

# CHRISTMAS

## A. While- reading:

Every year in December Christians around the world celebrate Christmas to remember the birth of Jesus Christ. Besides Christmas Day on December 25<sup>th</sup>, Christmas celebrations also include Christmas Eve (December 24<sup>th</sup>) and Boxing Day (December 26<sup>th</sup>).

On Christmas Eve, some people spend the night **carol singing, attending a midnight church service**, or going out to the **pub** with their friends or family. For young children, Christmas Eve is the time when Father Christmas or Santa comes and brings them presents. Before going to bed, children **hang their stockings** on the fireplace, and in the next morning, they will check the stockings for presents.

The main celebration, Christmas Day, is the time for gift giving and **family gathering**. Families start opening presents at around 8 a.m. and then they sit down to have breakfast. Afterward, they can attend church or cook a big Christmas dinner, which is usually served at lunchtime with **roast turkey**, vegetables, and **mashed potatoes**. For dessert, there's a rich, fruity cake called **Christmas pudding**.

Boxing Day, which takes place on 26 December, was traditionally the day to open the Christmas box and share the contents with the poor. Today, Boxing Day is a bank holiday and is primarily known as a shopping holiday as many shops open very early and offer **sales**.



1. Compare the information presented in the text and your answers in activity 1. Which information about Christmas is the most interesting to you? Why?

---

---

2. Read the definition and write the corresponding words/ phrases:

The activity of singing happy or religious songs at Christmas: \_\_\_\_\_

Potatoes that have been boiled and crushed until they are smooth: \_\_\_\_\_

The meat of a large bird used as food and often eaten at Christmas: \_\_\_\_\_

An occasion when a shop sells its products at a lower price than usual: \_\_\_\_\_

An event where family members meet each other and spend time together: \_\_\_\_\_

A sweet, dark food containing dried fruit, eaten at the end of the meal in some countries at Christmas.

---

A period when Christians (people who practice Christianity) gather at the church and worship:

---

A long sock that children leave out when they go to bed on Christmas Eve so that it can be filled with presents: \_\_\_\_\_

To attach something at the top so that the lower part is free or loose: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Read and write ONE WORD in each blank to complete the letter:

From: Helen

To: Henry

Hi Henry,

I hope you're (1) \_\_\_\_\_. I'm (2) \_\_\_\_\_ birthday party next week and I hope you can come. It's (3) \_\_\_\_\_ Friday evening from 8.00 p.m. until late. I'm having it (4) \_\_\_\_\_ home to keep things simple. I'm asking everyone (5) \_\_\_\_\_ bring some food to share. Can you (6) \_\_\_\_\_ something too? If so, let me know what you will bring. Then I can tell the others to bring something different.

See you soon,

Helen

4. Write a letter to a friend of yours to invite him or her to a Christmas party.