in public places, and an invitation home implies great admiration. Young people are thoroughly emancipated, and find it easy enough to meet each other.

### ***III. COSTUMES AND CLOTHES***

Many British costumes and uniforms have a long history. One is the uniform of the Beefeaters at the Tower of London. This came first from France. Another is the uniform of the Horse Guards at Horse Guards' Parade, not far from Buckingham Palace. Thousands of visitors take photographs of the Horse Guards, but the Guards never move or smile. In fact some visitors think the Guards aren't real. And that brings us to...Britannia. She wears traditional clothes, too. But she's not a real person. She is symbol of Britain.

Lots of ordinary clothes have a long tradition. The famous bowler hat, for example. A man called Beaulieu made the first one in 1850. The very cold winters in the Crimea in the war of 1853-56 gave us the names of the cardigan and the balaclava. Lord Cardigan led the Light Brigade at the Battle of Balaclava (1854). A "cardigan" is now a warm woollen short coat with buttons, and a "balaclava" is a woollen hat. Another British soldier, Wellington, gave his name to a pair of boots. They have a shorter name today - "Wellies" raced on the river Thames and the Oxford boat won. That started a tradition. Now, every Spring, the University Boat Race goes from Putney to Mort lake on the Thames. That's 6.7 kilometres. The Cambridge rowers wear light blue shirts and the Oxford rowers wear dark blue. There are eight men in each boat. There's also a "cox". The cox controls the boat. Traditionally coxes are men, but Susan Brown became the first woman cox in 1981. She was the cox for Oxford and they won.

### Superstitions

#### Good Luck

Lucky to meet a **black cat**. Black Cats are featured on many good luck greetings cards and birthday cards in England.

Lucky to **touch wood**. We touch; knock on wood, to make something come true.

Lucky to find a **clover plant with four leaves**.

**White heather** is lucky.

A **horseshoe** over the door brings good luck. But the horseshoe needs to be the right way up. The luck runs out of the horseshoe if it is upside down.

Horseshoes are generally a sign of good luck and feature on many good luck cards.

On the first day of the month it is lucky to say "[white rabbits, white rabbits white rabbits](#)," before uttering your first word of the day.

**Catch falling leaves in Autumn** and you will have good luck. Every leaf means a lucky month next year.

Cut your **hair** when the [moon](#) is waxing and you will have good luck.

Putting money in the pocket of new clothes brings good luck.

#### Bad Luck

Unlucky to walk underneath a **ladder**.

Seven years bad luck to **break a mirror**. The superstition is supposed to have originated in ancient times, when mirrors were considered to be tools of the gods.

Unlucky to **see one magpie**, lucky to see two, etc..



Unlucky to **spill salt**. If you do, you must throw it over your shoulder to counteract the bad luck.

Unlucky to **open an umbrella in doors**.

The [number thirteen](#) is unlucky. [Friday the thirteenth](#) is a very unlucky day. Friday is considered to be an unlucky day because Jesus was crucified on a Friday.

Unlucky to put **new shoes on the table**.

Unlucky to **pass someone on the stairs**.

### Food Superstitions

When finished eating a **boiled egg**, push the spoon through the bottom of the empty shell to let the devil out



In Yorkshire, housewives used to believe that **bread** would not rise if there was a corpse (dead body) in the vicinity, and to cut off both ends of the loaf would make the Devil fly over the house!

### Table Superstitions

If you drop a table knife expect a male visitor, if you drop a fork a female visitor.

Crossed cutlery on your plate and expect a quarrel.

Leave a white tablecloth on a table overnight and expect a death.

### Animal Superstitions

Animals feature a lot in our superstitions as they do in superstitions around the world.



One ancient British superstition holds that if a child rides on a **bear's** back it will be protected from whooping-cough. (Bears used to roam Britain but now they are not seen on our shores)

In some parts of the UK meeting two or three **Ravens** together is considered really bad. One very English superstition concerns the tame Ravens at the [Tower of London](#). It is believed if they leave then the crown of England will be lost.



It is said to be bad luck if you see **bats** flying and hear their cries. In the middle ages it was believed that witches were closely associated with bats.

If a **Sparrow** enters a house it is an omen of death to one of the people who live there. In some



areas it is believed that to avoid bad luck, any Sparrow caught must be immediately killed otherwise the person who caught it will die.



In some areas black Rabbits are thought to host the souls of human beings. **White Rabbits** are said to be really witches and some believe that saying 'White Rabbit' on the first day of each month brings luck. A common lucky charm is a Rabbit's foot, but not for the Rabbit.



It is thought very unlucky to have the feathers of a **Peacock** within the home or handle anything made with them. This is possibly because of the eye shape present upon these feathers i.e. the Evil-Eye associated with wickedness.

### Wedding Superstitions

Bride and groom must not meet on the day of the wedding except at the altar.

The bride should never wear her complete wedding clothes before the day.

For good luck the bride should wear “something borrowed, something blue, something old and something new”.

The husband should carry his new wife over the threshold of their home.

#### **Questions to think about for Students**

1. Which British superstitions are similar to those in your country?
2. Which are different?
3. Do you know anything about the origins of some of the superstitions in your country?
4. Can you give the definition of "superstition"?
5. Do you believe that they can influence our lives and still live on in the age of science?

## Festivals and holidays

Class 1

Task 1.

What holidays celebrated in the UK do you know? Do we have similar holidays?

Make a calendar of common holidays.

By the way, look up in the dictionary the difference in the meaning of the words "festival" and "holiday".

Task 2.

Read the text and say if the sentences below are true (T) or false (F):

### Easter

As soon as 2 January arrives, shops remove the Christmas product lines from their shelves and the Christmas decorations from their windows. What fills the empty spaces? Chocolate Easter eggs, Easter bunnies and Easter chicks, despite the fact that Easter itself doesn't come along until a few months later.

Easter also means we have public holidays, Good Friday and Easter Monday, it's the longest public holiday after Christmas and people sometimes take the opportunity to take a short break away from work by extending their leave.

Cheryl from Liverpool said, 'I use the Easter break to visit relatives and socialise with friends, the chocolate giving and receiving is a good bonus!'

Easter celebrates the resurrection of Christ. In the European pre-Christian tradition, it celebrates the return of nature and greenery after the cold, snowy winter. The Easter chick symbolises new life, the rabbit represents fertility and the egg symbolises both. That is why painted eggs or chocolate eggs are given as gifts at Easter. Sentences T or F

- 1) Soon after Christmas the shelves of all the shops become empty. .
- 2) Chocolate Easter eggs, Easter bunnies and Easter chicks can be bought long before the Easter coming. .
- 3) Easter is the longest public holiday after Christmas. .
- 4) Easter celebrates the return to pre-Christian traditions. .
- 5) Easter eggs symbolize return of nature. .

**Key: Sentences T or F**

- 1) Soon after Christmas the shelves of all the shops become empty. F
- 2) Chocolate Easter eggs, Easter bunnies and Easter chicks can be bought long before the Easter coming. T
- 3) Easter is the longest public holiday after Christmas. T
- 4) Easter celebrates the return to pre-Christian traditions. F
- 5) Easter eggs symbolize return of nature. F

Task 3.

Match the dates with the holidays. If you don't know anything about some of the following festivals find and read information about them:

- A. April 21st      1. Edinburgh's Hogmanay  
B. December 26th   2. Queen's birthday  
C. November 5th   3. Notting Hill Carnival  
D. December 31st - January 1st      4. Guy Fawkes Night  
E. August 24th-25th      5. Boxing Day

Key: A - 2; B - 5; C - 4; D - 1; E - 3.

Class 3

Task 1.

Look through the following words and expressions. Are they familiar to you? If not, look them up in the dictionary before doing Task 2:

harmony, initiative, provide, opportunity, development, tolerance, goodwill, clothing, ribbon, community, prejudice, action, to set an example, to put into practice, values, justice, fairness, friendship

Task 2.

Read the text and give short answers to the following questions:

### Harmony Day

Harmony Day, a Commonwealth initiative that began in 1998, provides Australians with an opportunity to think about life in a multicultural society and about the necessity of development in people such qualities as tolerance, goodwill, understanding among people.

Harmony Day falls on 21 March each year and its message is: You + Me = Us. Orange is the official colour of this Australian holiday. By wearing orange clothing or an orange ribbon Australians make a statement about their personal wish to live in a community of harmony.

On this day, Australians protest against racism, prejudice and intolerance. They take up actions that help build a peaceful and productive future for their children by setting an example of how to live in harmony and put into practice the best of the Australian values - justice, fairness and friendship.

Questions      Answers

- 1) On what date is Harmony Day celebrated? .
- 2) When it was celebrated for the first time? .
- 3) What qualities in people does Harmony Day develop? .
- 4) Against what human qualities does Harmony Day protest? .
- 5) What is the official colour of Harmony Day? .

Key: Questions      Answers

- 1) On what date is Harmony Day celebrated?      21 March
- 2) When it was celebrated for the first time?      In 1998
- 3) What qualities in people does Harmony Day develop?      justice, fairness, friendship tolerance, goodwill, understanding among people

- 4) Against what human qualities does Harmony Day protest?  
racism, prejudice and intolerance
- 5) What is the official colour of Harmony Day? orange

Task 3.

Read the text again and draw a colourful picture of this holiday in Australia.

Task 4.

Find information about interesting festivals and holidays in other English-speaking countries (Malta, Jamaica, South Africa, Canada, India, etc) and share with your classmates.

*Class 4*

*Task 1.*

*Look through the following words and expressions. Are they familiar to you? If not, look them up in the dictionary before doing Task 2:*

*birthday, to celebrate, presents, cards, to hold a party, play area, to decorate with, balloon, cake, to blow out candles, fireworks, costumes, competitions, games, prizes, to dress up, to make up, to do the hair, to invite, invitation*

*Task 2.*

*Read the text and mark in the table things that are the same in our country:*

*Birthday*

*Most people in the USA and the UK celebrate their birthdays, and their friends and family usually give them presents and birthday cards with some pleasant message inside. Young children often have a birthday party. Sometimes this party is held in a special place such as an indoor play area, park or café, or children are taken to a special event (picnic, circus). Other children have parties at home, and the house is decorated with balloons, children play games such as musical chairs. In the US, children traditionally eat cake and ice cream at a party, and in the UK they eat jelly and ice cream. Both children and adults often have a special birthday cake with small candles on it. Their friends and family sing them a song called "Happy birthday to you", and then the person whose birthday it is blows out all the candles. People often celebrate with a big party for special ages such as 18 and 21, and then 30, 40, 50, 60.*

*By the way people say 'Congratulations' when someone has done something special, such as winning a prize, getting a new job, getting married etc. You can also say it when someone tells you they are going to get married or get a baby.*

(taken from Longman Dictionary of Language and Culture. Pearson Education, 2005)

*The USA    The UK    Russia*

*friends and family usually give them presents and birthday cards with some pleasant message*

*party is held in a special place such as an indoor play area, park or café, or children are taken to a special event (picnic, circus)*

*parties at home, and the house is decorated with balloons, children play games such as musical chairs*

*children traditionally eat cake and ice cream at a party eat jelly and ice cream*

*children and adults often have a special birthday cake with small candles on it*

*friends and family sing them a song called "Happy birthday to you"*

*the person whose birthday it is blows out all the candles*

*Task 3.*

*Tell about usual celebrations of your birthday party using the words and expressions from Task 1.*

*Task 4.*

*Write a message to you friend on a birthday card:*

	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
---	---

*Task 5.*

*Fill in the gaps in the conversations below using the information from text "Birthday":*

*A. Where do you usually celebrate your birthday?*

B. Well, \_\_\_\_\_.

A. And at my birthday party \_\_\_\_\_.

B. What presents do you like?

A. \_\_\_\_\_ .And you?

B. \_\_\_\_\_ .At the end of the party

---

A. And we \_\_\_\_\_.

B. That's wonderful. I'd like to come to your birthday party.

A. And I'd like to come to yours.

B. Let's invite each other.

*Additional tasks*

*Additional task 1.*

*Think of possible answers to these riddles:*

1) What can fly without wings?

2) What night is longer than a week?

3) At whom do all people stare with an open mouth?

4) What is white when it's dirty and black when it's clean?

*Key:*

1) time; 2) fortnight; 3) dentist; 4) blackboard.

*Additional task 2.*

*Traditions in English-speaking countries*

1) What are people who don't inherit the title of peer called? a) life peers; b) live peers; c) limited peers.

2) *What does the British Queen do when somebody in Britain celebrates his or her 100's birthday? a) invites them for dinner; b) says good words on TV; c) sends a postcard.*

3) *Where are potatoes very expensive? a) Australia; b) the USA; c) Canada.*

4) *The native people of what English-speaking country had no form of alcoholic beverage? a) Australia; b) New Zealand; c) Jamaica.*

5) *What holiday has a chocolate bunny as an attribute? a) Christmas; b) New Year; c) Easter.*

6) *When is Martin Luther King Day celebrated in the USA? a) January; b) May; c) August.*

7) *When is Thanksgiving Day celebrated in the USA?*

*a) the first Thursday in November; b) the second Thursday in November; c) the fourth Thursday in November.*

8) *What is the official colour of Harmony Day in Australia? a) blue; b) red; c) orange.*

*Key: 1 - a 3 - a 5 - c 7 - c  
2 - c 4 - b 6 - a 8 - c*

*Marking system:*

*8 points = excellent;*

*7-6 points = good;*

*6-4 points = satisfactory;*

*< 4 points = unsatisfactory.*

## **Eating habits**

### **Class 1**

#### **Task 1.**

What do you know about eating habits in English-speaking countries? Compare them with your country's habits (make a list of eating habits and traditions in your country).

#### **Task 2.**

Read these texts and say if it is the same in your country. Participate in discussion after each passage.

A. In the UK, afternoon tea is traditionally a rather formal meal where you drink tea and eat small sandwiches (especially cucumber sandwiches), scones, and cakes. Not many British people now have this type of meal at home, but it is still served in some hotels and in special tearooms that serve tea in delicate, finely painted cups.

B. Baked beans are a favourite food of many children in Britain. 'Sausage, beans and chips' is also a typical meal served in a café. Some people like to have beans on toast as a quick simple meal. Baked beans are considered by some people to be junk food, eaten by people who are lazy to cook something better, although other people think that they are good for you.

C. In Britain, people often eat cereals such as cornflakes with milk for breakfast. Some people like to have toast with marmalade or jam, and they drink a cup of coffee or tea, or a glass of orange juice. Some hotels, cafes, and B and B's serve a 'full English breakfast', a cooked meal consisted of eggs, bacon, and sausages with grilled tomatoes or mushrooms and sometimes baked beans. On cold days, some people like to have porridge for breakfast. Porridge used to be eaten mostly in Scotland, but it is now popular in all parts of the UK.

In the US, most people eat serials such as cornflakes with milk for breakfast and they drink a cup of coffee or a glass of juice. Toast, or toasted English muffins are also popular. In the winter, might have hot cereals such as oatmeal (=porridge) or cream of wheat. If someone wants a bigger breakfast, they might have eggs, bacon or sausages and sometimes hash browns. People in the US also eat eggs, bacon, and sausages with pancakes or

waffles that are covered with butter and maple syrup and served on the same plate as the meat and eggs.

*(Taken from Longman Dictionary of Language and Culture. Third edition, 2005.- 1620 p. - P. 20, 85, 158).*

### **Task 3.**

Look through the texts again and complete the following sentences:

1) In the UK, afternoon tea is traditionally a rather formal meal where you

\_\_\_\_\_.

2) Baked beans are a favourite

\_\_\_\_\_.

3) Baked beans are considered

\_\_\_\_\_.

4) Some hotels, cafes, and B and B's serve a 'full English breakfast':

\_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_.

5) On cold days, some people like

\_\_\_\_\_.

6) In the US, most people eat

\_\_\_\_\_.

7) People in the US also eat eggs, bacon, and sausages with

\_\_\_\_\_.

**Key:**

1) drink tea and eat small sandwiches (especially cucumber sandwiches), scones, and cakes.

2) food of many children in Britain.

3) to be junk food.

4) a cooked meal consisted of eggs, bacon, and sausages with grilled tomatoes or mushrooms and sometimes baked beans.

5) to have porridge for breakfast.

6) serials such as cornflakes with milk for breakfast.

7) pancakes or waffles that are covered with butter and maple syrup.

#### **Task 4.**

Look through the site <http://www.britishcouncil.org/japan-trenduk-schoolmeals.htm> and tell your classmates about the situation with schoolmeals in Britain.

#### **Class 2**

#### **Task 1.**

Read the menu and rewrite the dishes in accordance with their prices. The most expensive is the first.

<i>Menu</i>		
Vegetable salad	1.05	hamburger
	\$	
Cheeseburger	1.99	
	\$	
hamburger	2.99	
	\$	
chicken soup	0.99	
	\$	
ice-cream	1.20	
	\$	
cake	1.95	
	\$	
coke	1.50	
	\$	

#### **Task 2.**

Read these texts and match statements with countries below:

1. Fish and chips are very popular in the UK, and are considered to be typically British meal. They are bought in a Fish and Chip Shop, which is sometimes called a CHIPPY, rather than cooked at home, and they are quick, fairly cheap meal. The food is usually wrapped in paper and eaten at home or in the street. The chips usually have salt, and vinegar and sometimes tomato ketchup on them.

2) There are no particular rituals associated with meals in Australia. The three-meals-a-day pattern is prevalent, with morning and afternoon breaks usually consisting of tea with a small snack. The evening meal at home will usually consist of meat and vegetables, potatoes, or bread. Potatoes are expensive and not as widely available as in North America. Pastries or fruit or simple puddings will be the dessert.

3) When Māori (New Zealand's indigenous people) first arrived in New Zealand from tropical Polynesia, they brought with them a number of food plants. But none of them grew as well in New Zealand's temperate climate as they did in the tropics. Foods such as fernroot became a more important part of the diet than in other Pacific Islands, and some native New Zealand plants were also eaten, along with insects such as the huhu grub. Nevertheless there was an abundance of bird and marine life. By the way Māori were one of the few peoples to have no form of alcoholic beverage.

4) Traditional cookery of South Africa is often referred to as "Cape Dutch"; this cuisine is characterized by the use of spices such as nutmeg, allspice and hot peppers. Curry dishes are popular in South Africa among people of all ethnic origins; many dishes came to the country with the thousands of Indian labourers brought to South Africa in the nineteenth century. Among typical South African foods and dishes you will enjoy Biltong (a salty dried meat), Boerewors (a sausage that is traditionally barbecued), Bunny chow (curry stuffed into a hollowed-out loaf of bread) and Chutney (a sweet sauce made from fruit that is usually poured on meat).

<b>Statements</b>	<b>countries</b>
2. Potatoes are expensive and not eaten as often as in some other countries.	a) the UK
3. They use plenty of spices.	b) Australia
1. Fish and chips are usually bought in a chippy, wrapped in paper and eaten at home or in the street.	c) New Zealand
3. Native people had no alcoholic beverage at all.	d) South

Key:

1 - b; 2 - d; 3 - a; 4 - c.