

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

# THANKSGIVING

**Question:** *What do you already know about Thanksgiving?*

- Read the article below and then answer the questions.

## *What is Thanksgiving?*



Thanksgiving (or Thanksgiving Day) is a holiday that is celebrated both in Canada and in the U.S.A. It has been a holiday in many places in Canada since 1957 and in all of the American states since 1863. In Canada it is celebrated on the second Monday in October, while in the U.S. it is celebrated on the fourth Thursday in November. No one is sure exactly when the first Thanksgiving was celebrated, but many Americans think it was in 1621 – in a small town called Plymouth. It was

celebrated by a small group of people from England called ‘Pilgrims’. It was celebrated because one of the Native American people (people who first lived in North America) taught **them** how to catch fish and how to grow corn. This man’s name was Squanto. The Pilgrims were very thankful for this help. Without **it**, many more Pilgrims might have died from hunger. The first Thanksgiving celebration lasted for three days and it included fifty English men, women and children and about ninety Native Americans. Afterwards, Thanksgiving became more and more popular in the United States until it finally became a national holiday. In both Canada and the U.S., turkey is the main part of the traditional Thanksgiving meal. Other foods commonly eaten include stuffing and mashed potatoes with gravy, cranberry sauce and pumpkin pie. According to Wikipedia, “Americans eat more food on Thanksgiving than on any other day of the year.” Along with Christmas and New Year’s Day, Thanksgiving is one of the three major holiday celebrations of the year. According to usnews.com, 46.3 million Americans will travel fifty miles or more to be with friends and family to eat Thanksgiving dinner.

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## ● READING COMPREHENSION

Score out of ten	As percentage
/10	%

**1. Where is Thanksgiving celebrated?**

- (a) England, Canada and the U.S.A.
- (b) Canada and the U.S.A.
- (c) the U.S.A.

**2. Thanksgiving is celebrated on different days in different places.**

- (a) TRUE
- (b) FALSE
- (c) It doesn't say.

**3. How long has Thanksgiving been a holiday in the U.S.A?**

- (a) since 1621
- (b) since 1957
- (c) since 1863

**4. In the middle of the article, what does the word 'them' refer to?**

- (a) the Native Americans
- (b) the people from England
- (c) fish

**5. Where did Squanto come from?**

- (a) New York
- (b) England
- (c) North America

**6. In the middle of the article, what does the word 'it' refer to?**

- (a) help
- (b) Pilgrims
- (c) Thanksgiving

**7. According to the article, how many people may have celebrated the first Thanksgiving?**

- (a) about 140
- (b) about 50
- (c) It doesn't say.

**8. Which food is NOT mentioned as being eaten at Thanksgiving?**

- (a) turkey
- (b) potatoes
- (c) apple pie

**9. According to the article, Thanksgiving is the most important American celebration of the year.**

- (a) TRUE
- (b) FALSE
- (c) It doesn't say.

**10. According to the article, most Americans travel to eat Thanksgiving dinner.**

- (a) TRUE
- (b) FALSE
- (c) It doesn't say.

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## Grammar-in-Context

- Complete the article by circling the correct words.

Thanksgiving (or Thanksgiving Day) is (1)\_\_\_\_\_ that is celebrated both in Canada and in the U.S.A. It has been a holiday in many places in Canada since 1957 and in all of the American states since 1863. In Canada it (2)\_\_\_\_\_ celebrated on the second Monday in October, while in the U.S. it is celebrated on the fourth Thursday in November. No one is sure exactly when (3)\_\_\_\_\_ first Thanksgiving was celebrated, but many Americans (4)\_\_\_\_\_ it was in 1621 – in a small town called Plymouth. It was celebrated (5)\_\_\_\_\_ one of the Native American people (people (6)\_\_\_\_\_ first lived in North America) (7)\_\_\_\_\_ them how to catch fish and how to grow corn. This man's name (8)\_\_\_\_\_ Squanto. The Pilgrims were very thankful for this help. Without it, many more Pilgrims might have died from hunger. The first Thanksgiving celebration lasted for three days and it (9)\_\_\_\_\_ fifty English men, women and children and about ninety Native Americans. Afterwards, Thanksgiving became more and more popular in the United States until it finally became a national holiday. In both Canada and the U.S., turkey (10)\_\_\_\_\_ the main part of the traditional Thanksgiving meal. Other foods commonly eaten include stuffing and mashed potatoes with gravy, cranberry sauce and pumpkin pie. According to Wikipedia, "Americans eat (11)\_\_\_\_\_ food on Thanksgiving than on any other day of the year." Along with Christmas and New Year's Day, Thanksgiving is one of the three major holiday celebrations of the year. According to usnews.com, 46.3 million Americans will travel fifty miles or more to be with friends and family to (12)\_\_\_\_\_ Thanksgiving dinner.

1.  
(A) holiday  
(B) the holiday  
(C) a holiday  
(D) holidays

5.  
(A) and  
(B) because  
(C) so  
(D) but

9.  
(A) include  
(B) including  
(C) included  
(D) includes

2.  
(A) is  
(B) are  
(C) am  
(D) be

6.  
(A) what  
(B) who  
(C) where  
(D) when

10.  
(A) was  
(B) are  
(C) were  
(D) is

3.  
(A) Ø (no word)  
(B) an  
(C) a  
(D) the

7.  
(A) teaches  
(B) taught  
(C) teach  
(D) teaching

11.  
(A) more  
(B) many  
(C) much  
(D) most

4.  
(A) think  
(B) thinks  
(C) thinking  
(D) were thinking

8.  
(A) were  
(B) is  
(C) was  
(D) are

12.  
(A) eating  
(B) ate  
(C) eats  
(D) eat



# LESSON

# Reading and Grammar: Thanksgiving

**Aim** Reading and Grammar Practice

**Level** Intermediate

## NOTES

Begin the lesson by asking your learners what they already know about Thanksgiving.

Distribute the Reading Comprehension sheet (the ten questions on page 2) before your learners actually read the text on page 1. Give them about a minute to quickly go over the questions and remind them that they want to skim and scan the text to answer the questions quickly – remember: good readers do two things: (1) understand what they read; (2) read quickly. Consider giving your learners an appropriate time limit to read and answer all the questions (about 10 – 15 minutes) – write this on the board so everyone is aware of it. This time may vary somewhat depending on your own specific group of learners, so be flexible.

For the Grammar-in-Context section, make sure that your learners have put away the original reading text before completing the exercise.

## My Notes

## ANSWER KEY

### Reading Comprehension

- |      |       |
|------|-------|
| 1. B | 6. A  |
| 2. A | 7. A  |
| 3. C | 8. C  |
| 4. B | 9. C  |
| 5. C | 10. C |

### Grammar-in-Context

- |      |      |       |
|------|------|-------|
| 1. C | 5. B | 9. C  |
| 2. A | 6. B | 10. D |
| 3. D | 7. B | 11. A |
| 4. A | 8. C | 12. D |

[http://thanksgiving.phillipmartin.info/thanksgiving\\_feast.htm](http://thanksgiving.phillipmartin.info/thanksgiving_feast.htm)

<http://www.usnews.com/news/blogs/data-mine/2014/11/27/everything-you-ever-wanted-to-know-about-thanksgiving-with-leftovers>

[http://thanksgiving.phillipmartin.info/thanksgiving\\_feast.htm](http://thanksgiving.phillipmartin.info/thanksgiving_feast.htm)

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thanksgiving\\_%28United\\_States%29](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thanksgiving_%28United_States%29)