

CELEBRATIONS

Thanksgiving

Worksheet

Exercise 1: Warmer

a. Tick the things that make you happy:

- dinner with my family meeting with friends watching sports on TV
going to a football match going to a festival a long weekend off work

b. Is there a particular time of year when you can do all of these things?

Exercise 2: Vocabulary

In the United States, Thanksgiving is celebrated on the fourth Thursday of November. On this day most US Americans meet with their family and close friends for a very special meal.

In 1621, in Plymouth, Massachusetts, pilgrims and Native Americans held a three-day feast to give thanks for the good **harvest** that year. The good harvest meant that they would have food for the winter.

Today, Thanksgiving reminds people that they have a lot to be thankful for.

These days many people have their Thanksgiving dinner around two o'clock in the afternoon and afterwards they watch the National Football League (NFL) games on television. They might also attend a local parade or watch the famous Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade with its large balloons and colourful floats.

The central part of a Thanksgiving meal is the **roast turkey**. This is typically served with stuffing, cornbread dressing, **cranberry** sauce, sweet potato pie topped with **marshmallows**, green beans, **sweetcorn**, **squash**, mashed potatoes, **gravy**, and dinner rolls.

The main course is then followed by a sweet pie: this might be **pumpkin pie**, apple, cherry, blueberry or pecan, and it is served with whipped cream or ice cream.

Of course, there are usually leftovers which are then eaten during the following long weekend.

As Thanksgiving is always on a Thursday, many businesses and schools also close on the Friday, so most people get four days off work or school. Thanksgiving is one of the busiest times to travel in the USA, as people drive or fly to be with their families and friends.

Find a word in the Thanksgiving text that means:

1. a large meal for a lot of people, usually eaten to celebrate something _____
2. the amount of a crop (plants grown for food) that is collected _____
3. the food that remains at the end of a meal after you have finished eating _____
4. a celebration in which a large group of people move through the streets, often with decorated vehicles and bands playing music _____
5. cooked in an oven _____
6. food that is cut into small pieces, mixed, and put inside meat or vegetables _____

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Exercise 3: Vocabulary

Match the words in **bold print** in the Thanksgiving text with the pictures below.



Exercise 4: Discussion

Talk about a celebratory meal that you have in your country or culture.

- What is the celebration?
- What do you eat for this meal?
- When do you eat it?
- Who do you eat it with?
- Where do you eat the meal?

