BOXING DAY

I MATCH THE QUESTIONS WITH THE ANSWERS

1. What is Boxing Day?
2. Is the tradition alive today?
3. Ok, Nicola, and what do people do on Boxing Day?
4. Now in England you have something called "Boxing Day", don't you?
5. Is there a dog track near your house?
6. What do you usually do in your family?
7. What do you mean?
8. Lose money?

R: Uh, Nicola, you're from England.
N: Yes, I am.
R: OK. _____
N: Yes, we do.
R: So, we don't have that in America. _____
N: Well, Boxing Day is always on the 26th of December, the day after Christmas Day. This day goes back to the old tradition to give a 'Christmas Box' to poorer people. A box used to be placed in every church on Christmas Day, where gifts were put for the poor. These boxes were always opened the day after Christmas. That's why the day was called Boxing Day. Besides, many poor workers and servants had to work on Christmas Day and took the following day off to visit their families. So, the very rich people gave presents to their servants, the day after Christmas, and usually it would be something like money, or food, but they would give it to them in a small box, and so on December the 26th, servants would get their boxes, the Christmas boxes, and that's why it was called Boxing Day.

R: _____
N: OK. The tradition of giving money to workers still continues today. Usually people give small gifts or a little money, called tips, to regular visiting trades people, such as the milkman, cleaner, newspaper boy, etc. Besides, in some work places, employers give a Christmas bonus to their employees ([ˌemplɔɪˈiːz] — наемные работники). Schools across the country gather gifts which are put in Christmas Boxes and sent to poorer countries.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

R: _____

N: Uh, we relax, eat the leftover turkey, turkey sandwiches. Yes, we can say it's a day for more eating, watching sports and playing board games with the family or visiting relatives.

And spend money.

R: _____

N: As it is a public holiday, shops and banks used to be closed. But nowadays, some shops have broken with this tradition and are now open on Boxing Day. In this way they encourage people to spend their Christmas money!

R: _____

N: And in my family we usually go and watch dog racing, grey hound racing. Yeah, and lose some money.

R: _____

N: Yeah always. At least I do.

R: Wow, cool. Dog track. _____

N: Yeah, there is, where I live, yeah.

II CHOOSE THE CORRECT ANSWER

1. When is Boxing Day?
   a) Day before Christmas
   b) Day after Christmas
   c) Two days after Christmas
2. Who were the boxes for?
   a) Rich people
   b) Servants
   c) Friends
3. What was in the boxes?
   a) Food b) Money c) Both
4. What meat is usually eaten on Boxing Day?
   a) Turkey b) Ham c) Chicken
5. What kind of races are watched?
   a) Horse b) Car c) Dog

LIVEWORKSHEETS