

Read the text and choose the correct word for each space. For each question circle A, B, C or D.

SAINT PATRICK'S DAY



Saint Patrick's Day, *Lá Fhéile Pádraig* in Irish, is celebrated on 17th March, his religious (1) _____ day and the anniversary of his death in 461 AD. The Irish have (2) _____ this day as a religious holiday over a thousand years. On St. Patrick's Day, also called St. Paddy's Day or (3) _____ Paddy's Day, (4) _____ falls during the Christian season of Lent, Irish families would traditionally (5) _____ church in the morning and celebrate in the afternoon. Lenten prohibitions against the consumption of meat were forgotten and people (6) _____ dance, drink and feast on the traditional meal of Irish bacon and cabbage.

The first St. Patrick's Day parade took place in the United States. Irish soldiers (7) _____ in the British military (8) _____ through New York City, on March 17th, 1792. Along with their music, the parade helped the soldiers to (9) _____ with their Irish roots, as (10) _____ as with fellow Irishmen serving in the British Army. Over the next thirty-five years, Irish patriotism (11) _____ American immigrants flourished.

Today, St. Patrick's Day is celebrated by people of all backgrounds in the United States, Canada and Australia. (12) _____ North America is (13) _____ to the largest productions, St. Patrick's Day has been celebrated in (14) _____ locations far from Ireland, including Japan, Singapore and Russia.

In modern-day Ireland, St. Patrick's Day has traditionally been a religious occasion. (15) _____, up until the 1970s, Irish laws (16) _____ that pubs (17) _____ be closed on 17th March. Beginning in 1995, (18) _____, the Irish government began a national campaign to use St. Patrick's Day as an opportunity to drive tourism and showcase Ireland to the rest of the world. Last year, (19) _____ to one million people took part in Ireland's St. Patrick's festival in Dublin, a multi-day celebration featuring parades, concerts, (20) _____ theatre productions and fireworks displays.

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|----------------|-------------|-----------------|------------------|
| 1. A) holy | B) saint | C) feast | D) patron |
| 2. A) observed | B) watched | C) seen | D) perceived |
| 3. A) easily | B) simply | C) plainly | D) purely |
| 4. A) when | B) what | C) that | D) which |
| 5. A) attend | B) go | C) assist | D) visit |
| 6. A) should | B) could | C) might | D) would |
| 7. A) serving | B) joining | C) assisting | D) working |
| 8. A) walked | B) marched | C) went | D) passed |
| 9. A) link | B) attach | C) reconnect | D) unite |
| 10. A) soon | B) far | C) well | D) long |
| 11. A) between | B) among | C) with | D) for |
| 12. A) However | B) Despite | C) Nevertheless | D) Although |
| 13. A) house | B) home | C) household | D) residence |
| 14. A) any | B) another | C) other | D) few |
| 15. A) Really | B) Truly | C) Currently | D) In fact |
| 16. A) obliged | B) forced | C) mandated | D) required |
| 17. A) could | B) should | C) would | D) ought |
| 18. A) while | B) whereas | C) even though | D) however |
| 19. A) almost | B) nearly | C) close | D) approximately |
| 20. A) outdoor | B) outdoors | C) outside | D) outer |