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序

一套供青少年和英语爱好者阅读的丛书，应满足三个要求：

Read for pleasure;

Read for information;

Read for language improvement.

《Black Cat 有声名著阶梯阅读》满足了以上要求而有余。

首先，这是一套同时供听觉享受的书。一部作品，当它由专业演员朗读时，就能以其优美的声音、抑扬顿挫的语调、加上传神的表达，使读者和听者真正身临其境，最充分地领会作品中的情、境、思。而这一效果，就不是只有白纸黑字的书面材料所能提供的了。加之这套书图文并茂，更使视、听两种感官得以完美地结合。

其次，这套书为读、听者提供了有益的背景资料，包括作家生平、时代背景、人文知识等，有助于培养青少年的跨文化意识。书中许多传世名画，更给人充分的艺术享受。

再者，虽是读物，却兼具教科书的功能。每本书都编入为数不少的练习，涉及阅读理解、词汇辨析以及语法结构等，为课堂的语言教学提供了有效的补充。

在教育部颁布的国家英语课程标准中指出了泛读的重要性，明确规定了学生每学期的课外阅读量。学习任何外语，只有课内的精读，没有课外大量的泛读，是不可能学好的，更不用说获得语感。《Black Cat 有声名著阶梯阅读》丛书的编印出版，为广大青少年和英语爱好者提供了一个学习英语的新天地——我为你们庆幸。

教育部《英语课程标准》
专家组成员 陈琳

二〇〇三年冬为第一版而作

二〇〇九年夏为第二版修订

使用说明

1 应该怎样选书？

按阅读兴趣选书

《Black Cat 有声名著阶梯阅读》精选世界经典作品，也包括富于创意的现代作品；既有脍炙人口的小说、戏剧，又有非小说类的文化知识读物，品种丰富，内容多样，适合口味不同的读者挑选自己感兴趣的书籍，享受阅读的乐趣。

按英语程度选书

《Black Cat 有声名著阶梯阅读》现设 Level 1 至 Level 6，由浅入深，涵盖初、中级英语程度。读物分级采用了国际上通用的划分标准，主要以词汇 (vocabulary) 和结构 (structures) 划分。

Level 1 至 Level 3 出现的词汇较浅显，相对深的核心词汇均配上中文解释，节省读者查找词典的时间，以专心理解正文内容。在注释的帮助下，读者若能流畅地阅读正文内容，就不用担心这一本书程度过深。

Level 1 至 Level 3 出现的动词时态形式和句子结构比较简单。动词时态形式以一般现在时 (present simple)、现在进行时 (present continuous)、一般过去时 (past simple) 为主，句子结构大部分是简单句 (simple sentences)。此外，还包括比较级和最高级 (comparative and superlative forms)、可数和不可数名词 (countable and uncountable nouns) 以及冠词 (articles) 等语法知识点。

Level 4 至 Level 6 出现的动词时态形式，以现在完成时 (present perfect)、现在完成进行时 (present perfect continuous)、过去完成进行时 (past perfect continuous) 为主，句子结构大部分是复合句 (compound sentences)、条件从句 (1st and 2nd conditional sentences) 等。此外，还包括情态动词 (modal verbs)、被动形式 (passive forms)、动名词 (gerunds)、短语动词 (phrasal verbs) 等语法知识点。

根据上述的语法范围，读者可按自己实际的英语水平，如词汇量、语法知识、理解能力、阅读能力等自主选择，不再受制于学校年级划分或学历高低的约束，完全根据个人需要选择合适的读物。

2 怎样提高阅读效果？

阅读的方法主要有两种：一是泛读，二是精读。两者各有功能，适当地结合使用，相辅相成，有事半功倍之效。

泛读，指阅读大量适合自己程度（可稍浅，但不能过深），不同内容、风格、体裁的读物，但求明白内容大意，不用花费太多时间钻研细节，主要作用是多接触英语，减轻对它的生疏感，巩固以前所学过的英语，让脑子在潜意识中吸收词汇用法、语法结构等。

精读，指小心认真地阅读内容精彩、组织有条理、遣词造句又正确的作品，着重点在于理解“准确”及“深入”，欣赏其精彩独到之处。精读时，可充分利用书中精心设计的练习，学习掌握有用的英语词汇和语法知识。精读后，可再花十分钟朗读其中一小段有趣的文字，边念边细心领会文字的结构和意思。

《Black Cat 有声名著阶梯阅读》中的作品均值得精读，如时间有限，不妨尝试每两个星期泛读一本，辅以每星期挑选书中一章精彩的文字精读。要学好英语，持之以恒地泛读和精读英文是最有效的方法。

3 如何充分利用本系列 CD？

本系列每本书均配有 CD，提供作品朗读，朗读者都是专业演员，英国作品由英国演员录音，美国作品由美国演员录音，务求增加聆听的真实感和感染力。多聆听英式和美式英语两种发音，可让读者熟悉二者的差异，逐渐培养分辨英美发音的能力，提高聆听理解的准确度。

聆听与阅读的安排可随读者喜爱，先读后听，先听后读，边听边读或交替进行。读者亦可以本系列的 CD 为核心，着重提高听的能力，此时应选择

程度稍浅的品种。

若将 CD 随身携带，反复聆听、诵读，日积月累，对英语理解能力和表达能力的提高必有显著成效。

4 本系列的练习与测试有何功能？

《Black Cat 有声名著阶梯阅读》特别注重练习的设计，为读者考虑周到，切合实用需求，学习功能强。每章后均配有训练听、说、读、写四项技能的练习，分量、难度恰到好处。

听力练习分两类，一是重听故事回答问题，二是聆听主角对话、书信朗读或模拟记者访问后写出答案，旨在以生活化的练习形式逐步提高听力。

模仿录音朗读故事或模仿主人翁在戏剧中的对白，则是训练口语能力的好方法。

阅读理解练习形式多样化，有纵横字谜、配对、填空、字句重组等等，注重训练读者的理解、推敲和联想等多种阅读技能。

写作练习尤具新意，教读者使用网式图示（spidergrams）记录重点，采用问答、书信、电报、记者采访等多样化形式，鼓励读者动手写作。

书后更设有升级测试（Exit Test）及答案，供读者检查学习效果。

充分利用书中的练习和测试，可全面提升听、说、读、写四项技能。

5 本系列还能提供什么帮助？

《Black Cat 有声名著阶梯阅读》提倡丰富多元的现代阅读，巧用书中提供的资讯，有助于提升英语理解力，拓展视野。

每本书都设有专章介绍相关的历史文化知识，经典名著更有作者生平、社会背景等资讯。书内富有表现力的彩色插图、绘图和照片，使阅读充满趣味，部分加上如何解读古典名画的指导，增长见识。有些剧作包含舞台演出剧本，可供戏剧爱好者一显身手。有的书还提供一些与主题相关的网址，比如关于不同国家的节庆源流的网址，让读者多利用网上资源增进知识。

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The story is recorded in full. 故事全文录音

This symbol indicates the exercises featured on the accompanying CD.
听力练习的录音标记

Introduction

How much do you know about British and American festivities ¹? Do you know that ancient ² pagan customs ³ are still part of some festivities? This book tells you about the most important festivities of the year, their origins ⁴ and how they are celebrated.

You will notice that some festivities are celebrated only in Great Britain and others only in America. You will also notice that Americans love big celebrations with parades ⁵ and marching bands ⁶.

If you want to know more about a festivity, you can contact the Internet sites listed on page 116.

1. **festivities** : 节日。

2. **ancient** : 古老的。

3. **pagan customs** : 异教风俗。

4. **origins** : 起源。

5. **parades** : 游行。

6. **marching bands** : 排成方队行进的乐队。



Columbus Day

The second Monday of October is Columbus Day! This festivity is celebrated only in the United States of America. Why?

During Christopher Columbus' time people thought the world was flat. Columbus was born in Genoa, a beautiful Italian city on the north-west coast. For many years he watched ships leave the port¹ of Genoa. He noticed that these ships seemed to go under the horizon². He was convinced³ that the world was round, but no one believed him. He wanted to reach the East by sailing to the West. Queen Isabella and King Ferdinand of Spain believed Columbus' theory. They gave him three ships, the *Santa Maria*, the *Niña* and the *Pinta* to travel and test this theory.

Columbus was an expert navigator⁴. After a long and difficult voyage, he and his men reached the North American continent⁵ on 12 October, 1492! The famous Italian explorer discovered the New World! After his great discovery a new era⁶ of exploration⁷ began and America was born.

1. port : 港口城镇。

2. horizon : 地平线。

3. was convinced : 确信。

4. navigator : 航海者。

5. continent : 大陆。

6. era : 时代。

7. exploration : 考察。



Columbus Day



Today most Americans celebrate Columbus Day with colourful parades and they elect ¹ a Columbus Day Queen. The parade is usually long with big floats ² dedicated to ³ Columbus and there are other multi-cultural ⁴ floats too. After the parade there is usually a dinner and dance.

In San Francisco, California, there is also a re-enactment ⁵ of Columbus' discovery. A man dresses up ⁶ as Columbus and several other men dress up as his sailors. They get into a boat and row to the beach. When they get out of their boat they kneel on the beach and thank God.

Americans enjoy remembering the great navigator!



A Columbus Day float in New York.

1. elect : 选举。

2. floats : 彩车。

3. dedicated to : 纪念。

4. multi-cultural : 多种文化的。

5. re-enactment : 再次展现。

6. dresses up : 化妆。

UNDERSTANDING THE TEXT

1 Are the following sentences true (T) or false (F)? Correct the false ones.

- | | T | F |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| a. Columbus Day is celebrated only in the United States. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b. Christopher Columbus wanted to reach the West by sailing to the East. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c. The King and Queen of Spain gave Columbus two ships: the <i>Santa Maria</i> and the <i>Pinta</i> . | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d. Columbus was an Italian scientist. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| e. He discovered the New World on 12 October, 1492. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| f. Most Americans celebrate Columbus Day with patriotic speeches. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| g. In San Francisco, California, there is a re-enactment of Columbus' discovery. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

2 Odd one out!

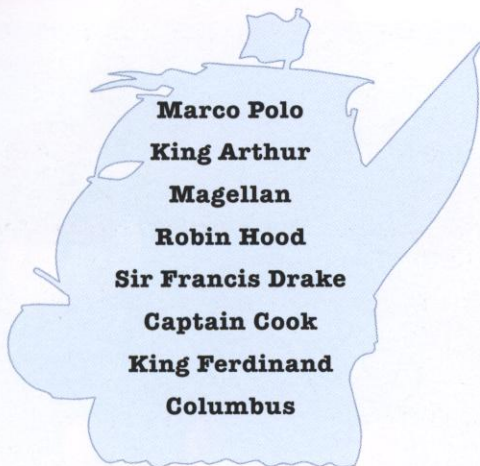
Circle the word in each group that doesn't belong to the same group.

- a. sea round lake ocean river
- b. American coast British Spanish Italian
- c. sailor navigator beach explorer teacher
- d. city town horizon village metropolis

Now use the circled words to fill in the gaps.

- a. Genoa is a city on the north-west
- b. Columbus noticed that ships seemed to go under the
- c. He was convinced that the world was
- d. The sailors get into a boat and row to the

3 Which of these men were great explorers? Circle their names.



Name a famous explorer from your country.

What did he discover or explore?





Halloween¹

Halloween is celebrated on 31 October. It is an exciting event in the United States and in Great Britain. Every American calendar has Halloween marked on it.

Halloween has ancient Celtic origins. On the Celtic calendar Samhain was the last day of summer and the last day of the year, 31 October.

The Celtic priests, called Druids, practised² religious rituals³ and magic on Samhain. They also predicted⁴ the future.

On this day the Celts made big fires and dressed in scary⁵ costumes⁶. They wanted to frighten the evil spirits. They dressed as ghosts, skeletons⁷ and witches⁸. They believed that ghosts came out of their tombs on the night of 31 October.

Samhain also became a harvest festival after the Roman invasion⁹ of

1. **Halloween** : 万圣节前夕。
2. **practised** : 举行。
3. **rituals** : 仪式。
4. **predicted** : 预言。
5. **scary** : 吓人的。

6. **costumes** : 服装。
7. **skeletons** : 骷髅。

8. **witches** :



9. **invasion** : 侵略。



An original way to use an enormous pumpkin!

British and American Festivities

Britain in 43 AD. Christian practices replaced pagan practices. The Christians called 1 November All Hallows' Day, the day of All Saints. The evening of 31 October was called All Hallows' Eve¹. This became Halloween.



A Halloween costume.



At Halloween American children in elementary schools take their costumes and masks to school. Typical²

Halloween costumes are the witch, ghost, skeleton, monster, vampire³ or alien⁴.


Young people have fun making their own costumes, but some prefer to buy them. In the afternoon the children put on their costumes and have a Halloween party at school. Schools are decorated with⁵ pumpkins⁶, ghosts, witches and bats.

It is a popular tradition⁷ to make jack o'lanterns⁸ out of pumpkins. People put them in front of the windows of their homes. The jack o' lantern is of Celtic origin too.



There are funny Halloween games such as

1. **Eve** : 前夜。
2. **typical** : 典型的。
3. **vampire** : 吸血鬼。
4. **alien** : 外星人。
5. **are decorated with** : 装饰。

6. **pumpkins** : 
7. **tradition** : 传统。
8. **jack o'lanterns** : (把南瓜挖空雕成人面形的) 杰克灯。



Halloween



'bobbing for apples'¹. Favourite Halloween foods are candied apples², nuts, liquorice³, popcorn⁴ and pumpkin pie.

American teenagers have a Halloween party in the evening. The party is usually in the school gymnasium⁵ and everyone wears a costume and mask. The best costume usually wins a prize.



Bobbing for apples.



Decorated jack o'lanterns.

1. **bobbing for apples** : 咬苹果游戏。
2. **candied apples** : 蜜饯苹果。
3. **liquorice** : 甘草。
4. **popcorn** : 爆玉米花。
5. **gymnasium** : 体育馆。

British and American Festivities

In the 19th century Irish immigrants¹ took their Halloween customs to the United States. They introduced² the custom of 'trick-or-treating'³. American and British children and teenagers go 'trick-or-treating' on Halloween evening. They go from house to house in their costumes and ring doorbells⁴. When the door opens they shout, 'Trick or treat?' People usually give them sweets or money. If not, the children play a trick! They write on windows with soap or spray⁵ shaving cream⁶ on cars and people!



People decorate their homes with jack o'lanterns.

1. immigrants : 移民。
2. introduced : 引进，传入。
3. trick-or-treating : 不请吃就捣蛋(游戏)。
4. ring doorbells : 按门铃。
5. spray : 喷洒。
6. shaving cream :



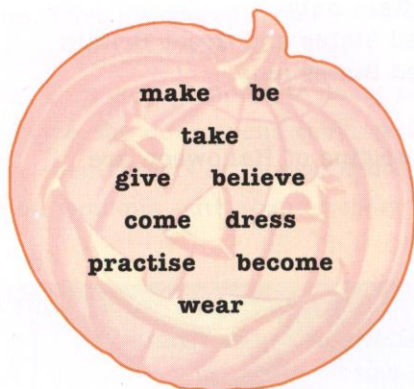
UNDERSTANDING THE TEXT

1 Choose the correct answer.

- a. Halloween is celebrated on 31 October in
- Great Britain only
 - the United States and Great Britain
 - the United States only
- b. The ancient origins of Halloween are
- Celtic
 - Irish
 - Roman
- c. The word Halloween comes from
- a Roman word
 - All Hallows' Eve
 - an Irish song
- d. American children in elementary schools
- have a Halloween party at school
 - make Halloween cards
 - sing Celtic songs
- e. American teenagers
- don't celebrate Halloween
 - don't go to school on 31 October
 - have a party on Halloween evening
- f. On Halloween evening American and British children and teenagers put on their costumes and masks and
- go 'trick-or-treating'
 - dance in the streets
 - write on doors with soap

The Past Simple (一般过去时)

The Past Simple of a verb is often used to tell a story. Use the verbs in the pumpkin to fill in the gaps in the sentences below. Use the Past Simple.



- a. Samhain the last day of summer.
- b. The Druids religious rituals and magic.
- c. The Celts big fires and in scary costumes.
- d. They that ghosts out of their tombs.
- e. After 43 AD Samhain also a harvest festival.
- f. Irish immigrants their Halloween customs to the United States.
- g. The people the children sweets.
- h. They frightening costumes.

3 Match the name with the correct mask.

witch skeleton devil
Batman alien

a.



b.



c.



e.



d.

Which mask do you prefer? Why?

Will you wear a costume and mask for Halloween? If so, describe them.

**4**

Listen to the second and third paragraphs of page 12 and fill in the missing words.

At Halloween American in elementary schools take their costumes and masks to Typical Halloween costumes are the, ghost, skeleton, monster, vampire or alien. Young have fun making their own costumes, but some prefer to them. In the the children put on their costumes and have a Halloween at school. Schools are decorated pumpkins, ghosts, witches and bats. It is a popular tradition to jack o'lanterns out of pumpkins. People put them in front of the of their homes. The jack o'lantern is of origin too.



American Pumpkin Pie

Invite your friends to a Halloween party. To make your party a big success, make an American pumpkin pie! It's delicious and easy to make! Here's a recipe¹ for four people.

Ingredients²



2kg of pumpkin



1/2 litre of milk



4 eggs



4 tablespoons of flour³

1 teaspoon of baking powder⁴

100g of butter



1/4 teaspoon of salt

1/4 teaspoon of cinnamon powder⁵

Utensils⁶ to use

a big saucepan⁷



a tablespoon



a teaspoon

a wooden spoon



a big bowl



a non-stick pie dish



1. recipe : 食谱。

2. ingredients : 材料。

3. flour : 面粉。

4. baking powder : 发酵粉。

5. cinnamon powder : 肉桂粉。

6. utensils : 用具。

7. saucepan : 锅。

Cut the pumpkin into small pieces and remove the peel¹. Put the pieces into a big saucepan and add the milk. Cook the mixture for 30 minutes and don't forget to mix it while it's cooking.

Now break the eggs into a bowl. Add the flour, baking powder, butter, salt and cinnamon powder. Mix these ingredients well.

Add the pumpkin and milk mixture to the ingredients in the bowl and mix. Put the mixture into a non-stick pie dish. Put the dish into the oven² (180°C) for one hour. Serve³ the pumpkin pie cold. Happy Halloween!



Pumpkin cut into small pieces.

1. peel : 瓜果皮。
2. oven : 烤箱。

3. serve : 端上。



Guy Fawkes' Night

The fifth of November is Guy Fawkes' Night or Bonfire¹ Night. This is a British festivity.

The story of Guy Fawkes goes back to the early 1600's.

During this period there were religious problems between Protestants² and Catholics³ in Britain. King James I was a Protestant and he passed severe laws against Catholics. They were not permitted to have religious services.

A group of 12 Catholics decided to kill King James I and destroy the Parliament Building! They planned to blow up⁴ the Houses of Parliament on 5 November 1605, when the King was present. This was called the Gunpowder Plot.

The leader of the plot was Robert Catesby. The plotters⁵ put 30 barrels of explosives⁶ in the cellars⁷ under the Parliament Building.

Guy Fawkes was an expert with explosives. His responsibility was to guard the barrels of explosives and light the fuse⁸ on 5 November.

1. bonfire : 篝火。

2. Protestants : 新教徒。

3. Catholics : 天主教徒。

4. blow up : 炸毁。

5. plotters : 密谋者。

6. explosives : 炸药。

7. cellars : 地窖。

8. light the fuse :



British and American Festivities

The King's soldiers discovered the plot! Guy Fawkes was immediately arrested and tortured¹. The other plotters were found three days later. Guy Fawkes and the others were hanged².

On the night of 5 November 1605 many people in London were happy because the plot was discovered. To celebrate they started bonfires in the street. Someone made an effigy³ of Guy Fawkes and burned it.

Ever since that day the British have celebrated Guy Fawkes' Night. Today young people in Britain make a Guy with old clothes and fill him with newspaper. Then they go around the streets with the Guy and ask for 'a penny for the Guy?' With this money they buy fireworks⁴.

On the night of 5 November there are fireworks and big bonfires to burn the Guy. Some people have bonfires in their back gardens. Young

1. tortured : 折磨。

3. effigy : 肖像。

2. hanged :



4. fireworks :



The plotters wanted to blow up the Houses of Parliament on 5 November 1605.





Guy Fawkes' Night



people love the noise, excitement and colourful fireworks.

On this night they eat toffee apples¹.

In Lewes, Sussex, there is a big public festival on Guy Fawkes' Night. People dress in historic² costumes. The Guy is burned on top of a hill on an enormous bonfire. There are also brilliant³ fireworks.

Here is a rhyme⁴ about Guy Fawkes:

'A penny for the Guy!'

*Remember, remember
 The fifth of November
 Gunpowder, treason⁵ and plot.
 I see no reason
 why gunpowder and treason
 Should ever be forgot.*

1. toffee apples : 涂太妃糖的苹果。

2. historic : 具有历史意义的。

3. brilliant : 灿烂的。

4. rhyme : 韵文。

5. treason : 叛国。

UNDERSTANDING THE TEXT

1 Choose the correct answers.

- a. Guy Fawkes' Night is *an American / a British* festivity.
- b. King James I was a *Protestant / Catholic* and he passed severe laws against *his people / Catholics*.
- c. A group of 12 *soldiers / Catholics* planned to *enter / blow up* the Houses of Parliament on 5 November 1605.
- d. Guy Fawkes' responsibility was to *make / guard* the barrels of explosives.
- e. When the *King's soldiers / King* discovered the plot, Guy Fawkes and the other plotters *were hanged / escaped*.
- f. Today young people in *Britain / America* make a *Guy / King* with old clothes.
- g. On the *night / day* of 5 November there are fireworks and big bonfires to burn the Guy.

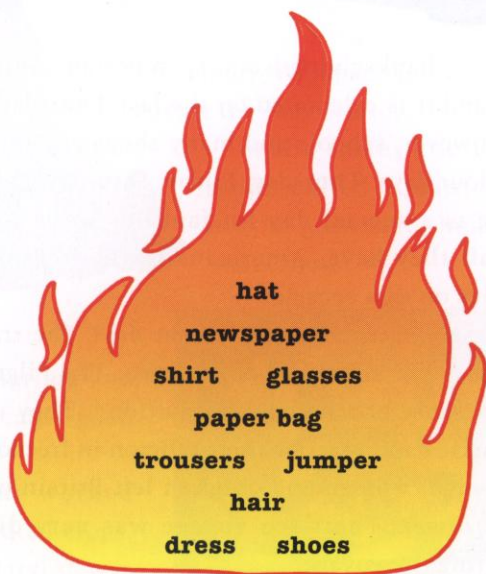
2 Fill in the gaps with the words below. Some words can be used twice.

Who Why When Where What

- a. was King of Britain in 1605?
King James I was King in 1605.
- b. did the plotters plan to blow up the Parliament Building?
They planned to blow it up on 5 November 1605.
- c. was the leader of the plot?
Robert Catesby was the leader.
- d. did the plotters put the barrels of explosives?
They put them in the cellars under the Parliament Building.

- e. were Guy Fawkes and the other plotters hanged?
They were hanged because they wanted to blow up the Parliament Building and kill King James I.
- f. do some people have bonfires?
They have them in their back gardens.
- g. happens in Lewes, Sussex on Guy Fawkes' Night?
There is a public festival with an enormous bonfire and fireworks.

3 Make a list of things you need to make a Guy. Look at the photograph on page 27. The words in the bonfire will help you.



4 Go back to page 27 and read the rhyme about Guy Fawkes. What do you think its message is?



Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving is a very important American festivity and it is celebrated on the last Thursday of November. However, schools and many shops and offices are closed for four days: Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Thanksgiving is a special day for families to be together and to thank God for all they have. Americans travel great distances to be with their families on this occasion¹.

Why is Thanksgiving such an important day? The tradition started with the Pilgrims², the founders³ of America. The Pilgrims left Great Britain in 1620 because of religious persecution⁴. They wanted to start a new life in America and practise their religion in freedom⁵.

One hundred men, women and children left Britain on a small ship called the *Mayflower*. Their sea voyage was very difficult. Many Pilgrims died during the voyage.

They arrived on the north-east coast of North America in December 1620 and founded⁶ Plymouth. The area was a wilderness. It was almost

1. occasion : 时刻。
2. Pilgrims : 清教徒。
3. founders : 建立者。

4. persecution : 迫害。
5. freedom : 自由。
6. founded : 创建。

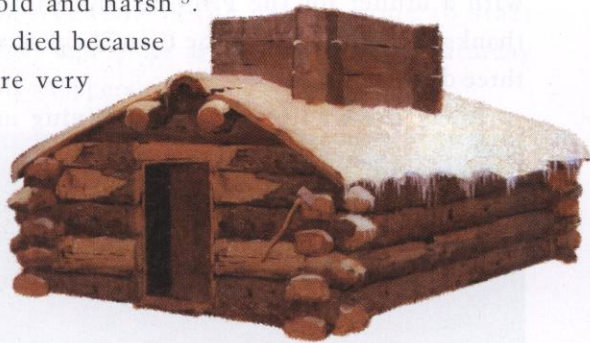
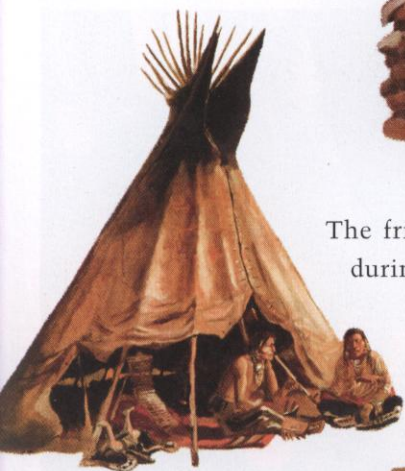


Thanksgiving



winter and they had no homes and little food. They immediately built small homes, but it was too late to cultivate¹ crops².

The winter was very cold and harsh³. Almost half of the Pilgrims died because their living conditions were very bad.



The friendly Wampanoag Indians helped them during the long winter.

In the spring the Pilgrims met an Indian called Squanto. He explained how to grow corn, hunt and live in the wilderness.

Soon the Pilgrims and the Indians became good friends.

The Pilgrims worked hard and cultivated crops. The summer harvest was excellent. By November



1. cultivate : 种植。

3. harsh : 严酷的。

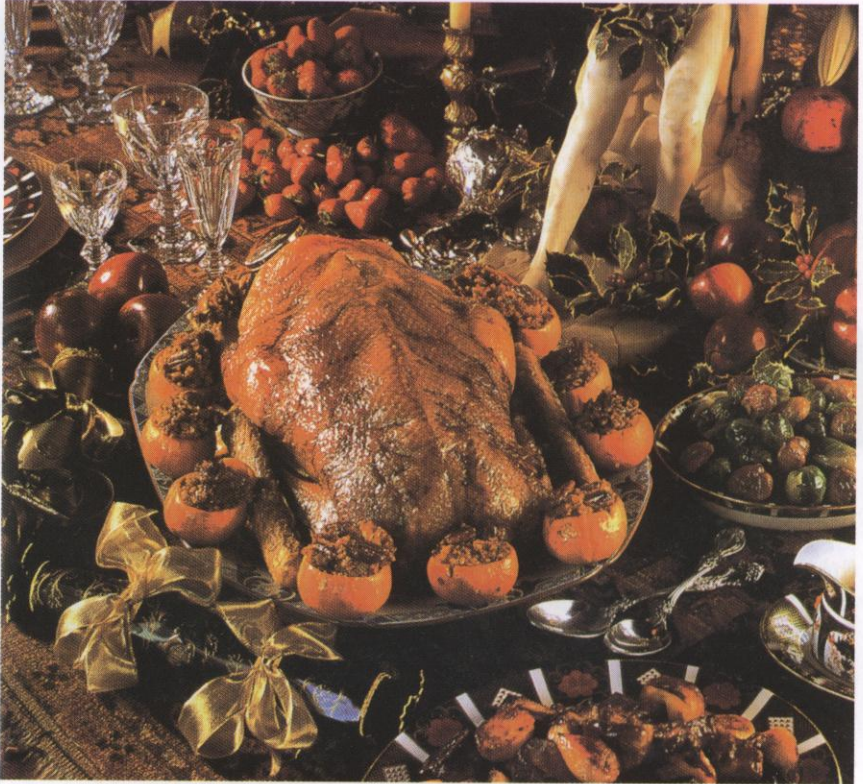
2. crops : 

British and American Festivities

1621 everyone had food and a home. There was hope for the future.

Governor William Bradford, the Pilgrim leader, decided to celebrate with a dinner for the Pilgrims and the Indians. He wanted to give thanks to God. This was the first Thanksgiving dinner and it lasted¹ for three days!

Today the traditional Thanksgiving meal is similar to the first.



Roast turkey is part of the traditional Thanksgiving dinner.

1. lasted : 持续。



Thanksgiving



People eat roast turkey, sweet potatoes, corn, cranberry sauce¹ and pumpkin pie. Most families start the meal with a prayer².

The long Thanksgiving weekend is the perfect time to start Christmas shopping! Big stores and shops are open on Friday, Saturday and Sunday for the Christmas shoppers.



A float in a Thanksgiving parade in New York.

1. cranberry sauce : 越橘酱。



2. prayer : 祈祷。

UNDERSTANDING THE TEXT

1 Are the following sentences true (T) or false (F)? Correct the false ones.

- | | T | F |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| a. Thanksgiving is celebrated on the last Thursday of November. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b. Americans travel great distances to be with their families on Thanksgiving Day. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c. The tradition started in Great Britain. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d. The Pilgrims were the founders of America. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| e. Their first winter was very cold but they had lots of food. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| f. Squanto helped the Pilgrims to build the first houses. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| g. The first Thanksgiving dinner was in November 1621. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| h. During the long Thanksgiving weekend, many people start Christmas shopping. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

2 Unscramble the anagrams (变形词) and then match them with their meanings.

- | | | |
|---------------|-------|--------------------------|
| a. REAFMOYWL | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b. LESWRIDENS | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c. MSIPLGIR | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d. ARHSH | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| e. UNSTOQA | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| f. OSRPC | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| g. OLHPTUYM | | <input type="checkbox"/> |

1. Land that is not cultivated, where wild animals live.
2. Very unpleasant.
3. The Pilgrims' ship.
4. Fruit, vegetables and corn.
5. The founders of America.
6. A friendly Indian.
7. The colony founded by the Pilgrims.

3 You are a young pilgrim in Plymouth. It is the day after Thanksgiving and you want to write a letter to your grandmother in Britain. Write full sentences with the notes given. Use the Past Simple tense (一般过去时) .

Dear Grandmother,

America / arrive / in / I / one / ago / year.

be / The / very / winter / cold / little

and / be / there / food.

people / Many / die.

the / spring / kind / Indians / In / help / some / us.

our / They / friends / become / good.

build / small / We / houses / crops / and / cultivate.

The / good / be / very / this / harvest / year.

invite / Indians / Yesterday / we / the / Thanksgiving / a / to / dinner.

for / God / everything / thank / We.

Love from,

.....

Pilgrim's Apple Crumble¹

Do you want to make an original² dessert³ for Thanksgiving? Try the Pilgrim's Apple Crumble, a recipe from long ago! It's easy to make and delicious to eat.

Ingredients

250g of flour
150g of brown sugar
100g of butter (at room temperature)

To make the fruit mixture you need:

900g of sliced⁴ apples
2 tablespoons of brown sugar
1 cinnamon stick
1/4 cup of water

Utensils to use

a big bowl
a big saucepan
a wooden spoon
a tablespoon
a teaspoon
a non-stick pie dish

Make the crumble first. Put the flour into a bowl. Add the butter and mix with your hands. When the mixture is crumbly⁵, add the sugar and mix well.

1. **apple crumble** : 苹果点心。

2. **original** : 新颖的。

3. **dessert** : 甜食。

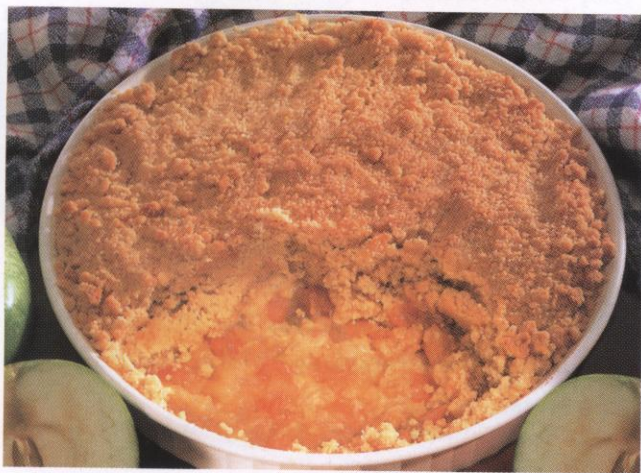
4. **sliced** :



5. **crumbly** : 易碎的。

Then make the fruit filling¹. Put the sliced apples, sugar and cinnamon stick into a big saucepan. Add the water and cook until the apples are soft.

When the fruit is ready put it into a non-stick pie dish and cover the fruit with the crumble. Put the pie dish into the oven (200°C) and bake² the crumble for 30-40 minutes. Remember, the top must be light brown. Happy Thanksgiving!



1. filling : 馅。

2. bake : 烘烤。



Christmas

On 25 December Great Britain and the United States (and many other countries) celebrate Christmas. The word Christmas comes from the Old English 'Cristes maesse', Christ's mass. On this day Christians celebrate the birth of Christ.

Kindness and giving are the spirit of Christmas. Charles Dickens, the famous British writer, wrote *A Christmas Carol*¹, a story about the true meaning of Christmas.

Why is Christmas celebrated on 25 December?

Christmas comes from two pagan festivals. People celebrated the winter solstice² on 21 or 22 December. The Roman emperors chose 25 December as the birthday of the sun (natales solis).

After the winter solstice, the days become longer and the sun is higher in the sky. In ancient Rome this was the season of Saturnalia. Saturnalia was a time of merrymaking³. During Saturnalia the Romans exchanged⁴ presents.

1. carol : 圣诞颂歌。

2. winter solstice : 冬至。

3. merrymaking : 寻欢作乐。

4. exchanged : 交换。



Christmas



The pagan tribes of northern Europe enjoyed a 12-day winter festival called Yule. Yule had its own traditions of Yule cakes, fir trees¹, holly², mistletoe³ and presents. Fir trees and holly are still a symbol⁴ of Christmas. Today a branch of mistletoe in the house has another meaning: when a boy and girl meet under the mistletoe they usually kiss! The custom of kissing under the mistletoe is an ancient Celtic rite⁵.

Medieval⁶ Christmas was a long event. It lasted twelve days like the Yule festival. Celebrations started on 25 December and ended on the night of 6 January.



Christmas is the biggest holiday on the American and British calendar. However, in Scotland, New Year is more important.

In Great Britain and the United States people prepare for Christmas weeks before 25 December.

Cities and towns are beautifully decorated with Christmas symbols: the Christmas tree, Santa Claus, colourful lights and much more. Shop windows are full of

1. fir trees :



2. holly :



3. mistletoe :



4. symbol : 象征。

5. rite : 仪式。

6. Medieval : 中世纪的。

British and American Festivities

presents for everyone. People are busy buying presents. There are Santa Clauses everywhere. On street corners people sing Christmas carols. In Britain many children go carol singing with an adult. They go from house to house and sing. They usually receive money for their singing. They use this money to buy presents. There is a joyous atmosphere¹.

Christmas today respects many of the old traditions and has added new ones.

The modern Christmas tree originated in² western Germany long ago. The Germans put up a fir tree in their homes and decorated it with biscuits³ and candles⁴. German settlers took this tradition to North America in the 17th century. By the 19th century Christmas trees were very popular in the United States.



The first modern Christmas tree came from Germany.

1. joyous atmosphere : 喜庆的气氛。
2. originated in : 起源于。
3. biscuits : 饼干。
4. candles : 蜡烛。



Christmas



In Britain the Christmas tree became popular after 1840. The German Prince Albert, Queen Victoria's husband, took the Christmas tree to the British Royal Family. Soon the Christmas tree became popular all over Great Britain. There is a big tree every year in Trafalgar Square, London.

Today America's most famous Christmas tree is in the Rockefeller Center, New York City.

The Empire State Building in New York City is one of the tallest buildings in the world. At Christmas the top of the building is illuminated¹ with red and green lights!

Today almost every Christian family has a decorated Christmas tree at home or in the garden. Some families put up the tree on Christmas



America's most famous Christmas tree.

1. illuminated : 照亮。

British and American Festivities

Eve and others put it up at the beginning of December. Many families put a Nativity¹ scene² under the Christmas tree. St. Francis of Assisi created the first Nativity scene in the 1200's!

Many Americans wear 'Christmas clothes' during the Christmas season. These are clothes with Christmas colours and symbols.

Christmas crackers³ are an old tradition.

They were invented in London. Two people pull the cracker

until it 'bangs'⁴ and opens. Inside there is usually a small present, a paper hat and a joke.

In the United States there are 'Christmas shops' in many cities. They sell all types of Christmas trees, ornaments⁵ and other decorations⁶ for the home. 'Christmas shops' are open all year long, so you can buy your Christmas tree in June!

It is usual to send Christmas cards to relatives⁷ and friends. The first Christmas card was designed in'



A Nativity scene.



1. Nativity : 耶稣的出生。

2. scene : 景象。

3. crackers : 爆竹。



4. bangs : 发出巨响。

5. ornaments : 装饰物。

6. decorations : 装饰物。

7. relatives : 亲戚。

★ Christmas ★

Britain by John Callcott Horsley in 1843. A thousand copies of the card were printed in London. The design was a family party with the words 'A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you.'

In the mid-19th century a shop owner in Albany, New York, made a card that said, 'Christmas greetings from Pease's Great Variety Store.' This was the beginning of the big Christmas card industry¹.

The figure² of Santa Claus comes from St. Nicholas, a 4th century Christian bishop of Asia Minor. He was famous for his generosity and kindness. The Dutch settlers of New York brought the tradition of Sinterklaas (Santa Claus) to America.

Father Christmas, or Santa Claus, is an important part of the Christmas tradition. Children write letters to him and ask for special presents.

Today we see Santa Claus as an old man with a white beard, dressed in a red suit. He drives a sleigh³ pulled by reindeer⁴ and comes down the chimney⁵ with toys for the children. This image of Santa Claus was created by the American cartoonist⁶ Thomas Nast in 1863.

American and British children put out a stocking⁷ on Christmas Eve because they hope to receive presents from Santa Claus. Then they go to



A Christmas card.

1. **industry** : 行业。

2. **figure** : 形象。

3. **sleigh** : 雪橇。

4. **reindeer** :



5. **chimney** :



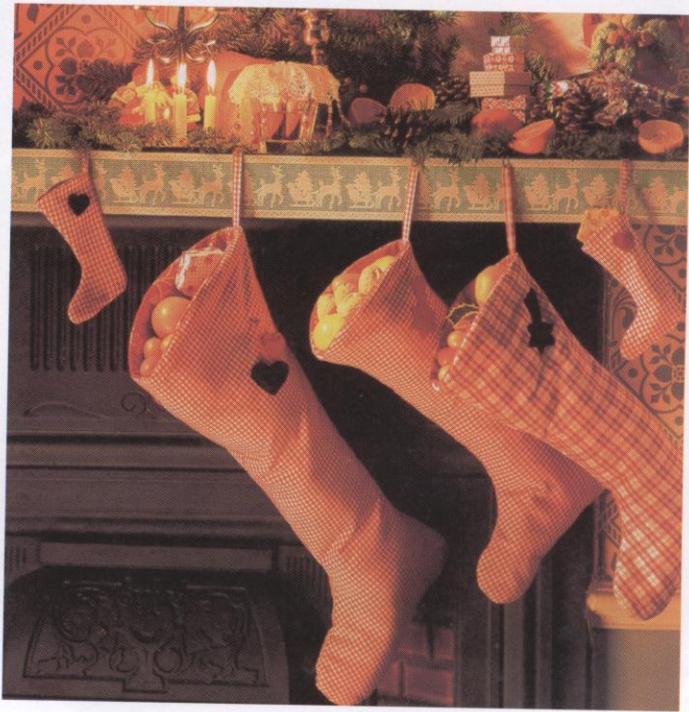
6. **cartoonist** : 漫画家。

7. **stocking** : 长筒袜。

British and American Festivities

bed early because they want Santa Claus to come. Many Christians go to church services at midnight and others go on Christmas morning. Christmas presents are usually opened on Christmas morning. After Christmas dinner many families listen to the traditional Queen's Speech in Britain and watch special Christmas television programmes. Children play with their new toys.

In Britain some people go for a Christmas Day swim in the sea or in a lake. In Hyde Park in London some courageous people swim in the Serpentine!



Christmas stockings.

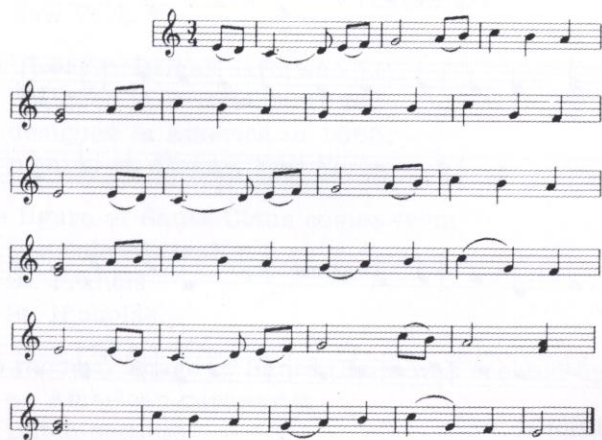
The First Noël

The first Noël the angel did say
was to certain poor shepherds in
fields as they lay;
In fields where they lay, keeping
their sheep,
On a cold winter's night that was so
deep:

Noël, Noël, Noël, Noël,
Born is the King of Israel!

They looked up and saw a star,
Shining in the east, beyond them far;
And to the earth it gave great light,
And so it continued both day and
night:

And by the light of that same star,
Three Wise Men came from country
far;
To seek for a king was their intent¹,
And to follow the star wherever it
went:



Traditional.

1. intent : 目的。

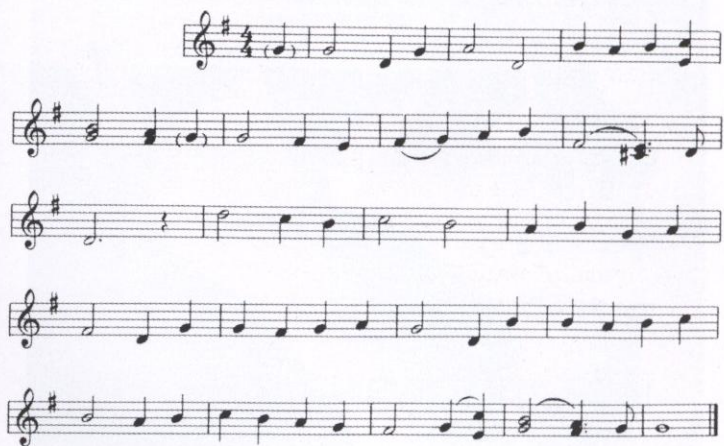
O Come, All Ye Faithful¹

O come, all ye faithful,
Joyful and triumphant²
O come ye, O come ye to
Bethlehem;
Come and behold him
Born the King of Angels:

God of God
Light of light,
Lo! he abhors⁴ not the Virgin's
womb⁵;
Very God,
Begotten not created:

O come, let us adore³ him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord!

Sing, choirs⁶ of angels,
Sing in exultation⁷,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven
above;
Glory to God
In the highest:



Traditional.

1. faithful : 忠诚的。
2. triumphant : 得胜的。
3. adore : 崇拜。
4. abhors : 厌恶。

5. womb : 子宫。
6. choirs : 唱诗班。
7. exultation : 狂喜。

UNDERSTANDING THE TEXT

1 Choose the correct answer.

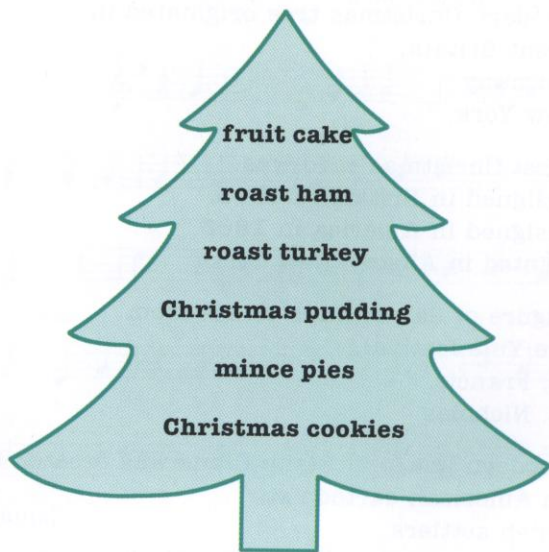
- a. Christmas comes from
- a Celtic tradition.
 - two pagan festivals.
 - Germany.
- b. The Roman emperors chose 25 December as
- the birthday of the sun.
 - the birthday of the emperor.
 - the winter solstice.
- c. The pagan tribes of northern Europe enjoyed a 12-day winter festival called
- Saturnalia.
 - Medieval Christmas.
 - Yule.
- d. The modern Christmas tree originated in
- Great Britain.
 - Germany.
 - New York.
- e. The first Christmas card was
- designed in Britain in 1843.
 - designed in America in 1863.
 - printed in Albany, New York.
- f. The figure of Santa Claus comes from
- the Yule festival.
 - St. Francis.
 - St. Nicholas.
- g. The modern image of Santa Claus was created by
- an American cartoonist.
 - Dutch settlers.
 - a shop owner in Albany, New York.

Christmas Traditions

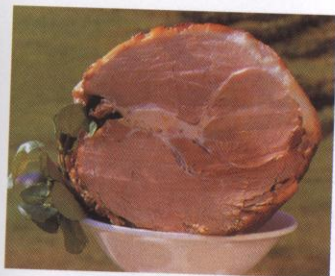
Food

The traditional Christmas dinner consists of ¹ roast turkey ² or roast ham ³, vegetables, salad and special desserts. In Britain Christmas cake, Christmas pudding and mince pies ⁴ are the typical desserts. Fruit cake, pumpkin pie and special Christmas cookies ⁵ are favourite American desserts.

- 1** Can you name the traditional Christmas foods on page 49? The words in the tree will help you.



1. consists of : 包括。
2. roast turkey : 烤火鸡。
3. roast ham : 烤火腿。
4. mince pies : 肉馅饼。
5. cookies : (美国) 饼干。



a.



b.



c.



d.



e.



f.

Trees

The traditional Christmas tree is an evergreen¹, because green is the colour of life. Most people have green Christmas trees but others decorate the brown branches of a tree with ornaments and create a very original tree. Look at these unusual Christmas trees.



a. A child's tree.



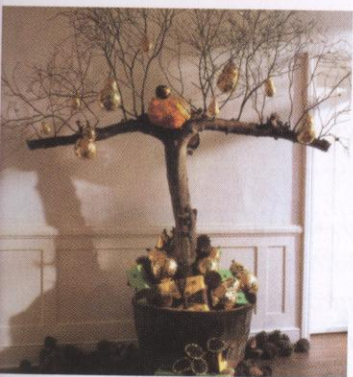
b. A tree made of twigs².



c. A dog's tree.

1. evergreen : 常青树。

2. twigs : 细树枝。



d. A decorated tree trunk¹.



e. Snow-covered fir trees.



f. A tree with red ribbons.



g. A tree with orange slices².



h. A Christmas cookie tree.

1. trunk: 树干。

2. slices: 薄片。

1 Which Christmas tree(s):

- a. has ornaments that you can eat?
 - b. has teddy bears on it?
 - c. belongs to a dog?
 - d. is decorated with ribbons?
 - e. isn't green?
 - f. do you like best?
- Why?
-

2 Describe your Christmas tree.

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....



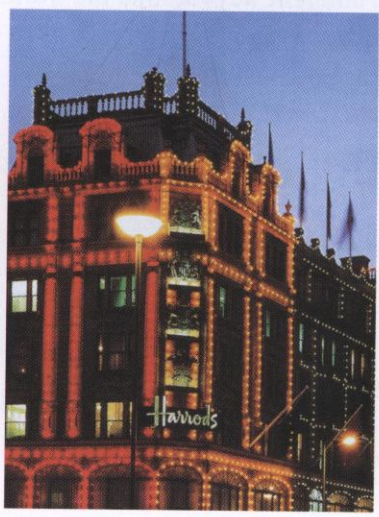
Christmas around the World

Christmas is celebrated in different ways around the world. People in Mexico and Australia can celebrate Christmas on the beach because it's summer in December! Most people in northern Europe enjoy a 'white Christmas' because there's a lot of snow. There are many Christmas markets in December, especially in central and northern Europe. Outdoor Christmas markets sell all types of Christmas decorations, ornaments for Christmas trees and presents.

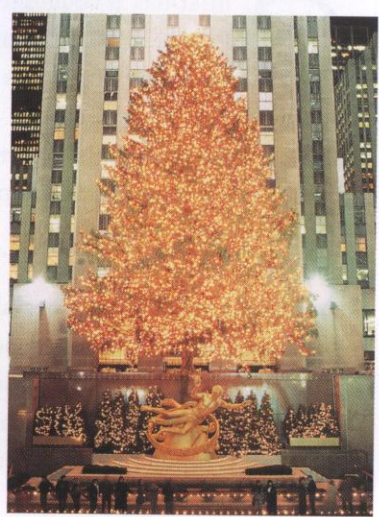


1 Look at these Christmas pictures from different countries and match the pictures with the correct countries.

- Germany Lapland¹ U.S.A. Italy
 Great Britain Mexico



a.

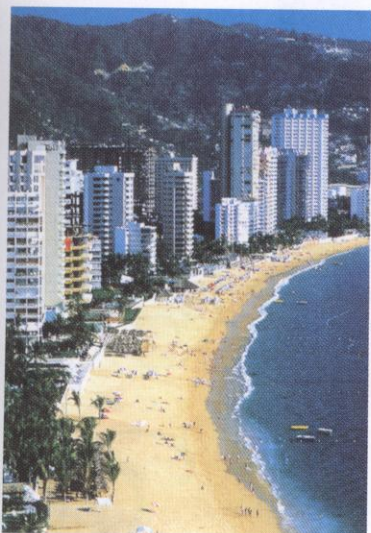


b.



c.

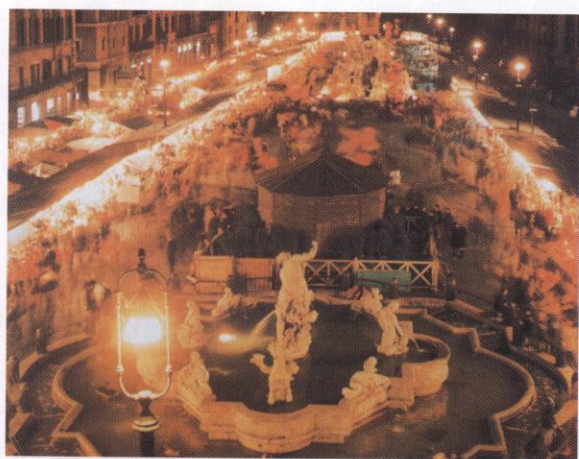
1. Lapland : (北欧) 拉普兰。



d.

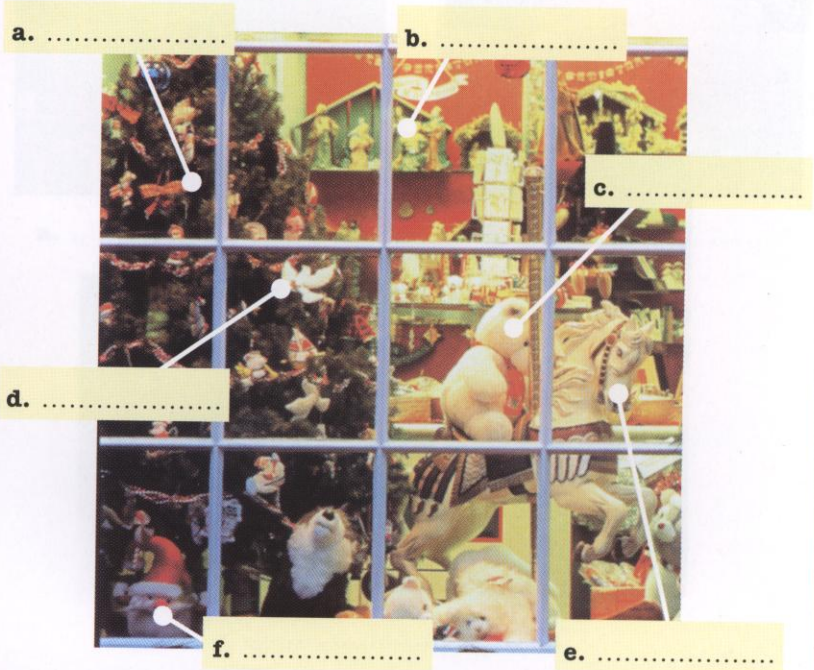


e.



f.

22 Look at the shop window below. Label the things you can see. The words in the Santa Claus will help you.





New Year's Eve

On 31 December everyone celebrates the end of the old year and the beginning of the new.

In Scotland New Year's Eve is called Hogmanay. It is the most important celebration of the year. In Edinburgh there is an immense¹ street celebration on New Year's Eve.

In America and Britain many people like going to parties or organising them in their homes. Some people prefer to celebrate in restaurants or night clubs. Young people celebrate at home or at a disco. Others go to masked balls² in costumes and masks. Everyone takes off their mask at midnight.

Cheers³, noise, music, dancing, colourful decorations, festive food and drink are all part of New Year's Eve. People like throwing confetti⁴ on the last night of the year.

1. **immense** : 巨大的。

2. **balls** : 舞会。

3. **cheers** : 喝彩。

4. **confetti** : 五彩纸屑。

British and American Festivities

People wear their best party clothes on this exciting night. At parties everyone wears funny paper hats and blows toy horns¹. Parties usually begin after 9 pm and continue until the next morning. At midnight everyone joins hands and sings the old Scottish song 'Auld Lang Syne.'

In New York City a favourite place to go on New Year's Eve is Times



People wait for Big Ben to strike midnight.

Square. At midnight the words 'Happy New Year' appear on an electronic sign². Bells and sirens³ ring, people cheer and there is a lot of noise!

In London many people go to celebrate in Trafalgar Square. Everyone in Britain waits for Big Ben to strike midnight. Then there is a lot of noise. People sing 'Auld Lang Syne', kiss each other and cheer.

When we make a lot of noise on New Year's Eve we are following ancient traditions. Ancient civilizations⁴ made noise to frighten evil spirits⁵ of the past year.

On New Year's Eve the Americans and the British

1. toy horns :



2. electronic sign : 电子标牌。

3. sirens : 汽笛。

4. civilizations : 文明。

5. evil spirits : 邪恶的精灵。



New Year's Eve



make New Year's resolutions¹ or promises. They promise to get rid of² bad habits during the new year. Some typical children's resolutions are: 'I resolve to do my homework' or 'I resolve to clean my room every day'. Children write down their New Year's resolutions, sign their name and give the paper to their parents.

Some typical adult's resolutions are: 'I resolve to stop smoking' or 'I resolve to go on a diet'³. Most people don't keep their promises⁴, but a few do! In

some American cities

office workers throw their

old calendars out of the office

windows on 31 December. They are throwing

the old year away! It is incredible⁵ to see so

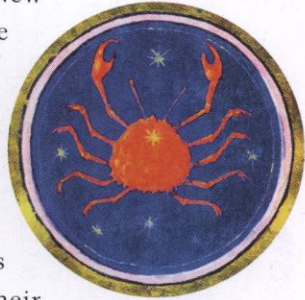
much paper flying about. By

5:30 pm the streets are

covered with

office calendars.

At the end of the year astrologists⁶ predict the future for all the signs of the zodiac⁷. Some astrologists predict catastrophic⁸ events!



1. resolutions : 决心。

2. get rid of : 除掉。

3. go on a diet : 节食。

4. keep their promises : 遵守承诺。

5. incredible : 不可思议的。

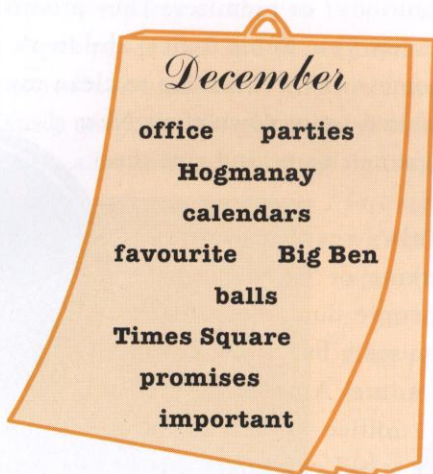
6. astrologists : 占星学家。

7. zodiac : 黄道带。

8. catastrophic : 灾难的。

UNDERSTANDING THE TEXT

1 Fill in the gaps with the correct words from the calendar.



- a. In Scotland New Year's Eve is called and it is the most celebration of the year.
- b. On New Year's Eve people like going to, or to masked
- c. In New York City a place to go is
- d. In London everyone waits for to strike midnight.
- e. New Year's resolutions are to get rid of bad habits during the new year.
- f. In some American cities workers throw their old out of the office windows.

2

Find the names of three cities, two squares and a famous clock mentioned in this chapter.

T	R	A	F	A	L	G	A	R	J	Z	X	O
G	N	Y	S	N	D	L	M	V	R	B	H	L
O	F	E	H	J	B	I	G	B	E	N	I	P
B	Y	D	W	F	Y	X	O	V	I	U	M	R
X	L	I	K	Y	H	E	R	B	D	P	T	Y
S	F	N	N	L	O	N	D	O	N	G	I	B
V	N	B	J	E	Y	R	W	M	T	P	M	U
A	K	U	H	A	M	S	K	R	N	W	E	S
F	Y	R	U	V	I	C	P	H	E	B	S	N
P	H	G	T	C	R	H	C	S	T	N	E	O
W	L	H	M	U	C	F	I	Y	A	P	U	K

3

Listen to the dictation carefully. Then listen to it again and fill in the gaps with the correct words.

People like to parties on New Year's Eve. They wear their best clothes. There is a lot of noise everywhere. People, sing, eat and drink. At midnight, bells and people cheer. In Edinburgh, Scotland, there is a big celebration.

At the of the year astrologists predict the future and some people New Year's resolutions.



New Year's Day

F

appy New Year!'

'The same to you and many more.' This familiar ¹ greeting is heard throughout Britain and the United States on 1 January.

People have always celebrated the New Year. In ancient civilizations the calendar was based on the seasons. The Egyptian New Year began when the Nile River overflowed ². For the early Britons and the Romans the New Year began on the first day of spring.

In 45 BC the Roman Emperor Julius Caesar created a calendar with 1 January as the first day of the new year. This calendar is still used today. January comes from 'Janus,' the Roman god of beginnings and endings.

New Year's traditions come from different cultures. Many people give presents and send cards on New Year's Day. This was part of a Roman and old English tradition. Shops and offices give calendars and small presents to their clients.

1. **familiar** : 熟悉的。

2. **overflowed** : 泛滥。



New Year's Day



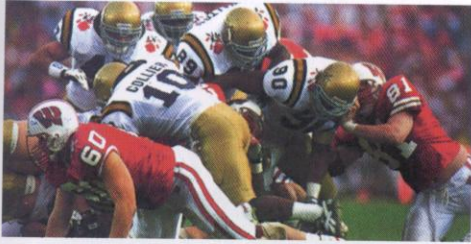
In Britain most families have a big lunch and spend a quiet day at home.

In the United States many families have 'Open House' on New Year's Day. It is a custom introduced by George Washington, the first President of the United States. During 'Open House' the front door of your home is open all day long. Friends and relatives come to say



One of the first American football teams.

'Happy New Year!' They eat and drink something and then leave. Many clubs and organisations have 'Open House' too.



A modern American football team.

On New Year's Day most of the United States is covered with snow. However, in California and in the southern states it is warm and sunny. In these sunny places there are parades and football games. These football

games are called Bowl Games. Each region has its parade and football game:

FOOTBALL GAME	PLACE
<i>Rose Bowl</i>	<i>Pasadena, California</i>
<i>Orange Bowl</i>	<i>Miami, Florida</i>
<i>Cotton Bowl</i>	<i>Dallas, Texas</i>
<i>Sugar Bowl</i>	<i>New Orleans, Louisiana</i>

British and American Festivities

The Pasadena 'Tournament¹ of Roses' parade is the biggest and oldest New Year's Day event.



A float made of fresh flowers.

In Pasadena more than three million people go to watch the parade! More than 70 million Americans watch it on television.

Every year there are about 60 spectacular² floats made of fresh flowers. The floats show favourite storybook characters³ and animals. The

queen of the parade is called the Citrus⁴ Queen, because so many citrus fruits grow in southern California.

It takes about a year to organise the Pasadena 'Tournament of Roses' parade! The entire city participates in this extraordinary⁵ event.

When the parade ends everyone goes to the football stadium⁶ to watch the Rose Bowl game, the biggest sports event of the year.

Another famous New Year's Day parade is the Macy's Day Parade in New York City. Many Americans watch this parade on television in the



The 'Tournament of Roses' parade.

morning and in the afternoon they watch a football game.

1. **Tournament** : 巡演。
2. **spectacular** : 壮观的。
3. **characters** : 人物。

4. **Citrus** : 柑橘。
5. **extraordinary** : 不寻常的。
6. **stadium** : 体育场。

UNDERSTANDING THE TEXT

1 Are the following sentences true (T) or false (F)? Correct the false ones.

- | | T | F |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| a. People started celebrating the New Year in 45 BC. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b. The Roman Emperor Julius Caesar created a calendar with 1 January as the first day of the new year. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c. In Britain many families have 'Open House' on New Year's Day. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d. In California and in the southern states it is warm and sunny in winter. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| e. The Pasadena 'Tournament of Roses' is an important football game. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| f. The Rose Bowl game is the biggest sports event of the year. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

2 Look at this sentence:

The Pasadena 'Tournament of Roses' parade is the *biggest* and *oldest* New Year's Day event.

Biggest and oldest are superlatives (最高级) .

Most superlatives are formed by adding -est to the adjective (形容词) :

ADJECTIVE	SUPERLATIVE
young	youngest
small	smallest
rich	richest
cold	coldest
easy	easiest
noisy	noisiest
sunny	sunniest

Remember this grammar rule:

When the adjective ends in consonant (辅音) *y* for example *easy* change the *y* to *i* and add *-est*.

Some superlatives are irregular (不规则的):

ADJECTIVE	SUPERLATIVE
bad	worst
good	best

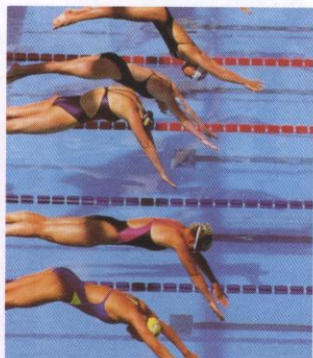
Fill in the gaps with the correct superlative from the two boxes.

- a. New Year's Eve is noisy. It's the night of the year.
- b. California is a sunny place. It's the place in America.
- c. There were many young children in the parade, but John was the
- d. A lot of Romans were rich, but Emperor Julius Caesar was the
- e. Winter is the season of the year.
- f. The biggest float won the prize because it was the

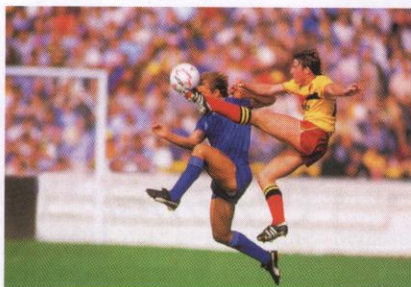
3 Can you match the sport with its correct name?

- a. football
- b. skiing
- c. volleyball
- d. basketball
- e. American football
- f. swimming

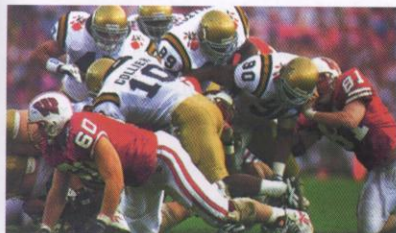
1



2



3



4



5



6





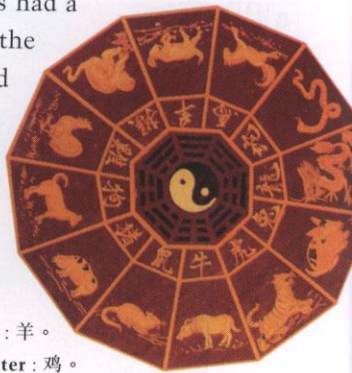
Chinese New Year

Chinese New Year is the most important festivity for the Chinese people in America and Great Britain. It is also called the Spring Festival¹ or the Lunar New Year².

The exact date on the Western calendar changes from year to year. However, Chinese New Year takes place between 1 January and 19 February. On the Chinese lunar calendar every month begins with the new moon.

Every year has an animal's name. These animals are the rat, ox, tiger, rabbit, dragon³, snake, horse, ram⁴, monkey, rooster⁵, dog and pig. A Chinese legend says that these twelve animals had a race. The first year was named after the rat, the winner. The other eleven years were named after the order⁶ in which the animals arrived in the race. The clever rat jumped onto the ox's back then at the end jumped over the ox's head to arrive first!

The Chinese believe that a person born in a



1. the Spring Festival : 春节。
2. the Lunar New Year : 农历新年。
3. dragon : 龙。

4. ram : 羊。
5. rooster : 鸡。
6. order : 顺序。



Chinese New Year



particular year has some of the characteristics¹ of that animal.

Celebrations in Chinese families last for about two weeks. The celebrations begin with traditional house cleaning. The Chinese get rid of old and useless things. They do this to throw away the misfortunes² of the past year.

On Chinese New Year's Eve all family members enjoy a big, delicious meal. It is very important for the Chinese to be with their families on this occasion. Fish is always part of the dinner because it represents³ abundance⁴.

On New Year's Day all Chinese children wear new clothes with bright colours. Red is considered a lucky colour. Parents and relatives give children the traditional New Year's gift called 'Lai see' (lucky money). This money is put into bright red and gold envelopes. Red is a

traditional colour for festivals, celebrations, weddings and birthdays.

In Britain a parade takes place in Soho, London. This is one of the biggest parades in an English-speaking country. Dragon or lion dancers⁵ often lead the parade. In Chinatown, Soho there are many Chinese restaurants. It is possible to stop and eat typical Chinese food.

Chinese New Year was celebrated on 21 February, 1851 for the first time in San Francisco! This was during the California Gold Rush⁶. A lot of Chinese immigrants worked in California during the Gold Rush.

In big American cities such as San Francisco, New York, Honolulu and Houston, Chinese New Year is a major event with wonderful parades.

San Francisco, California, has the biggest Oriental⁷ community outside



A Chinese New Year card.

1. characteristics : 特点。

2. misfortune : 不幸。

3. represents : 代表。

4. abundance : 富裕。

5. lion dancers : 舞狮人。

6. Gold Rush : 淘金热。

7. Oriental : 东方的。

British and American Festivities

of Asia. This area of San Francisco is called Chinatown. There are many Chinese shops, restaurants and libraries in Chinatown. All street and shop signs are written in Chinese! During the Chinese New Year, Chinatown is decorated with beautiful ornaments.

Most of the costumes and masks come from Hong Kong. Every year there is a Miss Chinatown USA beauty and talent contest ¹.

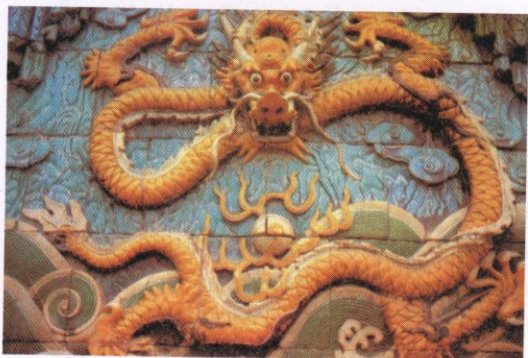
The lion dancers are always part of the festivities. The lion has a big head and long body made of cloth. The lion dance is accompanied by ² drums, cymbals ³ and noisy firecrackers ⁴. According to ancient traditions the great noise frightens away evil spirits.

The dragon is the most important figure of the Chinese New Year festivities and parades. The dragon is considered a lucky figure. A parade dragon can be 20 to 30 metres long! Sixty or more men move under a long

cloth that represents the dragon's tail.


During the parade children represent the animals of the Chinese calendar. There are also acrobats ⁵ and musicians in beautiful costumes.

Every year the San Francisco parade attracts thousands of spectators ⁶. It is a magnificent ⁷ event.



A ceramic Chinese dragon.

1. contest : 竞赛。
2. is accompanied by : 由…伴奏。
3. cymbals : 

4. firecrackers : 
5. acrobats : 杂技演员。
6. spectators : 观看者。
7. magnificent : 壮丽的。

UNDERSTANDING THE TEXT

1 Choose the correct answer.

- a. Chinese New Year takes place
- between 1 January and 1 February.
 - on 1 January.
 - between 1 January and 19 February.
- b. On the Chinese lunar calendar every year
- has an animal's name.
 - ends with the new moon.
 - has a bird's name.
- c. On Chinese New Year's Day all Chinese children
- receive many sweets.
 - wear new clothes with bright colours.
 - play special games.
- d. Red and gold envelopes are used to give 'Lai see' which is
- a Chinese calendar.
 - a Chinese New Year card.
 - lucky money.
- e. The biggest Oriental community outside of Asia is in
- Chinatown in San Francisco.
 - Chinatown in New York.
 - Chinatown in London.
- f. The most important figure of the Chinese New Year festivities and parades is the
- monkey.
 - lion.
 - dragon.

2

In this word square find the names of five things mentioned in this chapter.

A	C	E	G	I	K	M	O	Q	S	U
W	C	Y	B	D	F	R	A	T	H	J
L	A	H	N	P	R	O	T	V	X	Z
J	L	P	I	Z	U	T	M	B	O	P
N	E	R	S	N	Q	B	O	S	T	U
Q	N	G	D	R	A	G	O	N	H	L
O	D	N	A	Z	B	T	N	Y	C	X
D	A	W	E	V	F	U	O	G	T	H
S	R	I	R	J	Q	K	P	W	L	P
M	O	P	Z	C	T	L	O	B	N	D
T	R	C	L	D	G	N	H	S	P	O

3

Look at the Chinese Calendar on page 73. Find out which animal year you were born in!

YOUR DATE OF BIRTH

--	--	--

day

month

year

YOUR CHINESE SIGN

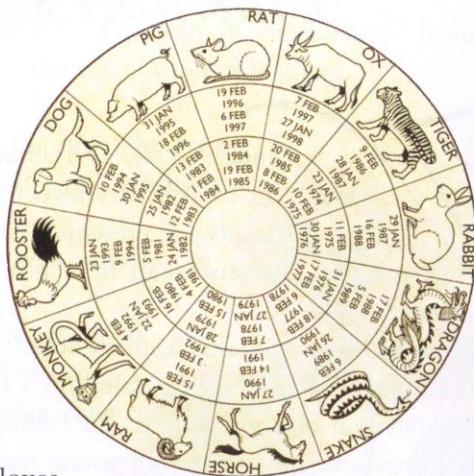
--

Do you like your sign? Why or why not?
What is your lucky colour?

The Chinese Calendar

Here are the twelve animals of the Chinese calendar and their personalities¹:

1. The rat is happy, charming² and easily bored.
2. The ox is patient³, shy and works a lot.
3. The tiger has a strong personality and likes adventure.
4. The rabbit is friendly, peaceful and shy.
5. The dragon is dynamic⁴, loves freedom and is generous.
6. The snake is very wise and has a good sense of humour⁵.
7. The horse works a lot and is ambitious⁶.
8. The ram is gentle and loves beautiful things.
9. The monkey is clever, charming and creative⁷.
10. The rooster loves friends and family and is punctual⁸.
11. The dog is loyal, courageous and loves justice.
12. The pig is peaceful, strong and likes a quiet life.



1. personalities : 个性。
2. charming : 迷人的。
3. patient : 耐心的。
4. dynamic : 有活力的。

5. humour : 幽默。
6. ambitious : 有雄心的。
7. creative : 有创造力的。
8. punctual : 准时的。



Valentine's Day¹

Valentine's Day, 14 February, is dedicated to people in love! On 14 February sweethearts² celebrate Valentine's Day with cards and presents. Cards can be funny, romantic or poetic³. Presents can be a box of chocolates, flowers or jewellery⁴.

When and where did this festivity start?

The custom of celebrating Valentine's Day probably began with the Roman festival of Lupercalia on 15 February. During Lupercalia there were games and dancing. Every young man took the name of a young lady from an urn⁵. The lady was the young man's sweetheart for one year.

With the beginning of Christianity pagan customs were not permitted, but the festival continued. In the 7th century this festival was called St. Valentine's Day.

The origin of the name is still a mystery. Some historians say that the festival took its name from a Christian martyr⁶ named Valentine. He died on 14 February in the year 270.

1. Valentine's Day : 情人节。

2. sweethearts : 恋人。

3. poetic : 充满诗意的。

4. jewellery : 

5. urn : 瓮。

6. martyr : 殉道者。



Valentine's Day



Others say Valentine was put in prison by Emperor Claudius because he secretly married young couples. The Emperor did not like these secret marriages.



Some say that Valentine comes from the French word 'galantin' (a gallant or beau¹).

A legend says that birds begin to mate² on 14 February!

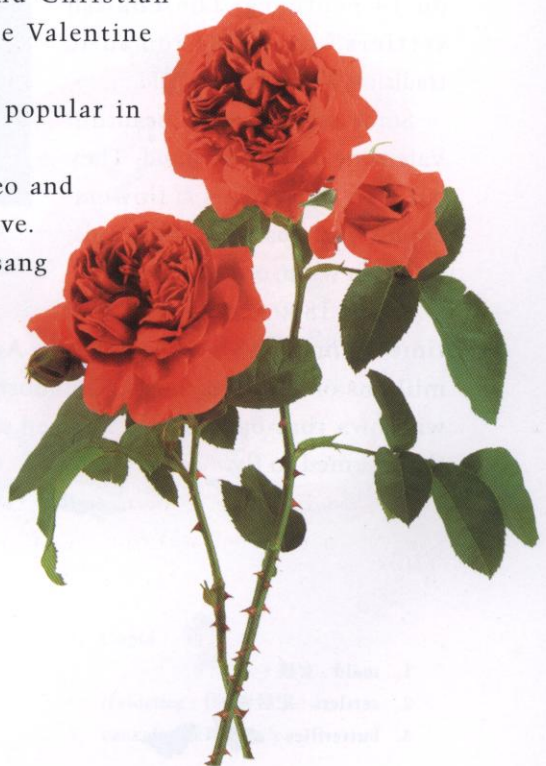
The Roman conquerors³ brought the celebration to England.

In England the pagan and Christian customs combined⁴ to form the Valentine festivity.

The Valentine tradition was popular in Shakespeare's time.

Shakespeare's characters Romeo and Juliet are the eternal⁵ symbol of love.

In the play *Hamlet* Ophelia sang this song:



1. gallant (beau) : 华美的。
2. mate : 交配。
3. conquerors : 征服者。
4. combined : 结合。
5. eternal : 永恒的。

British and American Festivities

*Tomorrow is
St. Valentine's Day
All in the morning betime,
And I a maid¹ at your
window
To be your Valentine.'*

In 17th century London, sweethearts exchanged presents on 14 February. The English settlers² took this romantic tradition to the New World.

Some settlers made beautiful Valentine's cards by hand. They painted butterflies³, flowers, cupids and hearts on the cards, and then wrote original verses⁴.

In the 1800's few people had time to make Valentine's cards. American manufacturers⁵ printed millions of romantic cards. The most popular cards had moving⁶ parts: windows that opened and showed a romantic poem, and little birds that seemed to fly.



Laurence Olivier as Hamlet and Jean Simmons as Ophelia in Olivier's 1948 film.

1. maid : 女孩。

2. settlers : 定居者。

3. butterflies :



4. verses : 诗句。

5. manufacturers : 制造商。

6. moving : 会动的。



Valentine's Day



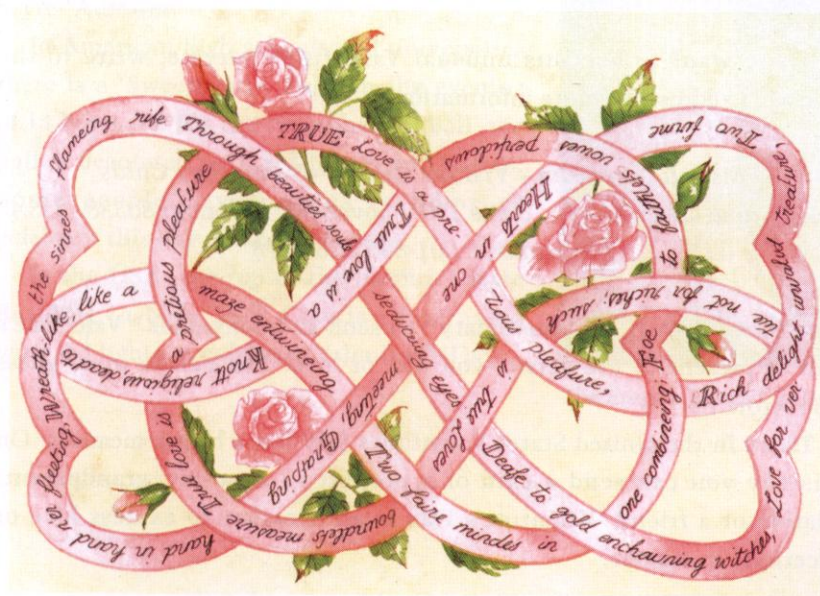
After the romantic Valentine, the comic¹ Valentine became popular. It had funny cartoons or grotesque² pictures with comic messages.

Today there are all types of Valentine's cards: romantic, poetic, comic, grotesque, artistic³ and handmade⁴!

In 1947 the town of Loveland in Colorado, USA, became Cupid's⁵ residence⁶! In Loveland something very unusual happens about two weeks before Valentine's Day. The Loveland Post Office receives more than 300,000 Valentine's cards from all over the world.



The Loveland Post Office cancels⁷ these cards with the Loveland,




1. comic : 滑稽的。

2. grotesque : 怪异的。

3. artistic : 精美的。

4. handmade : 手工制作的。

5. Cupid : 

6. residence : 住处。

7. cancels : 盖邮戳。

British and American Festivities

Colorado cancellation¹. A picture of Cupid and romantic verses are stamped² on the envelope³. Then the Valentine's cards are sent to the addressee⁴.

These are two examples of the Loveland verses:

*'Across the land
we send hugs and kisses.
From the Sweetheart City
Come Valentine wishes.'*

*'Hope this special day
will make you smile
and the love sent from Loveland
will shorten each mile.'*

If you want to use this unusual Valentine's service, write to the following address for more information:

*Ms Julie Farnham - Visitors Center - Valentine's Cards
5400 Stone Creek Circle - Suite 100 - Loveland, Colorado 80538 - USA
Telephone: 001-880-258-1278*

In Great Britain it is customary⁵ to send an anonymous⁶ Valentine's card or present to the person you like or love. The person must guess who wrote it!

Today in the United States Valentine's Day has a bigger meaning. On this day you can send a card or a present to a parent, grandparent, relative or a friend. Valentine's Day is an occasion to express love or affection⁷ to anyone.

1. cancellation :



2. stamped : 盖章。

3. envelope : 信封。

4. addressee : 收卡人。

5. customary : 习惯上的。

6. anonymous : 匿名的。

7. affection : 喜爱。



Valentine's Day



In elementary school American boys and girls write cards to their favourite classmates. Then they put them into a big box in the school hall. In the afternoon there is a Valentine's Day party. The teacher takes the cards out of the box and gives them to the children. This is always an exciting moment! Children like counting their cards. Most children sign their Valentine's card, but some remain anonymous or write 'From a Secret Admirer.'

In American high schools and universities there is a 'Sweethearts' Ball' on the evening of 14 February. For the 'Sweethearts' Ball' the hall is decorated with red hearts and cupids! Some people have parties at home to celebrate this day dedicated to love.

In the USA, the top of the Empire¹ State Building in New York City is illuminated with red lights to celebrate Valentine's Day.

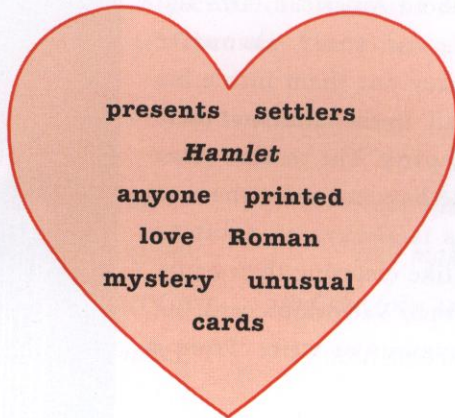


The Empire State Building.

1. Empire: 帝国。

UNDERSTANDING THE TEXT

1 Fill in the gaps with the correct word from the heart.

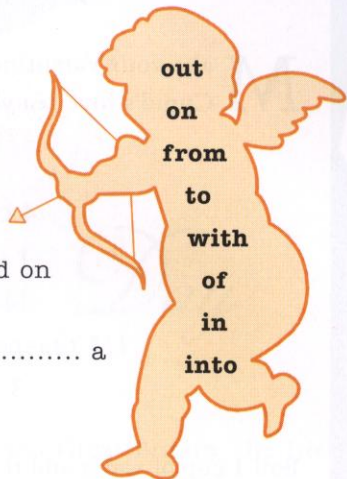


- a. Sweethearts celebrate Valentine's Day with and
- b. Lupercalia was a festival celebrated on 15 February.
- c. The origin of the name Valentine is still a
- d. Valentine's Day is mentioned in Shakespeare's play
- e. The English took the Valentine tradition to the New World.
- f. In the 1800's American manufacturers millions of Valentine's cards.
- g. The town of Loveland in Colorado, offers a very service.
- h. In the United States, Valentine's Day is an occasion to express or affection to

2

Use the prepositions (介词) in the Cupid to complete the following sentences.

- a. Every young man took the name of a young lady an urn.
- b. A legend says that birds begin to mate 14 February!
- c. The English settlers took the romantic tradition the New World.
- d. A picture Cupid and romantic verses are stamped on the envelope.
- e. The children put the cards a big box.
- f. There is a party the afternoon.
- g. The teacher takes the cards of the box.
- h. For the 'Sweethearts' Ball' the hall is decorated red hearts and cupids.



3

Listen from page 78 'In Great Britain...' to page 79 '... Secret Admirer' and circle the words you hear.

give send people person love hate guess say
 car card grandmother write post box class
 party disco children child mother secret

Cupid's Love Tea

Make your Valentine's Day a special one. Drink a cup of Cupid's love tea with your sweetheart!

Ingredients

4 cups of cold water

1 cup of apple juice

1/4 cup of honey

1/4 teaspoon of cinnamon powder

3 Rosehip tea bags

Boil 1 cup of water and the juice, then add the honey and the cinnamon powder. Stir¹ well. Add the tea bags and let them stand for an hour. Then add 3 cups of cold water. Serve in tea cups or pour into tall glasses with ice cubes². Have a happy Valentine's Day!



1. stir : 搅拌。

2. cubes : 方块。



St. Patrick's Day

In the United States and Great Britain, the Irish communities celebrate St. Patrick's Day on 17 March.

The Irish community in the United States is very big. During the 1800's thousands of Irish immigrants went to America. They settled in all parts of the country and took their traditions with them.

Who was St. Patrick and why is he important to the Irish?

St. Patrick is the patron¹ of Ireland. He left several writings about his life and work in Ireland.

Patrick was born in Britain in 389 AD. His father was a landowner² and a Christian. When Patrick was 16 years old he was captured and taken to Ireland. He became a slave. After six years Patrick escaped to France by ship. There he became a priest³.

He returned to Ireland as a bishop⁴ in 432 AD. His missionary⁵ work

1. **patron** : 保护神。
 2. **landowner** : 地主。
 3. **priest** : 神职人员。

4. **bishop** : (天主教的) 主教。
 5. **missionary** : 传教的。

British and American Festivities

was very successful. He converted¹ most of the Irish to Christianity. He was a generous and dedicated² man. He introduced the Roman alphabet³ to Ireland.

There are legends about St. Patrick. One legend says that he banished⁴ all the serpents⁵ from Ireland. Another legend says that he



Irish people celebrating St. Patrick's Day in Dublin, Ireland.

1. converted : 转变。
2. dedicated : 有献身精神的。
3. the Roman alphabet : 罗马字母。
4. banished : 驱逐。
5. serpents : 毒蛇。



St. Patrick's Day

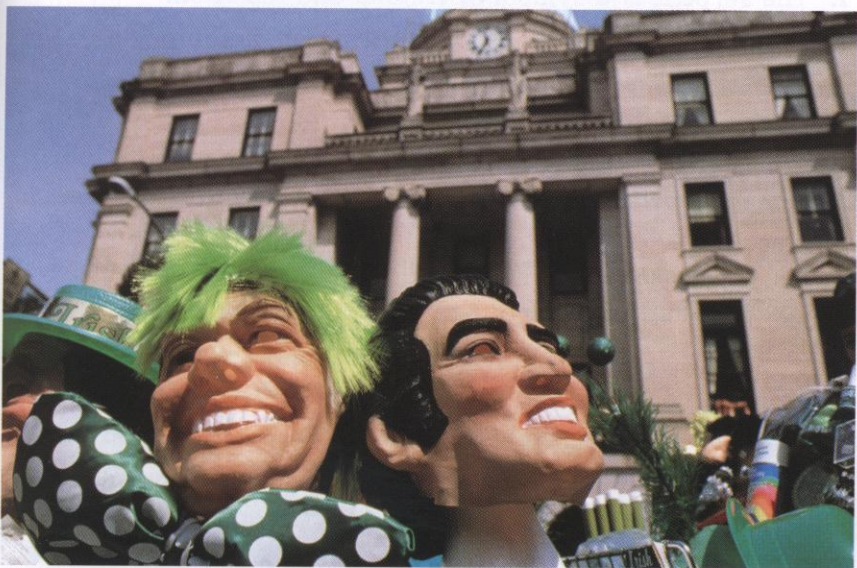


used a shamrock¹ to teach the Irish about the Trinity². Today the shamrock is still a symbol of Ireland and the Irish.


St. Patrick died in 461 and his tomb at Downpatrick is a centre of pilgrimage³.

Today on 17 March there are big parades in most American cities in honour of⁴ the Irish. Marching bands dressed in green play lively⁵ Irish music. The Irish community organises parades and other colourful events.

American and British people wear green clothing on St. Patrick's Day. Most people wear a green shamrock. Many shops and restaurants are decorated with green shamrocks in honour of the Irish.



A St. Patrick's Day parade in New York.

1. **shamrock** : 三叶草 (爱尔兰的国花)。
2. **Trinity** : (基督教) 三位一体 (即圣父、圣子、圣灵合成一神)。
3. **pilgrimage** : 朝圣。
4. **in honour of** : 纪念。
5. **lively** : 欢快的。

UNDERSTANDING THE TEXT

1 Are the following sentences true (T) or false (F)? Correct the false ones.

- | | T | F |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| a. On 17 March, the Irish communities in the United States and Great Britain celebrate St. Patrick's Day. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b. The Irish community in the United States is very small. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c. St. Patrick is the patron of Ireland. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d. When Patrick was 16 years old he was captured and taken to France. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| e. When he was a bishop he converted most of the Irish to Christianity. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| f. The serpent is a symbol of Ireland and the Irish. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| g. American and British people wear green clothing on St. Patrick's Day. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

2 How many words can you find in the word river? Circle them in red.

coloury irish izparades kbyal phabet of g
 shamrock opslave it the generous ci byserpents j

Use some of the circled words to fill in the gaps below and complete the sentence.

Green _ _ _ h _ _ _ l _ _ _ _ _ the _ r _ _ _ .

3

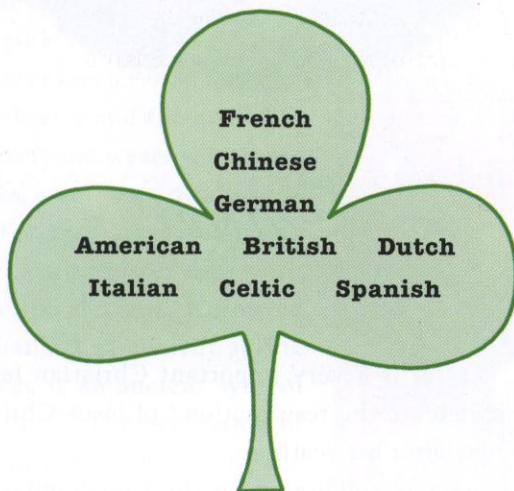
In Chapter 10 we used a nationality adjective (表示国籍的形容词) .

Look at this example:

In the 1800's thousands of *Irish* immigrants went to America.

Irish = from Ireland.

Use the words in the shamrock to complete these sentences.



- Patrick was born in Britain. He was
- She lives in the United States. She is
- Patrick escaped to France and lived with the
- Christopher Columbus was born in Italy.
He was
- The King and Queen gave Columbus three ships.
- She comes from China and celebrates the New Year.
- Halloween has ancient origins.
- The Prince Albert, Queen Victoria's husband, took the Christmas tree to the British Royal Family.
- The tradition of Santa Claus comes from Holland. The settlers took it to America.



Easter¹



aster is a very important Christian festivity. People celebrate the resurrection² of Jesus Christ on the third day after his death.

Easter is celebrated on the first Sunday after the full moon in March. This is between 22 March and 25 April.

The origin of the English word Easter is uncertain³. It probably comes from the pagan goddess⁴ of spring, Eostre. The pagans celebrated the arrival of spring with special festivals.

The Christian Easter slowly replaced⁵ the pagan festivals, but some symbols of the spring festivals remained, such as flowers, eggs, rabbits and bunnies⁶. The tradition of the Easter basket is ancient. The pagans offered their eggs in grass baskets to the goddess Eostre.

In Britain and in the United States it is usual to send Easter cards to friends and relatives. For most Christian families Easter morning begins with a church service. Some Easter services begin very early in

1. **Easter** : 复活节。
2. **resurrection** : 复活。
3. **uncertain** : 不确定的。

4. **goddess** : 女神。
5. **replaced** : 取代。

6. **bunnies** :





Easter



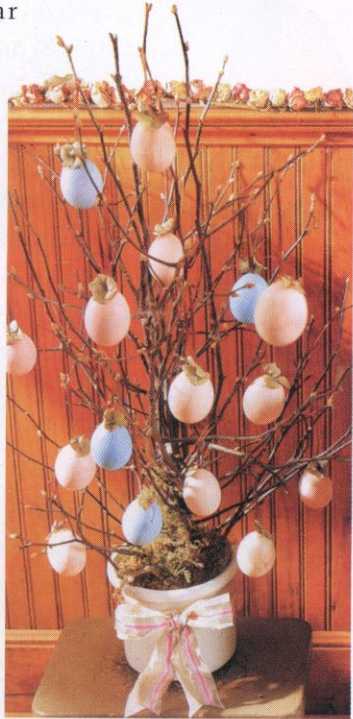
the morning. Others take place¹ out of doors in a garden or park.

Easter is a time for Christians to be happy and there is special music in the churches. It is possible to hear George Frederick Handel's 'Messiah' during some Easter services.

To celebrate Easter and the arrival of spring almost everyone wears something new: a new dress, a new suit, new shoes.

Before Easter Day American and British children paint Easter eggs with bright colours and designs. Coloured eggs were exchanged at ancient spring festivals. The egg is an ancient symbol of life and fertility². The decoration of Easter eggs began in England during the Middle Ages. Members of noble families gave one another gold-covered eggs as Easter presents!

On Easter Day in the United States there is the traditional Easter egg hunt in every city and town. Parents tell their children that the Easter bunny hid³ many eggs in the park. The children must find the hidden eggs. Eggs are hidden in the grass, in a shrub⁴ or under a tree. When the children find the eggs they put them in colourful Easter baskets. The child with the biggest number of eggs is the winner.



An egg tree.

1. take place : 举行。
2. fertility : 生育力。

3. hid : 动词hide的过去时。

4. shrub : 

British and American Festivities

The tradition of the Easter bunny and the basket of eggs was introduced by German immigrants long ago.



On Easter Monday children roll ¹ their eggs down a hill. Egg rolling is an ancient Easter tradition. The first egg that reaches the bottom of the hill without breaking is the winner. A famous egg-rolling contest takes place outside the White House in Washington DC on Easter Monday. The President of the United States invites children to roll eggs on the lawn ² of the White House.

At Easter time there are chocolate eggs, chocolate bunnies and sugar eggs in all sweet shops. Some eggs are personalized with ³ a name on them.

Hot Cross Buns are a special Easter food. They are small sweet cakes with a cross ⁴ on top. This cross represents Christ's death on the cross. The buns are usually eaten in Britain on Good Friday.

In many American cities and towns there is an Easter Bonnet ⁵ Parade. Girls and women with funny and bizarre ⁶ Easter bonnets march in the parade. Most women make their own bonnets. There is a prize for the most original. The most famous Easter Bonnet Parade is in New York City, on Fifth Avenue. Thousands of people participate⁷!



1. roll : 滚动。
2. lawn : 草坪。
3. are personalized with : 标明。
4. cross : 十字架。

5. Bonnet : 女帽。
6. bizarre : 怪诞的。
7. participate : 参加。

British and American
Festivals



Easter Parade in New York.

British and American Festivities

In 1933 the great American composer¹ Irving Berlin wrote a song about the Easter Bonnet Parade. Here is a verse:

*'In your Easter bonnet
With all the frills² upon it
You'll be the grandest lady
In the Easter parade.'*

Families usually spend Easter Day together. The traditional Easter meal consists of roast lamb, peas, new potatoes and eggs in many forms³.



Participating in an Easter Bonnet Parade.

1. **composer** : 作曲家。
2. **frills** : 饰边。

3. **forms** : 形式。

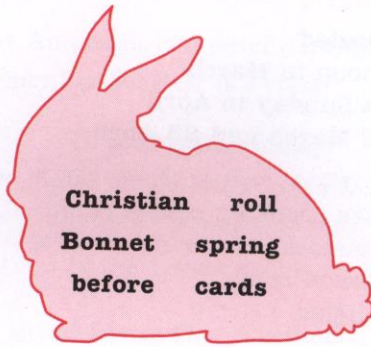
UNDERSTANDING THE TEXT

1 Choose the correct answer.

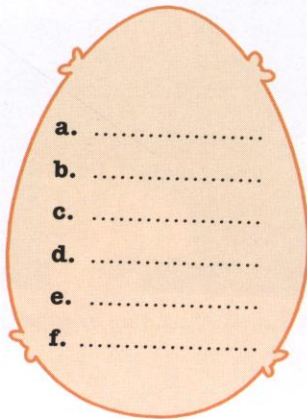
- a. Easter is celebrated
- after the moon in March
 - on the first Sunday in April
 - between 22 March and 25 April
- b. The word Easter probably comes from
- the pagan goddess of spring, Eostre
 - an Anglo-Saxon song
 - a pagan religion
- c. Easter baskets, flowers, eggs and rabbits are
- Christian symbols
 - symbols of pagan spring festivals
 - symbols of an egg rolling contest
- d. The decoration of Easter eggs began
- during a pagan festival
 - in Germany long ago
 - in England during the Middle Ages
- e. On Easter Day in the United States there is a
- traditional Easter egg hunt in every city and town
 - big picnic in the park
 - concert of special music in the park
- f. In New York City thousands of people participate in the
- egg-rolling contest
 - big egg hunt
 - Easter Bonnet Parade

2**Find the wrong word.**

Circle the wrong word in each sentence and write the correct word in the egg. You will find the correct words in the rabbit.



- a. Easter is a pagan festivity.
- b. The pagan goddess of summer was Eostre.
- c. In Britain and in the United States it is usual to send Easter presents.
- d. After Easter Day American and British children paint Easter eggs.
- e. The President of the United States invites children to find eggs on the lawn of the White House.
- f. In many American cities and towns there is an Easter Egg Parade.



3 You come from Great Britain and you are visiting your cousin in New York City. You want to write a letter to your best friend in Britain telling him/her about your Easter holiday. Put the verbs (动词) in the Past Simple tense (一般过去时) and add the articles (冠词), if necessary.

Dear

I / arrive in / New York City / last Friday / at / 6pm.

My cousin / meet / me / at / airport.

We / go / to his home / and / have / dinner. Then we / paint / Easter eggs/ and / eat / ice cream.

On Easter Day / there / be / big / Easter Egg Hunt / in / park.

I / find / fifteen eggs / and / I / win / first prize!

Later / we / go / to see / Easter Bonnet Parade. It / be / fun!

We / see / a lot of / funny / bonnets. One girl / have / toy / aeroplane / on / her bonnet!

In / evening / we / go / to church.

From

.....

4 Do you paint Easter eggs?

What is the traditional Easter food in your country?



May Day¹

On the first day of May we celebrate the arrival of spring and warm weather. Everyone is happy to say goodbye to winter and to welcome spring. Flowers bloom², leaves grow and baby animals are born in spring.

The May Day festival originated in the Roman Empire in about 258 BC. It was a festivity in honour of Flora, the goddess of flowers and spring. When the Romans invaded³ Britain the festivity was celebrated by the Britons too.

The ancient Celts celebrated spring the night before May Day. This festival was called Beltane. The Druids made big fires on top of the hills. The Celts sat around the fires and ate, sang songs and danced happily.

In central Scotland Beltane is still an important festival.

In the Middle Ages May Day was one of the merriest⁴ festivities in Britain. People went into the forest after midnight to pick flowers and plants. They returned the next morning and put the leaves and flowers in their hair. There was music, singing and dancing all day.

1. **May Day** : 五朔节。

2. **bloom** : 开花。

3. **invaded** : 侵略。

4. **merriest** : 最欢乐的。



May Day



The most important event of the day was the dance around the Maypole. The most beautiful young woman of the village became the Queen of the May. There were Morris dances too.




Dancing around the Maypole.

In Britain May Day is a public holiday and it is celebrated on the first Monday in May. It is not a public holiday in the United States.

In Britain and the United States there are still traditional Maypole dances on May Day. People in costumes dance around the Maypole. The Maypole is decorated with many coloured ribbons. The coloured ribbons represent the sun's rays¹ and form a design on the Maypole.

In Britain many people in costumes do Morris dancing on May Day. They dance with bells and handkerchiefs². The tradition probably came

1. rays : 光线。

2. bells and handkerchiefs : 

British and American Festivities

from Spain in the 13th century when it was called Moorish dancing.

In the United States most elementary schools celebrate May Day with dances around the Maypole. In some American towns and universities there are May Day festivals. A young woman becomes the May Queen. Music, dancing around the Maypole and games are all part of the festival. There are beautiful floral¹ decorations everywhere.



Morris dancers.

1. floral : 花的。



May Day



Traditional Morris dancing.



UNDERSTANDING THE TEXT

1 Match the two parts of the sentences.

- | | |
|----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| a. On the first day of May | 1. Morris dancing. |
| b. The May Day festival originated | 2. we celebrate the arrival of spring. |
| c. The ancient Celts celebrated spring | 3. one of the merriest festivities in Britain. |
| d. In the Middle Ages May Day was | 4. with a festival called Beltane. |
| e. People in costumes | 5. in the Roman Empire in about 258 BC. |
| f. In Britain people in costumes do | 6. dance around the Maypole. |

2 Adverbs (副词)

Look at this sentence from Chapter 12:

The Celts sat around the fires and ate, sang songs and danced *happily*.

***Happily* is an adverb. Adverbs describe verbs (动词), adjectives (形容词) or other adverbs. Adverbs answer questions such as: how? when? where?**

Look at these examples:

He ate *quickly*.

quickly **describes how he ate**

They danced around the Maypole *today*.

today **describes when they danced**

We celebrate May Day *here*.

here **describes where we celebrate May Day**

Fill in the gaps using the adverbs in the basket.



- a. was Beltane and is May Day.
- b. The Druid said, 'Let's make a fire, on top of the hill!'
- c. He dances with the Morris dancers.
- d. On May Day everyone sings
- e. The children will pick the flowers morning.
- f. They were tired and they danced

3 Is May Day a holiday in your country?
If so, what happens?



Independence Day

The most animated¹ American festivity is the Fourth of July or Independence Day. It is the nation's birthday. The Fourth of July is a salute² to freedom and democracy. It is a time to remember America's ideals of liberty³, equality and opportunity for all.

What happened on 4 July?

In the 1700's the thirteen American colonies belonged to Great Britain. The colonists did not want to be governed by Britain. They wanted to be independent and to choose their own government. They wanted a democracy. Britain imposed⁴ high taxes and there were many rebellions⁵.

On 4 July, 1776 a group of patriots⁶ wrote the Declaration of Independence⁷. The Declaration proclaimed⁸ independence from Britain and democracy and justice for all. With the Declaration of Independence the thirteen colonies created their own nation, the

1. **animated** : 活跃的。

2. **salute** : 敬礼。

3. **liberty** : 自由。

4. **imposed** : 征收。

5. **rebellions** : 反抗。

6. **patriots** : 爱国者。

7. **Declaration of Independence** : 独立宣言。

8. **proclaimed** : 宣告。



Independence Day



United States of America. The Liberty Bell is a symbol of Independence Day.

The Americans fought ¹ against the British in the American Revolution. After years of war the British were defeated ² in 1781 in Yorktown, Virginia.


Today Americans celebrate the Fourth of July in many different ways. There is an American flag on every flagpole ³ and many people put a flag outside their window. Americans call their flag 'the Stars and Stripes' ⁴.




A U.S. Air Force salute on 4th July.

1. fought : 动词 fight 的过去式。

2. were defeated : 被打败。

3. flagpole : 

4. Stars and Stripes : 

British and American Festivities

Every city and town organises its own celebration. Red, white and blue decorations fill the streets.

Traditional Fourth of July events are patriotic speeches, parades, baseball games, competitions, a lot of music, dancing and picnics. These picnics are an old American tradition. The typical picnic consists of hamburgers¹, hot dogs², potato salad, chocolate cake and ice cream. The festivities usually end with a brilliant fireworks show³.

In the West rodeos are a favourite event. A western rodeo is a spectacular event to watch!



Fourth of July umbrellas.

1. hamburgers : 汉堡包。
2. hot dogs : 热狗。

3. fireworks show : 烟花表演。





A brilliant fireworks show!

British and American Festivities

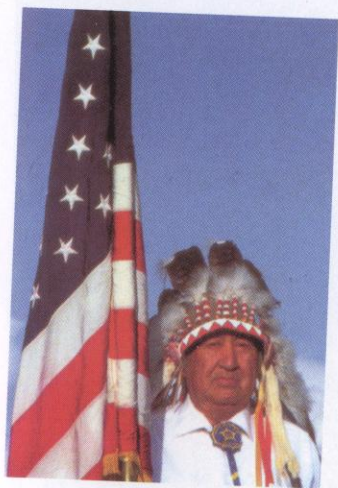
In Virginia there are historic parades with people in 18th-century costumes.

In New York City the top of the Empire State Building is illuminated with red, white and blue lights!

In Flagstaff, Arizona, American Indians celebrate with a three-day pow-wow¹, a rodeo and tribal dances.



A rodeo.



At a pow-wow.

Bridgeport, California is a small town in the Sierra Nevada Mountains. Bridgeport celebrates Independence Day in an old-fashioned² way.

Before the 10 o'clock parade someone reads the Declaration of Independence to the town. Then cowboys and Indians from nearby ranches³ come to the town on their beautiful horses. Children ride decorated bicycles in the parade. There is a big pie-eating competition. After a delicious picnic of barbecued meat⁴, there is a baseball game. In the evening there is country music and dancing.

1. **pow-wow** : 议事会。

2. **old-fashioned** : 老式的。

3. **ranches** : 牧场。

4. **barbecued meat** : 烤肉。

UNDERSTANDING THE TEXT

1 Choose the correct answer.

a. Independence Day

- was the first day of the American Revolution.
- is America's birthday.
- is an American Indian festivity.

b. In the 1700's the thirteen American colonies

- were independent.
- declared war against France.
- belonged to Great Britain.

c. On 4 July, 1776, a group of patriots

- wrote the Declaration of Independence.
- started the American Revolution.
- won the war against Britain.

d. The Declaration of Independence

- imposed high taxes on the colonists.
- was a declaration of war.
- proclaimed independence from Britain and democracy and justice for all.

e. Rodeos are a favourite Fourth of July event in





- the West.
- New York City.
- Yorktown, Virginia.

f. American Indians celebrate with a three-day







- picnic and fireworks.
- pow-wow, a rodeo and tribal dances.
- parade and a marching band.

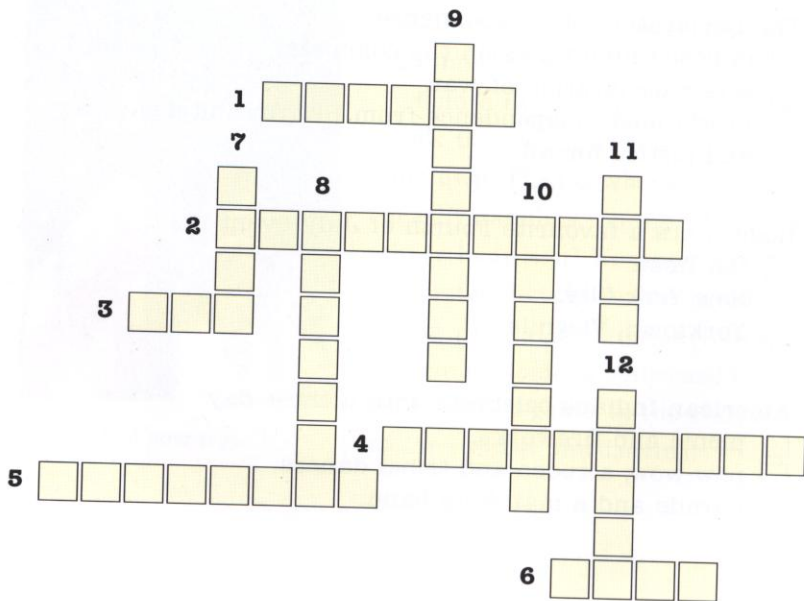
Have fun with this crossword puzzle!

Across

-  1. 
2. a symbol of Independence Day
-  3. 
4. an American state
5. there were colonies
6. rodeos are a favourite event in the

Down

7. colours of the American flag: red, white and
-  8. 
9. the British were defeated in
10. the colonies belonged to
-  11. 
-  12. 

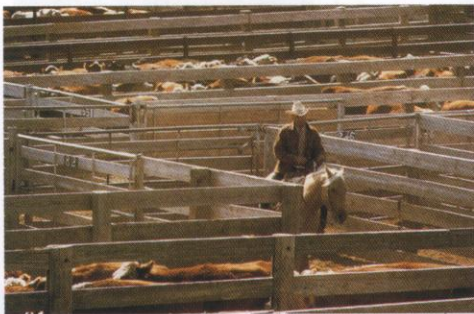


3 Where is the celebration?

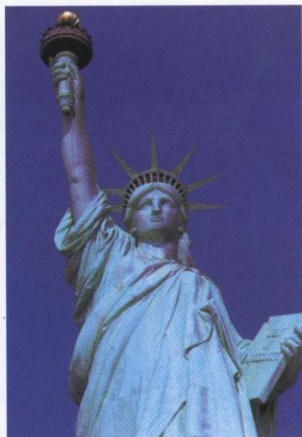
Independence Day is celebrated in different ways in the United States. Match the picture with the name of the place.

- a. Arizona
- b. Virginia
- c. The West
- d. New York

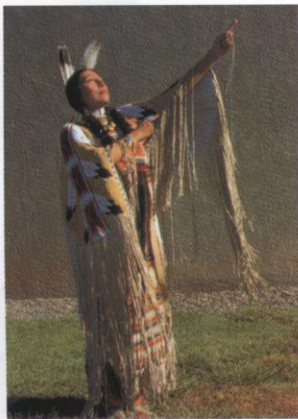
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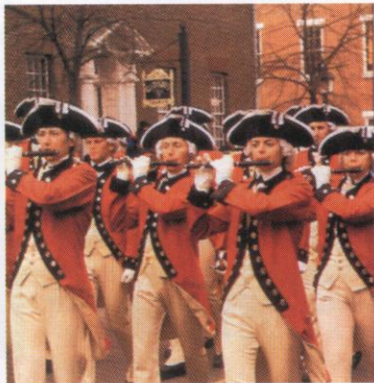
2



3



4





4

Listen to Chapter 13 and put the pictures in the order they are mentioned.

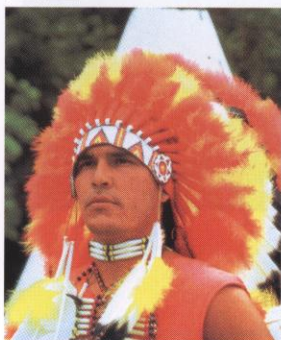
a



b



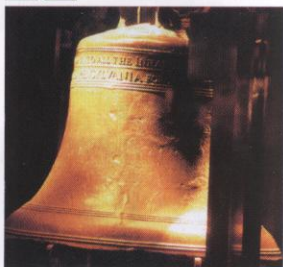
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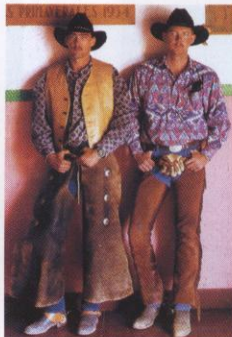
d



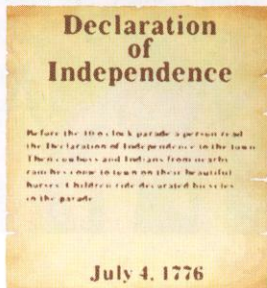
e



g



f



h





Notting Hill Carnival¹

The Notting Hill Carnival of London is the second biggest carnival in the world and the biggest street festival in Europe! It is always on the last Sunday and Monday in August which is a Bank Holiday (a public holiday) in the United Kingdom. On Sunday there is the Children's Carnival. The Carnival takes place in Notting Hill, West London. When did the first Carnival take place?

In the 1950's people from the Caribbean, and in particular² from Trinidad, emigrated³ to Britain. They took their customs and traditions with them. People remembered the great Carnivals held in the West Indies and in 1964 a street festival took place in Notting Hill.

There were few people in costume dancing in the streets and carrying steel⁴ drums in this first festival. However, it was a great success. Since

1. Notting Hill Carnival: 诺丁山狂欢节。

2. in particular: 特别。

3. emigrated: 移居外国。

4. steel: 钢。

British and American Festivities



A float with a steel band.

and practise playing their steel drums. They also work on their floats.

On the days of Carnival, Notting Hill is full of colour, excitement, music, noise and people. About two million people go to Carnival every year!

People with wonderful costumes dance in the streets and steel bands play Calypso, the traditional music of the West Indies. They also play Soca, the traditional music of Carnival, a mixture of Soul² and Calypso³. It is also possible to hear reggae⁴, hip-hop⁵ and jazz⁶. A parade with colourful floats travels

1. **normally** : 通常地。
2. **soul** : 灵歌。
3. **Calypso** : 即兴讽刺歌。

then Carnival has taken place every year in Notting Hill and it has grown into an enormous multicultural arts festival.

Carnival celebrations normally¹ take place before Easter, in the month of March. However, in Britain the celebrations take place in August when the weather is warmer. During the year the West Indian families prepare their beautiful costumes



Colour and excitement at Carnival.

4. **reggae** : 雷盖乐。
5. **hip-hop** : 说唱音乐。
6. **jazz** : 爵士乐。



Notting Hill Carnival



seven and a half kilometres through the streets of London. There is a prize for the best float. It is sometimes almost impossible for the public to walk along the streets – the only way to move is to dance!

In the streets food vendors ¹ sell meat and vegetable patties ², salted fish and other delicious West Indian specialities ³. Everyone has a good time!



Colourful Carnival costumes.

1. vendors : 小販。

2. patties : 馅饼。

3. specialities : 特产。

UNDERSTANDING THE TEXT

1 Are the following sentences true (T) or false (F)? Correct the false ones.

- | | T | F |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| a. The Notting Hill Carnival of London is the biggest carnival in the world. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b. Notting Hill is in West London. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c. In the 1950's people from Trinidad emigrated to Britain. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d. The first street festival was not a great success. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| e. In Britain celebrations take place in January when it is cold. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| f. During the Notting Hill Carnival there are wonderful costumes, traditional music and colourful floats. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| g. About two million people go to Carnival every year! | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

2 Circle the words that are part of the Notting Hill Carnival.

noise school boats dragon snow
steel drums church Calypso meat
April costumes parade forest
police salted fish garden dance
float doctor prize

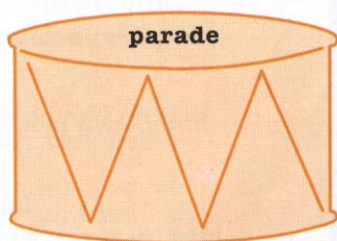
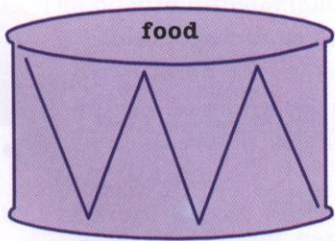
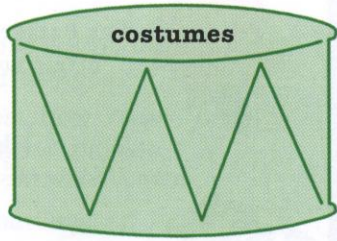
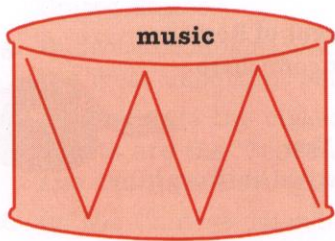
Now use the circled words to fill in the gaps in the sentences.

- a. The make a lot of
- b. The travels seven and a half kilometres through the streets of London.

- c. There is a for the best
- d. The people eat patties and
- e. Everyone listens to music.
- f. People wear beautiful and in the streets.

3 Look at the nouns (名词) in the drums. Then look at the adjectives (形容词) in the box. Put the adjective under the word that describes it. There can be more than one adjective for each noun.

beautiful delicious loud long short
 Calypso colourful Soca



4 Do you celebrate Carnival? If so, when?

Internet sites

If you want to know more about the festivities in this book, here are some Internet sites for you.

Halloween :

<http://piute.lancaster.k12.ca.us/hcostum.html>



Thanksgiving :

<http://www.plimoth.org/thanksgi.html>



Christmas :

<http://www.maui.net/~mcculc/xmas.htm>

<http://www.santalive.com/family.html>



The Pasadena Tournament of Roses :

<http://www.citycent.com/sharp>



Chinese New Year :

<http://www.tat-usa.com/festival/fhistory.htm>



Valentine's Day :

<http://www.omn.com/Phone/Valentin.htm>

<http://www.usacitylink.com/cupid/cletter.html>



Easter :

<http://www.moray.gov.uk/press/mar98/parade.html>

Independence Day :

http://www.co.york.va.us/citizen_news/fourth.htm

<http://www.americansbirthday.com>



Notting Hill Carnival :

<http://www.nottinghillcarnival.net.uk>



EXIT TEST

COMPREHENSION

1 Are the following sentences true (T) or false (F)? Correct the false sentences.

- | | T | F |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| a. Columbus Day is an American festivity and it is celebrated on 12 October. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b. Halloween has ancient Indian origins. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c. The fifth of December is Guy Fawkes' Night in America. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d. The Pilgrims were the founders of America. They were the first to celebrate Thanksgiving. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| e. The word Christmas comes from the Roman words 'Cristes maesse', Christ's mass. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| f. The modern Christmas tree originated in the United States. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| g. In Scotland Hogmanay, or New Year's Eve, is the most important celebration of the year. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| h. In California the biggest and oldest New Year's Day events are the 'Tournament of Roses' parade and the Rose Bowl game. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| i. On the Chinese calendar every year has an insect's name. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| j. The custom of celebrating Valentine's Day probably began with the Roman festival of Lupercalia on 15 February. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| k. The Irish community in the United States is very small but it celebrates St. Patrick's Day on 17 March. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| l. The word Easter probably comes from the pagan goddess of spring, Eostre. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| m. In Great Britain many people in costumes do Morris dancing on Easter Day. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| n. On 4 July, 1776 a group of American patriots wrote the Declaration of Independence. Today the fourth of July or Independence Day celebrates America's birthday. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

- o. The Notting Hill Carnival of London is the biggest street festival in Europe.



GRAMMAR

2 Fill in the gaps with the correct superlatives. Use the adjectives in brackets.

- a. California is the (*sunny*) place in America.
- b. The most colourful costume won first prize because it was the (*good*)
- c. Summer is the (*hot*) season of the year.
- d. Jimmy was the (*small*) child at the park.
- e. Your cooking is bad but mine is the (*bad*)
- f. Susan is the (*pretty*) girl in the class.
- g. Alice and Edward are the (*happy*) couple.

3 Put the verbs in brackets in the Past Simple tense.

At Halloween, the children (*take*)¹..... their costumes to school; in the afternoon they (*put*)²..... them on and (*have*)³..... a Halloween party. Some children (*wear*)⁴..... scary costumes. The best costume (*win*)⁵..... a prize. The children (*play*)⁶..... games and (*eat*)⁷..... candied apples and pumpkin pie.

In the evening children and teenagers (*go*)⁸..... "trick-or-treating." People (*give*)⁹..... them sweets or money. The children (*be*)¹⁰..... happy with the treats.

4 Write the nationality adjective for each country.

France	.....
Spain	.....
China	.....
Germany	.....
the United States of America	.....
Great Britain	.....
Italy	.....
Mexico	.....
Holland	.....
Ireland	.....

5 What is your favourite festivity and why?

British and American Festivities

KEY TO THE EXERCISES AND EXIT TEST

KEY TO THE EXERCISES

CHAPTER 1

Page 12 Exercise 1

- a. T
- b. F - Christopher Columbus wanted to reach the East by sailing to the West.
- c. F - The King and Queen of Spain gave Columbus three ships: the *Santa Maria*, the *Niña* and the *Pinta*.
- d. F - Columbus was an Italian navigator and explorer.
- e. T
- f. F - Most Americans celebrate Columbus Day with colourful parades.
- g. T

Page 12 Exercise 2

- a. round
- b. coast
- c. beach
- d. horizon
- a. coast
- b. horizon
- c. round
- d. beach

Page 13 Exercise 3

Marco Polo, Magellan, Sir Francis Drake, Captain Cook, Columbus

CHAPTER 2

Page 19 Exercise 1

- a. the United States and Great Britain
- b. Celtic
- c. All Hallows' Eve
- d. have a Halloween party at school
- e. have a party on Halloween evening
- f. go 'trick-or-treating'

Page 20 Exercise 2

- a. was
- b. practised
- c. made, dressed
- d. believed, came
- e. became
- f. took
- g. gave
- h. wore

Page 21 Exercise 3

- a. alien
- b. devil
- c. Batman
- d. skeleton
- e. witch

Page 22 Exercise 4

children, school, witch, people, buy, afternoon, party, with, make, windows, Celtic

Page 28 Exercise 1

- a. a British
- b. Protestant, Catholics
- c. Catholics, blow up
- d. guard
- e. King's soldiers, were hanged
- f. Britain, Guy
- g. night

Page 28 Exercise 2

- a. Who
- b. When
- c. Who
- d. Where
- e. Why
- f. Where
- g. What

Page 29 Exercise 3

newspaper, shirt, trousers, jumper, hair, shoes

CHAPTER 4

Page 34 Exercise 1

- a. T
- b. T
- c. F - The tradition started with the Pilgrims in America.
- d. T
- e. F - Their first winter was very cold and they had little food.
- f. F - Squanto helped the Pilgrims to grow corn, hunt and live in the wilderness.
- g. T
- h. T

Page 34 Exercise 2

- a. Mayflower-3; b. wilderness-1;
- c. Pilgrims-5; d. harsh-2; e. Squanto-6;
- f. crops-4; g. Plymouth-7.

Page 35 Exercise 3

Dear Grandmother,
I arrived in America one year ago.
The winter was very cold and there was little food.
Many people died.
In the spring some kind Indians helped us.
They became our good friends.

We built small houses and cultivated crops.
The harvest was very good this year.
Yesterday we invited the Indians to a Thanksgiving dinner.
We thanked God for everything.
Love from, ...

CHAPTER 5

Page 47 Exercise 1

- a. two pagan festivals
- b. the birthday of the sun
- c. Yule
- d. Germany
- e. designed in Britain in 1843
- f. St. Nicholas
- g. an American cartoonist

CHRISTMAS TRADITIONS

FOOD

Page 48 Exercise 1

- a. roast ham
- b. roast turkey
- c. mince pies
- d. fruit cake
- e. Christmas cookies
- f. Christmas pudding

TREES

Page 52 Exercise 1

- a. g, h b. a c. c d. f e. b, d, (e)

Page 52 Exercise 2

Open answer.

CHRISTMAS AROUND THE WORLD

Page 54 Exercise 1

- a. Great Britain
- b. U.S.A.
- c. Germany
- d. Mexico
- e. Lapland
- f. Italy

Page 56 Exercise 2

- a. Christmas tree
- b. Nativity scene
- c. teddy bear
- d. ornament
- e. rocking horse

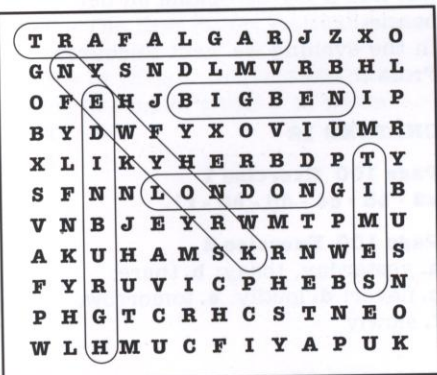
f. Santa Claus

CHAPTER 6

Page 60 Exercise 1

- a. Hogmanay, important
- b. parties, balls
- c. favourite, Times Square
- d. Big Ben
- e. promises
- f. office, calendars

Page 61 Exercise 2



Page 61 Exercise 3

going, party, dance, ring, street, end, make

CHAPTER 7

Page 65 Exercise 1

- a. F - People have always celebrated the New Year.
- b. T
- c. F - In the United States many families have 'Open House' on New Year's Day.
- d. T
- e. F - The Pasadena "Tournament of Roses" is an important parade.
- f. T

Page 65 Exercise 2

- a. noisiest
- b. sunniest
- c. youngest
- d. richest
- e. coldest
- f. best

Page 67 Exercise 3

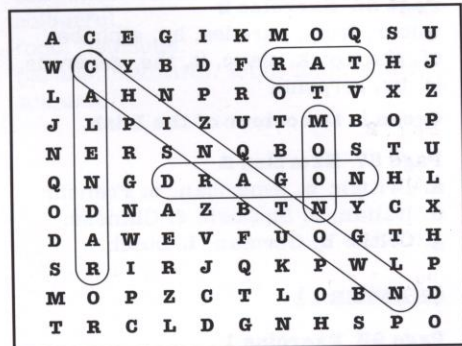
1f - 2a - 3e - 4c - 5d - 6b.

CHAPTER 8

Page 71 Exercise 1

- a. between 1 January and 19 February
- b. has an animal's name
- c. wear new clothes with bright colours
- d. lucky money
- e. Chinatown in San Francisco
- f. dragon

Page 72 Exercise 2



CHAPTER 9

Page 80 Exercise 1

- a. cards, presents
- b. Roman
- c. mystery
- d. Hamlet
- e. settlers
- f. printed
- g. unusual
- h. love, anyone

Page 81 Exercise 2

- a. from
- b. on
- c. to
- d. of
- e. into
- f. in
- g. out
- h. with

Page 81 Exercise 3

send, person, love, guess, card, write, box, party, children, secret

Page 109 Exercise 3

1c - 2d - 3a - 4b.

Page 110 Exercise 4

a5 - b4 - c6 - d3 - e2 - f1 - g7 - h8.

CHAPTER 14

Page 114 Exercise 1

a. F - The Notting Hill Carnival of London is the second biggest carnival in the world.

b. T

c. T

d. F - The first street festival was a great success.

e. F - In Britain celebrations take place in August when it is warmer.

f. T

g. T

Page 114 Exercise 2

noise, steel drums, Calypso, meat, costumes, parade, salted fish, dance, float, prize

a. steel drums, noise

b. parade

c. prize, float

d. meat, salted fish

e. Calypso

f. costumes, dance

Page 115 Exercise 3

music: beautiful, loud, Calypso, Soca.

costumes: beautiful, long, short, colourful.

food: delicious.

parade: beautiful, loud, long, short, colourful.

1. **a.** F - It is celebrated on the second Monday of October.
b. F - It has ancient Celtic origins.
c. F - The fifth of November is Guy Fawkes' night in Britain.
d. T
e. F - The word Christmas comes from Old English.
f. F - It originated in western Germany.
g. T
h. T
i. F - It has an animal's name.
j. T
k. F - The Irish community in the United States is very big.
l. T
m. F - Many people in costumes do Morris dancing on May Day.
n. T
o. T
2. **a.** sunniest **b.** best **c.** hottest **d.** smallest **e.** worst **f.** prettiest
g. happiest
3. **1.** took **2.** put **3.** had **4.** wore **5.** won **6.** played **7.** ate **8.** went
9. gave **10.** were
4. France - French
 Spain - Spanish
 China - Chinese
 Germany - German
 The United States of America - American
 Great Britain - British
 Italy - Italian
 Mexico - Mexican
 Holland - Dutch
 Ireland - Irish
5. Open answer.



Notes





Notes



Level 1

Peter Pan

彼得·潘

Zorro!

蒙面侠佐罗

American Folk Tales

美国传奇故事

Davy Crockett

美国英雄

The True Story of Pocahontas

风中奇缘

Great Expectations

远大前程

Rip Van Winkle and The Legend

of Sleepy Hollow 睡谷传奇

The Happy Prince and The Selfish

Giant 快乐王子与自私的巨人

The American West

美国西部探险

Halloween Horror

万圣节奇遇记

The Adventures of Tom Sawyer

汤姆·索亚历险记

The Adventures of Huckleberry

Finn 哈克贝利·费恩历险记

The Wonderful Wizard of Oz

绿野仙踪

The Secret of the Stones

石头的秘密

The Wind in the Willows

柳林风声

The Black Arrow

黑箭

Around the World in Eighty Days

八十天环游世界

Little Women

小妇人

Beauty and the Beast

美女与野兽

Black Beauty

黑骏马

Level 2

British and American Festivities

欢乐体验洋节日

King Arthur and his Knights

亚瑟王与圆桌骑士

Oliver Twist

雾都孤儿

The Jumping Frog

卡城名蛙——马克·吐温幽默故事

Robin Hood

罗宾汉

The Call of the Wild

野性的呼唤

The Fisherman and his Soul

渔夫和他的灵魂

David Copperfield

大卫·科波菲尔

Animal Tales

动物故事

Ghostly Ghosts!

鬼魅传奇

Level 3

Great English Monarchs and their

Times 昔日的英国王室

Alice's Adventures in Wonderland

艾丽丝漫游奇境记

Oscar Wilde's Short Stories

王尔德短篇故事

Hamlet

王子复仇记

The Secret Garden

秘密花园

Level 4

The £1,000,000 Bank Note

百万英镑

Jane Eyre

简·爱

Sherlock Holmes Investigates

福尔摩斯探案记

Gulliver's Travels

格利佛游记

The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and

Mr Hyde 化身博士

Classic Detective Stories

经典侦探故事

The Phantom of the Opera

歌声魅影

Alien at School

校园的天外来客

Romeo and Juliet

罗密欧与朱丽叶

Treasure Island

金银岛

Level 5

A Christmas Carol

小气财神

The Tragedy of Dr Faustus

浮士德的悲剧

Washington Square

华盛顿广场

A Midsummer Night's Dream

仲夏夜之梦

American Horror

爱伦·坡恐怖故事

Much Ado About Nothing

无事生非

The Canterbury Tales

坎特伯雷故事

Dracula

吸血伯爵

The Last of the Mohicans

最后的莫希干人

The Big Mistake and Other Stories

当代悬疑故事

Level 6

Frankenstein

科学怪人

Pride and Prejudice

傲慢与偏见

Robinson Crusoe

鲁滨逊漂流记

A Tale of Two Cities

双城记

The Problems of Cell 13

十三号死刑牢房

The Murders in the Rue Morgue

and The Purloined Letter

莫尔格街凶杀案

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德伯家的苔丝

Emma

爱玛

The Scarlet Letter

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Level 2

British and American

Festivities

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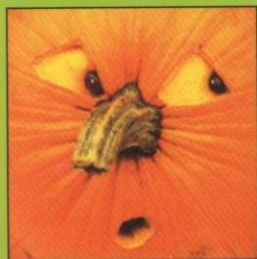
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