



English Corner

Christmas time

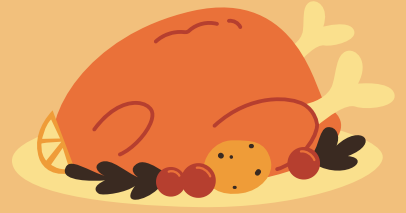
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Happy Thanksgiving



Thanksgiving Day is a national holiday in the United States. It is celebrated on the fourth Thursday of November. In the U.S. Thanksgiving is modeled on a harvest feast shared by the English colonists (Pilgrims) of Plymouth and the Wampanoag people in 1621. It is intended to celebrate the blessings of the past year. Thanksgiving Day became an official U.S. holiday in 1863. One of the best things about Thanksgiving is spending time with family. Traditional food include turkey, stuffing, gravy, sweet potatoes, cornbread, mashed potatoes, and cranberry sauce.



Black Friday is the first Friday after Thanksgiving in the United States. It is a beginning of season of Christmas shopping. On Black Friday a lot of shops have some big discounts and are open late hours.

Black Friday is one of the most popular day in the USA when people buy a lot of things e.g. for Christmas presents. About 100 mln. Americans take part in Black Friday.

Three days after Black Friday there is Cyber Monday. The rules of Cyber Monday are almost the same as on Black Friday but on this day Americans buy only electronical gadgets.



-50%

BLACK FRIDAY BLACK FRIDAY BLACK FRIDAY BLACK FRIDAY

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BLACK

Friday

Black Friday is the day after Thanksgiving in the United States. On this day people go to the shops because there are a lot of special offers. The tradition of sale days in Poland is not as long as in the USA. In the pre-Christmas period many bargain hunters make use of Black Friday. The name started to be used after World War II, but it was not popular outside of Philadelphia until around 1975. Black Friday officially appeared in Poland in 2011.

Many Americans see Black Friday as the official beginning of the Christmas holiday season, a time when many people go shopping for presents to give on Christmas Day. On Black Friday many stores have big sales and it is common to see long queues of people waiting outside stores and in malls to get the best deals first before they run out. Some shops open very early. A few stores even open at midnight. Shoppers like to stay out all day to get what they need, making Black Friday the busiest shopping day of the year.

On the first Monday after the long weekend we have Cyber Monday, when many people go online shopping.

In my opinion, Black Friday is senseless because the day before prices go up. In the end this discounts are not as big as we think.

VOCABULARY

Boxing Day (December 25) - drugi dzień Świąt Bożego
Narodzenia (25 grudnia)

carol - kołęda

Christmas cracker - strzelająca zabawka
bożonarodzeniowa z niespodzianką

Christmas Day - Dzień Bożego Narodzenia

Christmas Eve - Wigilia, wigilia Bożego Narodzenia

Christmas wafer - opłatek bożonarodzeniowy
fir - jodła

fireworks - fajerwerki, sztuczne ognie

gingerbread - piernik, pierniczek

hay - siano

Midnight Mass - Pasterka

mistletoe - jemiola

nativity - szopka

nativity play - jasełka

New Year's Day (January 1) - Nowy Rok (1 stycznia)

New Year's Eve (December 31) - Sylwester (31 grudnia)

poppseed cake - makowiec

Reindeer – renifer

Santa Claus, Saint Nicholas, - Święty Mikołaj

sledge, sled - sanki

sleigh - sanie

snowflake - płatek śniegu

snowman - bałwan



P o e m

There's a Christmas Tree in the room.

This Christmas Tree is too boring.

These baubles aren't pretty enough.

So let's put some lights on.


Everything is beautiful now.



Christmas tree



Christmas

..... 

Christmas is a joyful holiday when Christians celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. Christmas starts with Christmas Eve and it is on December 24th. December 25th is called Christmas Day.

But what about 26th December? This day is called Boxing Day. It began in the United Kingdom but there is a bit of speculation if it comes to date. Most historians reckon that Boing Day started somewhere around the Middle Ages when servants were given a day off after Christmas to spend time with their family. These servants and other working class people received Christmas Boxes full of gifts or money from all the people they served throughout the year and could finally open the presents on Boxing Day.

Christmas



Christmas in the USA

In the USA people decorate their houses with the lights during the holiday season. The Christmas tree has to be nicely decorated. Sending Christmas cards by post is also extremely popular. Some cookies and glass of milk are often left out as a snack for Santa. Americans begin their Christmas celebration on December 25th and this is the day when families get together for dinner, and the food isn't much different than what's served on Thanksgiving. On December 26th everyone returns to work and everyday life.

Popular dishes: turkey, cranberry sauce, mashed/sweet potatoes, pumpkin cake.

Christmas in the UK

In the UK, children write letters to Father Christmas and throw them into a fire place. Such a letter turns into smoke and quickly reaches the Father Christmas, who reads all the wishes. Then on the night of 24/25 presents are waiting for kids in special Christmas stockings hung by the children's beds. On Christmas Day, after the meal the family sit down in front of the television for the traditional Christmas speech of the British Monarch.

Popular dishes: roasted poultry, mashed or baked potatoes, Christmas pudding.

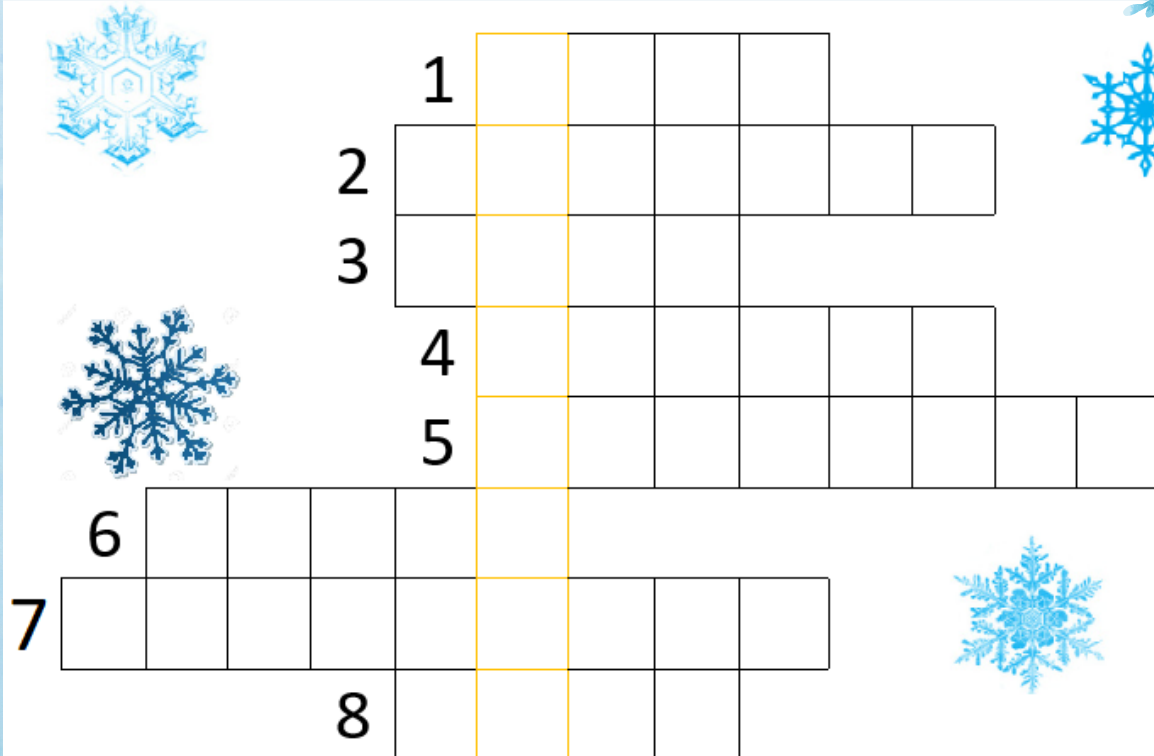
Christmas in Poland

Christmas in Poland is celebrated on December 24th. The family gathers in one house. Many Poles wait until the first star appears in the sky before sitting down to eat on 24th December. People share the wafer, then they sit down at the table where 12 dishes are served.

Popular dishes: beetroot soup with dumplings, carp, cheesecake, poppy seed cake, mushroom soup, dumplings with cabbage and mushrooms.

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CROSSWORD



1. It rains instead of rain if the temperature is below zero.
2. It is a „man” made of snow.
3. Winter temperature, opposite of hot.
4. The time of year in which we celebrate holidays.
5. Heavy snowfall.
6. He brings gifts.
7. It burns to heat the house.
8. You can ride it on snow.



Answer key 1. snow 2. snowman 3. cold 4. winter
5. blizzard 6. santa 7. fireplace 8. sled

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR!
ALL THE BEST FOR THE COMING YEAR!

