

Read the text and think of the word which best fits each gap.



Origins of Easter

Easter in the UK has 1) _____ beginnings long 2) _____ the arrival of Christianity. Many theologians believe Easter itself is named 3) _____ the Anglo-Saxon goddess of the dawn and spring Eostre.

Maundy Thursday

This is the name given to the Thursday before Easter. Christians remember it 4) _____ the day of the Last Supper. The word "Maundy" 5) _____ from the French word, "Mandé" meaning "command" or "mandate" and is taken 6) _____ the command given 7) _____ Christ at the Last Supper, "love one another as I have loved you."

Good Friday

On the Friday before Easter, Christians commemorate the crucifixion of Jesus Christ. It 8) _____ a day of mourning 9) _____ church and special Good Friday services 10) _____ held.

Holy Saturday

The Saturday of Holy Week (the week before Easter), also 11) _____ as Great Saturday, the Great Sabbath, Black Saturday, Joyous Saturday, 12) _____ Easter Eve.

Easter Sunday

People who regularly attend church often attend special services 13) _____ Easter Sunday, celebrating the resurrection of Jesus. Easter Sunday is the big family day 14) _____ families usually gather 15) _____ Easter lunch.

Easter Holidays

Good Friday and Easter Monday (the day after Easter Sunday) 16) _____ bank holidays in the UK.

Easter Eggs

Exchanging and eating Easter eggs is a popular custom. As in many countries, focus 17) _____ shifted from hard-boiled dyed eggs in various colours and patterns 18) _____ confectionary eggs. English Easter eggs are usually hollow eggs 19) _____ of chocolate, wrapped in brightly coloured foil and packaged in an elaborate box. Worthy 20) _____ mention is the Cadbury crème egg, 21) _____ is a classic 22) _____ Easter.

Easter Bunny and Egg Hunts

British children believe that 23) _____ they are good, the "Easter Bunny" 24) _____ leave chocolate eggs for 25) _____. An Easter egg hunt is a fun holiday activity for kids of 26) _____ ages. The object of this Easter activity is to simply find the eggs 27) _____ the Easter bunny has left 28) _____ them.

Egg Rolling

The tradition of rolling decorated eggs down grassy hills goes 29) _____ hundreds of years and is known 30) _____ "pace-egging", from the old English Pasch meaning Pesach or Passover. Real eggs are rolled against 31) _____ another or down a hill. The owner of the egg that stays uncracked the longest wins. Even today in the north of England, they still carry 32) _____ the custom of egg rolling. Hard boiled eggs are rolled 33) _____ slopes to see whose egg goes furthest. In other places, 34) _____ game is played. You hold an egg in the palm of the hand and bang 35) _____ your opponent's egg. The loser is the one 36) _____ egg breaks first.

Easter Bonnets

Easter 37) _____ once a traditional day for 38) _____ married, which may be 39) _____ people often dress 40) _____ for Easter. Women made and wore special Easter bonnets decorated 41) _____ flowers and ribbons.

Hot Cross Buns

Hot cross buns, now eaten throughout the Easter season, 42) _____ first baked in the UK to be served on Good Friday. These small, lightly sweet yeast buns contain raisins or currants and sometimes chopped candied fruit. Before baking, a cross is slashed at the top of the bun. After baking, a confectioners' sugar icing is used 43) _____ fill the cross.

Simnel Cake

A traditional way 44) _____ breaking the Lenten fast is to eat some simnel cake. These are raised cakes, with a crust made 45) _____ fine flour and water, coloured yellow with saffron, and filled 46) _____ a very rich plum-cake, with plenty of candied lemon peel, and dried fruits.

Adapted from <https://www.londonschool.com/nordic/blog/very-british-easter/>