

Read the text below. Choose from (A—H) the one which best fits each space (1—6). There are two choices you do not need to use.

WHY IS FRIDAY THE 13th CONSIDERED UNLUCKY?

Friday is named for Freya, goddess of sex and fertility, **(1)** and worshipped on the sixth day.

In Roman mythology she corresponded to Venus, the goddess of Love. Therefore, in pre-Christian cultures Friday was a good day for matters of the heart, **(2)** As with many pagan customs and beliefs, though, Friday got a bad rap from Christians. Freya was transformed into a witch to be feared and reviled along with her sacred animal, the cat. There are lots of black Fridays in Christian religious tradition. Friday is the day that Jesus was crucified, **(3)** , the Temple of Solomon was destroyed, and the Great Flood started.

It has been suggested that **(4)** dates as far back as the time of primitive humans who, according to theory, could only count using ten fingers and two feet, and treated any number greater than twelve with mistrust. On the other hand many pre-Christian cultures, **(5)** , considered thirteen to be lucky.

Having thirteen guests at a meal is considered unlucky in many cultures. There were thirteen people at the last supper, **(6)** , and the Hindus still avoid inviting thirteen guests to a gathering.

- A** suspicion of the number thirteen
- B** such as getting married
- C** why Friday and number 13 came together
- D** one of whom betrayed Jesus
- E** such as the Chinese and the Ancient Egyptians
- F** who was associated with cats
- G** Adam and Eve ate the forbidden fruit
- H** one considered Friday the 13th unlucky