



# 21 CULTURE CHALLENGE

210 ZDAŃ Z KLUCZEM



British and American Holidays



LANGUAGE CORNER

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# British and American Holidays



## Set 1: Christmas

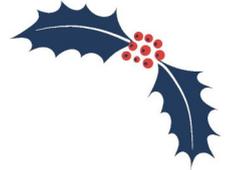
Choose words from the table below to complete sentences about Christmas. Use each word once only.

Eve	chimney	tree	wreath	turkey	Christmas	stockings
robin	canes	mistletoe	crackers	feast	Holy	charitable
carols	Boxing	nativity	Dickens	Times Square	reindeer	mass

1.1



- a) Christmas \_\_\_\_\_ is on 24<sup>th</sup> December.
- b) At Christmas, people gather in churches to sing \_\_\_\_\_.
- c) If people stand under the \_\_\_\_\_, they should kiss each other for good luck.
- d) Children believe that if they leave milk and cookies, Father Christmas will come down the \_\_\_\_\_ and leave some gifts for the good ones.
- e) People have roast goose or \_\_\_\_\_ for Christmas dinner.
- f) The most famous British Christmas tree stands in Trafalgar Square in London, and in America, in \_\_\_\_\_, New York.
- g) The word 'Christmas' comes from 'Cristes Maesse', which in Old English means 'Christ's \_\_\_\_\_'.



1.2



- a) \_\_\_\_\_ Day is on 25<sup>th</sup> December.
- b) Queen Victoria's husband, Prince Albert, brought the first Christmas \_\_\_\_\_ to Great Britain in 1848.
- c) Santa Claus is believed to ride his sleigh pulled by nine \_\_\_\_\_, among whom Rudolf is the most famous.
- d) Christmas is the most \_\_\_\_\_ time of year. You may donate money, food and help those in need.
- e) People often pull \_\_\_\_\_, which are paper tubes with sweets, a paper hat and a joke.
- f) "Silent night! \_\_\_\_\_ night! All is calm, all is bright..." is one of the most beautiful Christmas carols in the world.
- g) Striped candy \_\_\_\_\_ are a traditional symbol of Christmas.

1.3



- a) \_\_\_\_\_ Day is on 26<sup>th</sup> December.
- b) Before Christmas, children hang \_\_\_\_\_ by the fireplace or at the foot of their beds.
- c) A posh meal with the family is often called a \_\_\_\_\_.



# British and American Holidays



## Set 5: Saint Patrick's Day

Choose words from the table below to complete sentences about St Patrick's Day. Use each word once only.

kidnapped	snakes	missionary	Guinness	British Isles	clover	real name
17 <sup>th</sup> March	river	Britain	Corned beef	friendliest	monastery	Downpatrick
shepherd	blue	pinch	escaped	shamrock x 2	Massachusetts	leprechaun

### 1.1

- a) St Patrick was born in 386 A.D. in \_\_\_\_\_, which was under Roman rule at that time.
- b) His \_\_\_\_\_ was Maewyn Succat.
- c) He lived in Bannavem Taburniae (present Banwen in Wales), from where he was \_\_\_\_\_ by Irish pirates and taken as a slave to Ireland at the age of sixteen.
- d) He spent six years in captivity in Ireland, where he picked up the local Gaelic language. He worked as a \_\_\_\_\_ in the hills.
- e) He became closer to God through prayer. Eventually, he had a dream in which God spoke to him, saying, "Look, your ship is ready". Saint Patrick then \_\_\_\_\_ from Ireland in a boat.
- f) He felt unprepared to teach the Irish about the Christian faith, so he went to France to study in a \_\_\_\_\_.
- g) After twelve years, he came back to the Emerald Isle as a Christian \_\_\_\_\_ with a changed name – Patrick, which means 'a noble man' in Latin.



### 1.2

- a) Saint Patrick was said to have used the \_\_\_\_\_ as a metaphor for the Holy Trinity: God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Ghost all in one person. The \_\_\_\_\_ has since become a symbol of Ireland.
- b) It is believed that Saint Patrick banished all the \_\_\_\_\_ from Ireland. Snakes were seen as a symbol of evil.
- c) Saint Patrick's Day is commemorated on \_\_\_\_\_, which is probably the day when he died aged 70.
- d) The holiday is celebrated in the \_\_\_\_\_: Great Britain and Ireland. Saint Patrick's Day is also celebrated in America, where there are about 35 million people of Irish ancestry.
- e) Nowadays, Saint Patrick's Day is associated with the colour green, but in the past it was \_\_\_\_\_.
- f) Another Irish symbol is the \_\_\_\_\_ – a little green, red-haired man, who mends clogs for the fairies.
- g) Legend has it that if you wear green, you are invisible to leprechauns. But if you don't, they can see you and \_\_\_\_\_ you.



# British and American Holidays



## Long Answer Key

### Set 1: Christmas

#### 1.1

- a) Christmas **Eve** is on 24<sup>th</sup> December.
- b) At Christmas, people gather in churches to sing **carols**.
- c) If people stand under the **mistletoe**, they should kiss each other for good luck.
- d) Children believe that if they leave milk and cookies, Father Christmas will come down the **chimney** and leave some gifts for the good ones.
- e) People have roast goose or **turkey** for Christmas dinner.
- f) The most famous British Christmas tree stands in Trafalgar Square in London, and in America, in **Times Square**, New York.
- g) The word 'Christmas' comes from 'Cristes Maesse', which in Old English means 'Christ's **mass**'.

#### 1.2

- a) **Christmas** Day is on 25<sup>th</sup> December.
- b) Queen Victoria's husband, Prince Albert, brought the first Christmas **tree** to Great Britain in 1848.
- c) Santa Claus is believed to ride his sleigh pulled by nine **reindeer**, among whom Rudolf is the most famous.
- d) Christmas is the most **charitable** time of year. You may donate money, food and help those in need.
- e) People often pull **crackers**, which are paper tubes with sweets, a paper hat and a joke.
- f) "Silent night! **Holy** night! All is calm, all is bright..." is one of the most beautiful Christmas carols in the world.
- g) Striped candy **canes** are a traditional symbol of Christmas.

#### 1.3

- a) **Boxing** Day is on 26<sup>th</sup> December.
- b) Before Christmas, children hang **stockings** by the fireplace or at the foot of their beds.
- c) A posh meal with the family is often called a **feast**.
- d) The **robin** is a small, red-breasted bird, it is a symbol of Christmas on many postcards.
- e) Many people decorate their houses with lights and put a **wreath** on the front door.
- f) People often put a **nativity** scene under the Christmas tree with a little crib with a baby Jesus in.
- g) A *Christmas Carol* by Charles **Dickens** tells the story of Ebenezer Scrooge, who in this magic time, transforms from a mean and miserable man to a kind person and becomes a symbol that the choice of being a good or a bad man is entirely ours.

# British and American Holidays



## Short Answer Key

### Set 1: Christmas

- |                 |               |              |
|-----------------|---------------|--------------|
| 1.1             | 1.2           | 1.3          |
| a) Eve          | a) Christmas  | a) Boxing    |
| b) carols       | b) tree       | b) stockings |
| c) mistletoe    | c) reindeer   | c) feast     |
| d) chimney      | d) charitable | d) robin     |
| e) turkey       | e) crackers   | e) wreath    |
| f) Times Square | f) Holy       | f) nativity  |
| g) mass         | g) canes      | g) Dickens   |

### Set 2: New Year

- |                  |                |               |
|------------------|----------------|---------------|
| 1.1              | 1.2            | 1.3           |
| a) Eve           | a) resolutions | a) many more  |
| b) Trafalgar     | b) Hogmanay    | b) Pasadena   |
| c) Times         | c) horns       | c) fireworks  |
| d) strikes       | d) Washington  | d) midnight   |
| e) Scottish song | e) calendars   | e) rabbits x6 |
| f) First Footing | f) noise       | f) black hat  |
| g) Twelfth Night | g) Big Ben     | g) Chinese    |

### Set 3: Valentine's Day

- |             |              |                |
|-------------|--------------|----------------|
| 1.1         | 1.2          | 1.3            |
| a) bishop   | a) Valentine | a) cards       |
| b) emperor  | b) beloved   | b) name        |
| c) married  | c) Beauty    | c) Shakespeare |
| d) February | d) Cupid     | d) roses       |
| e) love     | e) Paris     | e) puppy       |
| f) arrows   | f) power     | f) goddess     |
| g) Ophelia  | g) bars      | g) stories     |