

Can you tell me about Thanksgiving?

1 Warm Up Work with a partner.

What do you know about Thanksgiving? Make notes below.



2 Conversation

Practice the conversation below with a partner.

Taka Can you tell me a little about Thanksgiving?

Robert Sure. What would you like to ¹.....?

Taka When is Thanksgiving?

Robert Here in the States, it's the fourth Thursday of ²..... . In Canada it's in October.

Taka Why do you have Thanksgiving?

Robert Well, it's to say thank you for a good harvest.

Taka Is it a ³..... holiday?

Robert Yes, it is. The day after is a holiday too.

Taka So what ⁴..... on Thanksgiving?

Robert Families eat dinner together. Watching football on TV is also really ⁵..... .

Taka Do you eat any special food?

Robert Most people have ⁶..... , stuffing and pumpkin pie.

Taka That sounds great!

Missing Words

popular

November

know

national

happens

turkey

3 Check According to the conversation, are these sentences true or false?

1. In the US, Thanksgiving is in early November.
2. Thanksgiving is only celebrated in the US.
3. Most people do not work on Thanksgiving.
4. People often spend time with their family on Thanksgiving.
5. Most people eat fast food on Thanksgiving.

4 Your Turn Work with a partner.

Daisuke Can you tell me a little about _____ ?

Robert Sure. What would you like to know?

Daisuke When is _____ ?

Robert _____

Daisuke Why do you have _____ ?

Robert _____

Daisuke Is it a national holiday?

Robert _____

Daisuke So what happens on _____ ?

Robert _____

Daisuke Do you eat any special food?

Robert _____

Daisuke That sounds great!

Independence Day (USA)

1. It's on July 4th.
2. To celebrate independence from Britain.
3. Yes, it is.
4. Many people barbecue and watch fireworks.
5. Well, most people have hamburgers, hot dogs and potato salad.

Coming of Age Day (Japan)

1. It's the second Monday of January.
2. To celebrate children becoming adults at age 20.
3. Yes, it is.
4. People listen to speeches and go to a party. Women wear traditional dress.
5. Not really. Beer is popular, though!

Bonfire Night (UK)

1. It's on November 5th.
2. To remember when some people tried to blow up Parliament.
3. No, it isn't.
4. Many people watch fireworks.
5. Not really. Some people eat toffee apples.

Your Idea: _____

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Can you tell me about Thanksgiving?

Teaching Notes

Target Structure:	Various
Vocabulary:	Holidays / Festivals
Level:	Lower-Intermediate
Time:	40 minutes
Preparation:	None

Suggested Teaching Method

Can your students talk confidently about holidays and festivals? This worksheet takes Thanksgiving as the initial topic, but moves on to other festivals. Your students will have the opportunity to discuss a festival in their country using the framework of the original conversation.

- 1 The first exercise introduces the topic. Students can work in pairs. Go through the suggestions with the group. Don't offer factual correction at this stage, since there is information in the conversation
- 2 Direct your students' attention to the missing words. Students can read alone, and then check in pairs. Have students practice the conversation, switching roles at the end.
- 3 Students can work in pairs asking and answering the questions. When going through the answers, elicit a reason for the sentence being true or false.
- 4 Have the students read through the cues. Answer any vocabulary questions. The fourth box can be left empty at this stage.

Assign new pairs. Students can practice the conversation, using the cues in the spaces. Encourage students to 'read and look up' – i.e. make eye contact when speaking.

Have students reverse roles when finished.

Your Idea

Elicit some ideas for an event or festival which your students know about. Depending on the number of students, you could assign pairs, with each pair having a different festival. Both students should write answers to the questions on their sheets. Monitor, offering assistance where needed.

Students can then mingle with their classmates asking and answering questions on the different festivals.

The answer key is on the next page.

Answer key (Other answers may be possible.)

2

1. know
2. November
3. national
4. happens
5. popular
6. turkey

3

1. In the US, Thanksgiving is in early November.
2. Thanksgiving is only celebrated in the US.
3. Most people do not work on Thanksgiving.
4. People often spend time with their family on Thanksgiving.
5. Most people eat fast food on Thanksgiving.

- | | |
|--------|---|
| False. | It's on the fourth Thursday / end of Nov. |
| False. | It's celebrated in Canada too. |
| True. | |
| True. | |
| False. | Most people eat turkey, stuffing etc. |

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