



## THE FIRST THANKSGIVING

Thanksgiving is the national holiday in the United States. It is celebrated on the fourth \_\_\_\_\_ in November. On this day American give thanks for the good things in their lives.

Everything started in 1620, when the \_\_\_\_\_ left England for America on a ship called the Mayflower. They came to America in search of religious freedom.

Their trip took 65 days and was very difficult. They started their new life in a deserted Indian Village in what is now the state of Massachusetts. During the first winter many people died because they had not got enough food to eat.

In the spring of 1621 two American Natives found the \_\_\_\_\_ in very bad conditions. Squanto, an English-Speaking American Indian, stayed with them for several months and taught them how to survive in this new life. He showed them how to grow corn, \_\_\_\_\_, and other vegetables. He showed them how to set up \_\_\_\_\_ to scare birds away from a field where crops are growing. He showed them how to use plants as medicine. He taught them many skills for survival in their new land, such as eating \_\_\_\_\_ in the mountains to survive.

In 1621 the \_\_\_\_\_ was very good. The Pilgrims were very thankful and they invited their Native American friends to a feast.

The first Thanksgiving was celebrated and lasted for three days. The main dishes included corn, pumpkins, fish and \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_ became a national holiday in 1863. Today thanksgiving is a day to be thankful for \_\_\_\_\_, friends and good food. Families gather around the table and enjoy a traditional dinner of roast turkey with cranberries, sweet potato and pumpkin pie for dessert. Also, families set a \_\_\_\_\_ on their table to symbolize prosperity. On this day many Americans go or watch football matches.

Nowadays many families in the United States celebrate and spend time together from this traditional period in American history.