

EASTER

TEACHER'S NOTES



QUIZ

The students are going to start off the lesson with an Easter quiz. Give them the quiz from the Students' Notes and get them to complete the multiple choice questions, either individually or in groups if the class is larger.

Cut up the answers to the questions that are in the Teacher's Notes. Go through the questions one at a time i.e. get the students to give feedback on their answers for the first question. Then hand out the answer to question 1 to one of the students to read the answer to the rest of the class. Continue until you have done all the questions and the students can give themselves a mark out of ten.

WARMER

Ask the students following questions:

1. What do you know about the Jewish Passover?
2. What do you know about Easter?
3. Do you celebrate Easter or the Passover? If so, how?

VOCABULARY

In the Teacher's Notes is a table with eight vocabulary words extracted from the text about the Passover and Easter. There are two synonyms with each word. Cut the words up and get the students to match them together again. For very advanced classes, give the students all the words jumbled up, so that they have to match all three synonyms. If this would be too difficult for your class, give them the vocabulary with just one set of synonyms.

READING

The students are going to do the reading as an information share. Divide the students into pairs, and give one student in the pair the text on the Passover, and the other the text on Easter. Get them to read through the text and then tell the other student what they have read.

Once they have done this, get them to read through their texts again, and find the vocabulary words from the previous activity. They need to once again in their pairs, tell each other which words are in

their text, and what those words are referring to e.g. commemorate is referring to the Exodus story, unleavened bread, the Last Supper and the crucifixion.

LISTENING

The students are going to watch a music video entitled '20 things to do with Matzah'. Make sure they understand what Matzah is (the unleavened bread mentioned in the text about the Passover).

Ask them to think of 20 different things that they could use Matzah for. Encourage them to be creative.

Get feedback from the students.

The students are going to watch the video through once. Tell them that when they have watched it once, they need to remember as many of the 20 uses as they can, but they are not allowed to write anything down!

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xMSEFCQCKPo>

Hand out the lyrics with the missing words (in the Students' Notes) to the students. Get them to watch the video once more, and fill in the missing words:

1. frisbee
2. shark
3. pick
4. licence plate
5. coaster
6. confetti
7. insulate
8. decorate
9. exfoliate
10. constipate
11. hamster
12. bookmark
13. stack
14. dog house
15. boat
16. wings
17. jewellery
18. picture frame
19. tea
20. see

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QUIZ

1. Easter celebrates the central event of the Christian faith: the resurrection of Christ three days after his crucifixion. It is the oldest Christian holiday and the most important day of the church year. All Christian movable feasts and the entire liturgical year of worship are arranged around Easter.
2. The word Easter comes from Ishtar, the Babylonian goddess of love and fertility, also known as Astarte. Astarte became the Anglo-Saxon Ostara, goddess of fertility, spring and dawn. Easter was a pagan springtime celebration before it became a Christian holy day, and many non-religious elements form our celebrations.
3. Lent, a period of fasting and atonement, begins on Ash Wednesday, 40 days before Easter. At masses on this day, priests mark the foreheads of worshippers with ashes in the shape of a cross. Shrove Tuesday is the day immediately preceding the Lenten period; Palm Sunday, which celebrates Jesus's arrival in Jerusalem, is the Sunday before Easter.
4. Eggs have long been a symbol of rebirth in many cultures, and the exchange of eggs at Easter is a popular custom among both religious and secular observers of the holiday. In fact, the exchange of eggs is a custom that long predates Easter.
5. The rabbit first appeared as a symbol of Easter in 16th century Germany. And the first edible Easter bunnies were also produced in Germany, during the early 1800s. German settlers later brought the custom to North America. Originally, the hare was a pagan symbol of fertility and companion of the goddess Ostara.
6. Not until the Civil War was the message and meaning of Easter expressed as it had been in Europe. Presbyterians found the story of the resurrection of Christ a source of renewed hope following the death and destruction of the war.
7. The first confirmed European landing on Easter Island (Rapanui) was on Easter Day, 1722, by the Dutch explorer Jacob Roggeveen.
8. Easter baskets arose from the Catholic custom of bringing Easter dinner food to mass to be blessed. This custom may also be related to ancient agrarian customs of bringing first crops to the temple.
9. The council of Nice did in fact issue an edict in 325 AD that Easter must fall on a Sunday, but Palm Sunday celebrates the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem, where people spread palm branches and clothing before him. Maundy Thursday (or Holy Thursday) is the day to remember the Last Supper.
10. The world's largest Easter egg, or pysanka, is located in Vegreville, Alta., Canada. The egg measures 9.4 metres high, 7 metres long and 5.5 metres wide—and weighs 2,270 kilograms. The complex design, built of aluminum, sits on its base at a 30-degree angle. The egg was created to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police in 1974 and to celebrate Vegreville's ethnic heritage—a large percentage of the town's population is of Ukrainian Canadian descent.

VOCABULARY

commemorate	observe	remember
to inflict	to cause	to strike
hence	therefore	consequently
derived	acquired	formulated
culmination	conclusion	completion
preceding	earlier	previous
exclaim	assert	declare
allegory	symbol	emblem

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TEACHER'S NOTES



Passover (Hebrew, Yiddish: Pesach) is a Jewish festival. It commemorates the story of the Exodus, in which the ancient Israelites were freed from slavery in Egypt. Passover begins on the 14th day of the month of Nisan in the Jewish calendar, which is in spring in the Northern Hemisphere, and is celebrated for seven or eight days. It is one of the most widely observed Jewish holidays.

In the narrative of the Exodus, the Bible tells that God helped the Children of Israel escape slavery in Egypt by inflicting ten plagues upon the Egyptians before the Pharaoh would release his Israelite slaves; the tenth and worst of the plagues was the death of the Egyptian first-born. The Israelites were instructed to mark the doorposts of their homes with the blood of a spring lamb and, upon seeing this, the spirit of the Lord knew to pass over the first-borns in these homes, hence the name of the holiday. There is some debate over where the term is actually derived from. When the Pharaoh freed the Israelites, it is said that they left in such a hurry that they could not wait for bread dough to rise (leaven). In commemoration, for the duration of Passover no leavened bread is eaten, for which reason it is called "The Festival of the Unleavened Bread". Matzo (flat unleavened bread) is a symbol of the holiday.

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Passover>

Easter is a Christian festival and holiday celebrating the resurrection of Jesus Christ on the third day after his crucifixion at Calvary as described in the New Testament. Easter is the culmination of the Passion of Christ, preceded by Lent, a forty-day period of fasting, prayer, and penance. The last week of Lent is called Holy Week, and it contains the days of the Easter Triduum, including Maundy Thursday (also known as Holy Thursday), commemorating the Last Supper and its preceding foot washing, as well as Good Friday, commemorating the crucifixion and death of Jesus. Easter is followed by a fifty-day period called Eastertide or the Easter Season, ending with Pentecost Sunday. The festival is referred to in English by a variety of different names including Easter Day, Easter Sunday, Resurrection Day and Resurrection Sunday.

Easter is linked to the Jewish Passover by much of its symbolism, as well as by its position in the calendar. In many languages, the words for "Easter" and "Passover" are etymologically related or homonymous. Easter customs vary across the Christian world, but attending sunrise services, exclaiming the Paschal greeting, clipping the church and decorating Easter eggs, a symbol of the empty tomb, are common motifs. Additional customs include egg hunting, the Easter Bunny, and Easter parades, which are observed by both Christians and some non-Christians.

Easter is linked to the Passover and Exodus from Egypt recorded in the Old Testament through the Last Supper and crucifixion that preceded the resurrection. According to the New Testament, Jesus gave the Passover meal a new meaning, as he prepared himself and his disciples for his death in the upper room during the Last Supper. He identified the matzah and cup of wine as his body soon to be sacrificed and his blood soon to be shed. Paul states, "Get rid of the old yeast that you may be a new batch without yeast—as you really are. For Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed"; this refers to the Passover requirement to have no yeast in the house and to the allegory of Jesus as the Paschal lamb.

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Easter>

EASTER

STUDENTS' NOTES



QUIZ

- 1. Easter is a celebration of...**
 - The resurrection of Christ
 - The crucifixion of Christ
 - The Last Supper
- 2. The word "Easter" comes from...**
 - The white Esturian Flower that blooms this time of year
 - "Ostara," the Anglo-Saxon goddess of fertility
 - The word "East," referring to the rising sun and to spring
- 3. Lent, the period that precedes Easter, begins on what day?**
 - Shrove Tuesday
 - Palm Sunday
 - Ash Wednesday
- 4. The egg is a symbol of...**
 - Rebirth
 - Mourning
 - Fertility
- 5. The Easter Rabbit was first introduced to North America following...**
 - The American Revolution
 - the Civil War
 - the Boston Tea Party
- 6. When did the rabbit first appear as an Easter symbol?**
 - In 16th century Germany
 - When St. Patrick drove the snakes from Ireland
 - When the 18th century rabbit population in England reached dangerous proportions
- 7. Where did Easter Island get its name?**
 - The island's shape was said to resemble an Easter bunny
 - The name of the island in the native language sounded like the word "Easter"
 - Europeans first landed on the island on Easter Day
- 8. Where does the custom of Easter baskets originate?**
 - From the baskets farmers would use to collect their crops
 - From the ancient Greek myth of Cornucopia, the horn of plenty
 - From the Catholic custom of bringing Easter dinner food to mass to be blessed
- 9. Palm Sunday, one week before Easter, celebrates...**
 - The edict in 325 AD by the council of Nice that Easter fall on a Sunday
 - The commemoration of the Last Supper
 - The entry of Jesus into Jerusalem
- 10. Where can you find the world's largest decorated Easter egg?**
 - Romania
 - Ukraine
 - Canada

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STUDENTS' NOTES



20 THINGS TO DO WITH MATZAH

1. Catch it like a _____ with your friends in the park, or you could
2. jump in the water and pretend you're a _____
3. You can make a matzah _____ and play the guitar, and you can
4. make a matzah _____ for your car
5. Use it as a _____ when you're drinking a beer, and
6. Throw it as _____ for a happy new year
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

Passover's over, and wouldn't it be neat
if you could use all the matzah that you didn't eat

11. Crumble up some matzah to line your _____ cage
12. or you can use it as a _____ to hold your page
13. Break a _____ of matzah when you practice your karate
14. build a matzah _____ for your doggy named Scottie
15. Make a little matzah _____ and wave it goodbye,
16. or make a pair of matzah _____ and learn how to fly
17. Wear some matzah _____
18. Make a _____ for me
19. Have a drink of matzah _____
20. Matzah's all that I can _____!

There's just one more thing to do with unleavened bread
... you can eat it ... cuz it ain't all that bad.