

## Pancake Day 4: Survey & Reading

by Julian L'Enfant

**Summary:** These activities aim to stimulate freer speaking practice for slightly more advanced students.

**Skills:** Speaking, reading

**Level:** A2 Waystage (Council of Europe); Movers/Flyers (Cambridge YL tests); Elementary/Pre-intermediate

**Target Age:** 8-10 years

**Time needed:** 45 mins

**Materials:** A copy of Worksheets 1 and 2 for each student.

### Pancake Day survey

1. Review vocabulary from the previous Pancake Day activities: *toss a pancake, Pancake Day, lemon, syrup, jam, etc.*
2. Students answer the questions for themselves first, by putting a tick ✓ in the appropriate box.
3. Students then ask the rest of the class.
4. As a follow-up, ask the students to make a bar graph, or pie chart to display the results of the survey. Students then write about the results of the class survey.

### Reading: Pancake Day history

1. Check the Students know the meaning of words such as: *cupboards, feasting, church, to confess, traditions, celebrations, dairy products.*
2. Students use the words to predict what the text is about.
3. Students quickly read the text and check if their predictions were correct.
4. Students read the text and answer the questions.

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YOUNG LEARNERS WORKSHEET 1

Pancake Day survey:		
	Yes	No
1. Do you have pancakes at home on Pancake Day?		
2. Do you like pancakes?		
3. Can you toss a pancake?		
4. What do you eat on Pancake Day?		
5. What do you put on pancakes?	Lemon Sugar Jam Syrup Other?	
6. What is Pancake Day called in your country?		

**Pancake Day 4: Survey & Reading**  
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Read the text and answer the questions.

Pancake Day, or 'Shrove Tuesday' is the day before Ash Wednesday and the start of Lent. We empty our cupboards of dairy products such as eggs, milk and butter and use them to make pancakes.

In the past, Christians would give up dairy products for Lent and eat very little. Lent lasts for forty days and is the time leading up to Easter, so Shrove Tuesday became a time of celebration and feasting, and pancakes. Church bells would ring and people would go to church to confess their sins and be "shriven", (forgiven).

There are lots of games and traditions on Pancake Day, which are still popular today, such as Pancake races, making pancakes and tossing pancakes.

One of the most popular Pancake Day celebrations in the world is the *Mardi Gras* in New Orleans and Rio de Janeiro, which means "fat Tuesday". *Mardi Gras* is the French name for Shrove Tuesday.

1. What dairy products are needed to make pancakes?  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. How many days are there for Lent?  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Why did people go to church on 'Shrove Tuesday'?  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Which festival/holiday comes after Lent?  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. What is the name of the Pancake Day celebrations in New Orleans and Rio de Janeiro?  
\_\_\_\_\_