



Forum: Common English Questions

Topic: Holiday

Subject: Re: Holiday

Posted by: 123

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Halloween

Thousands of years ago, the Celts held a festival for the Lord of Death. Many monks believed that the Lord of Death ruled the world in winter. They believed that when the Lord of Death came, many evil spirits came with him too. There were different kinds of evil spirits, such as goblins, ghosts, witches and vampires. The Celts did not like evil spirits. They made big fires to drive the evil spirits away.

~It was thought that witches had magic power. It was also believed that witches liked to play tricks on people. Many children like to play tricks on people too.

~Today, children in America have a lot of fun dressing up in costumes and going "Trick or Treating". People celebrate Halloween on October 31. Now, Halloween is a holiday especially fun for children!

Thanksgiving Day

In 1620, many Englishmen sailed to America on ships. One of those ships was called the Mayflower. These Englishmen were called Pilgrims.

~The Pilgrims settled down in the new continent. They cut down trees to build houses and churches. Soon the winter came. The Pilgrims had a hard time during the first winter. They did not have enough food and clothes. Many of them got sick and died.

~In spring, Indians visited the Pilgrims. They taught the Pilgrims how to plant corn. They also taught the Pilgrims how to hunt for turkeys in the woods.

~When fall came, the Pilgrims had enough food for the winter. They were very happy. They invited the Indians to have a big feast to celebrate with them. The Pilgrims were thankful to God for the blessing of help they had received from the Indians.

~That was the first Thanksgiving celebrated in the United States. Now, Americans celebrate Thanksgiving on the fourth Thursday of November every year.

Christmas Day

Although most historians agree that the Jesus was born in April, "Christmas", or the birthday of Christ, is celebrated on December 25.

~People decorate their houses. And people decorate Christmas trees with glittering light bulbs. People make or buy gifts for their family and friends. They send Christmas cards to their family or friends who are far away. Many people bake special cookies for Christmas.

â€œOn Christmas Eve, Many people go to church. People sing Christmas carols to wish each other well.

â€œChildren hang up stockings on the wall or in front of the fireplace. They hope Santa Claus will fill their stockings with gifts. Some families hold Christmas parties.

â€œTherefore, Christmas is a wonderful holiday

Valentine' Day

Saint Valentine was a priest in Rome a long time ago. Claudius, the Roman emperor, did not want young men to get married. He wanted men to go to war.

â€œBut young lovers wanted to get married! So Valentine helped young couples perform their weddings in secret. When Claudius found out, he was very angry. He had Valentine killed on February 14th.

â€œYears later, people chose February 14th to honor Saint Valentine. Now we celebrate this day with the people we love.

Easter

Easter is a special holiday in spring. Easter is also an annual festival that commemorates the resurrection of Jesus Christ. It is celebrated on a Sunday between March 22 and April 25.

â€œGood Friday is the Friday before Easter Sunday and marks the date Jesus was crucified and died for the sins of people. Jesus came to life again three days later. It was on Sunday.

â€œToday, Christians go to church and have a special service on Easter Sunday. Many people sing and pray on Easter Sunday. They think about new life in Heaven after death. It is a very happy day. Flowers, eggs and rabbits are all symbols of Easter. They are all symbols of new life.

â€œChildren like the Easter Bunny. The tradition of the Easter Bunny was brought to America by German immigrants in 1700's. The Easter Bunny visit children and hide colored eggs that the children have to find on Easter Sunday morning. On Easter Sunday evening, children eat a big dinner with their families

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