

English Test

The Origins of Thanksgiving day



The meaning of Thanksgiving day dates back to the origins of America. In 1620 a group of Dissenters or Separatists, the Pilgrim fathers, sailed towards the New World on a ship called Mayflower. They moved to the new country to find a better life and new lands to grow, but mainly to find religious freedom. They were against the Church of England and the English King James I.

The trip was very long and it lasted more than what they imagined. They arrived on the coasts of Massachusetts which was far north. These circumstances got them to find a hard winter to face. A lot of the people died due to hunger and starvation. It was only in the spring of the next year that thanks to the native Americans, who visited the village, taught them how to grow crops and how to hunt and fish. They were very happy when they saw that the next crops were abundant, and gave them the opportunity to go on living in the new country. They thanked the native Americans preparing big meals made of all the goods they grew : corn, pumpkins and also some of the ducks and turkeys they learnt to raise.

Read the text and then do the following exercise .

Multiple choice

- 1) The origins of Thanksgiving day date back to
 - a. The native americans life
 - b. The life of the Pilgrims
 - c. The history of the USA.
2. The Pilgrims moved to America

- a. To grow freely their children.
- b. To live happily
- c. To be free to worship their religion.

3. the Dissenters were against

- a. the Church of Rome
- b. the church of England and the Monarch
- c. the Separatists

4. They arrived in the

- a. the south coast
- b. the North
- c. on the shores of Massachusetts

5. They found in this place

- a. a fertile soil
- b. frozen soil
- c. a place where they could fish and hunt

6. They were

- a. happy and joyful there
- b. they had a hard life of hunger and starvation
- c. they had a plenty of crops.

7. What were they thankful for ?

8. How do people celebrate Thanksgiving day today ?

Then they needed something to rule their life in the villages.



1. What rules the life of the citizens ? _____

2. How is the American Constitution made ? _____

3. Who makes the laws ? _____

4. Which are the two chambers of the American Government? _____

5. Who can be a Senator or a representative ? _____