

Culture: the US

READING

Read the article about important dates in the US and find the answers to the questions. Write A, B, C or D.

On which day or days...

1. ...do some people watch sports on TV? _____
2. ...do people think about a man who helped others? _____
3. ...do people help the earth? _____
4. ...do people go to work? _____
5. ...do people hear or read stories that aren't true? _____
6. ...do some people walk outside in big groups? _____

US dates

to remember

A April Fool's Day is on April 1st. It isn't a national holiday, but it's a day when people play jokes on friends and family. Some good jokes are on the Internet, in the newspapers, or on TV—for example, one year on the Internet, a company that sells glasses put an advertisement for dog sunglasses on its website. Many people believed it was true.

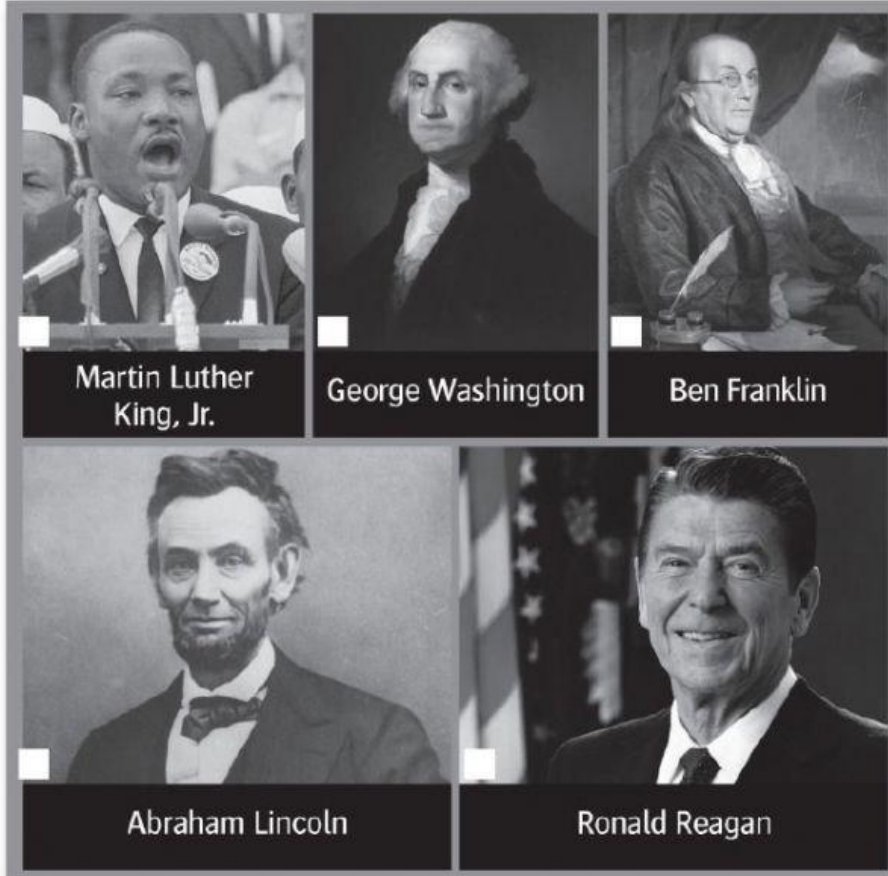
B Earth Day isn't a national US holiday, but it is day the US and the rest of the world thinks about the earth and how to help it. People do things like clean up parks, ride their bikes, or plant trees. The first Earth Day was in 1970.

C Martin Luther King, Jr. Day is a US national holiday. On the third Monday in January, Americans remember Dr. King and his work helping Americans in the 1960s. Most schools and some businesses close for the day. There are also parades and talks to celebrate Dr. King.

D Thanksgiving is a US national holiday on the fourth Thursday of November. A traditional Thanksgiving activity is cooking a turkey and eating a big meal with family and friends. After the meal, many people watch American football on TV or sit around the table and tell stories or play games.

LISTENING

A) Listen to a radio program about the greatest Americans of all time, voted by people on a poll. Number the people in the order they come in the list.



Martin Luther King, Jr.

George Washington

Ben Franklin

Abraham Lincoln

Ronald Reagan

B) Listen again and choose True or False.

1. Ben Franklin was a young newspaper owner. ____
2. George Washington was born on February 12, 1732. ____
3. He was 76 when he died. ____
4. Martin Luther King, Jr. was born on January 18th, 1929. ____
5. He was the leader of the civil rights movement. ____
6. Abraham Lincoln was the first president of the US. ____
7. He was 56 when he died. ____
8. The greatest American of all time was a singer. ____
9. Salaries were high when Ronald Reagan was president. ____

Vocabulary help:

Poll: encuesta

Right: derecho (además de derecha y correcto)

WRITING

A) **Think of an important date in your country and write a short description. Use the texts as a model.**

Questions and information to consider:

- Name of the festivity.
- Date, season, etc.
- Is it a holiday? National or international?
- What do people do?
- Do people wear any special clothes?
- Do people eat any special food?
- Do people honor any special person?

You will probably
need to google for
these writing
activities!!

....and use a
dictionary.

B) **Think of an important person in your country and write about him/her.**

Questions and information to consider:

- Name and last name. Nickname.
- Is he/she dead or alive? (important dates)
- Some details about his/her life.
- Why is he/she important for your country?