

## Hanukkah

### Paragraph 1

Hanukkah is one of the most important celebrations in the Jewish calendar. It means the Festival of Lights. It is an eight-day holiday that takes place each year in November or December. The festival is to celebrate a miracle that happened in the Second Temple in Jerusalem. A Syrian king took the temple from the Jews. In 164BC, a small group of people called the Maccabees revolted against the king and took back their temple. Their leader Judah Maccabee decided to cleanse the altar by burning olive oil in a special candle holder called a Menorah. They only had enough to burn for one day, yet miraculously, it burned for eight days and nights. Jewish elders declared an eight-day holiday to commemorate this miracle.

### Match the following phrases from the article.

#### Paragraph 1

1. one of the most important celebrations	a. miracle that happened
2. an eight-day holiday that takes	b. eight days and nights
3. The festival is to celebrate a	c. place each year
4. A Syrian king took the temple from	d. burning olive oil
5. cleanse the altar by	e. in the Jewish calendar
6. it burned for	f. the Jews.

#### Paragraph 2

Today the festival is observed by lighting the lights of the family Menorah. One light is lit on each night of the holiday until there are eight lights on the final night. Families also say prayers throughout the festival, especially after meals. In Israel, schools close for a week to celebrate Hanukkah. Families exchange gifts and eat festive food. Potato pancakes and fruit-filled doughnuts are the most traditional food, but there is also a custom of frying or baking food in olive oil. Hanukkah is also a time for singing and playing games. There are more songs for Hanukkah than for any other Jewish celebration. The most traditional game is played using a four-sided spinning top, called a *dreidel*, and coins or tokens.

#### Paragraph 2

1. One light is	a. prayers throughout the festival
2. Families also say	b. spinning top
3. schools close	c. eat festive food
4. Families exchange gifts and	d. lit on each night
5. there is also a custom	e. for a week
6. a four-sided	f. of frying or baking food

Put the words into the gaps in the text.

Hanukkah is one of the \_\_\_\_\_ important celebrations in the Jewish calendar. It means the Festival of Lights. It is an eight-day holiday that takes \_\_\_\_\_ each year in November or December. The festival is to celebrate a \_\_\_\_\_ that happened in the Second Temple in Jerusalem. A Syrian king \_\_\_\_\_ the temple from the Jews. In 164BC, a small group of people called the Maccabees revolted against the king and took \_\_\_\_\_ their temple. Their leader Judah Maccabee decided to cleanse the altar by burning olive oil in a special candle holder \_\_\_\_\_ a Menorah. They only had enough to burn for one day, yet miraculously, it \_\_\_\_\_ for eight days and nights. Jewish elders declared an eight-day holiday to commemorate this \_\_\_\_\_.

back  
miracle  
miracle  
most  
burned  
took  
called  
place

Today the festival is \_\_\_\_\_ by lighting the lights of the family Menorah. One light is \_\_\_\_\_ on each night of the holiday until there are eight lights on the \_\_\_\_\_ night. Families also say prayers throughout the festival, especially after meals. In Israel, schools close for a week to \_\_\_\_\_ Hanukkah. Families exchange gifts and eat festive food. Potato pancakes and fruit-\_\_\_\_\_ doughnuts are the most traditional food, but there is also a custom of frying or baking \_\_\_\_\_ in olive oil. Hanukkah is also a time for singing and playing games. There are more \_\_\_\_\_ for Hanukkah than for any other Jewish celebration. The most traditional game is played using a four-sided spinning top, \_\_\_\_\_ a dreidel, and coins or tokens.

filled  
songs  
final  
celebrate  
observed  
called  
food  
lit

Choose the most suitable word in each of the pairs of italics.

Hanukkah is one of the *most / mostly* important celebrations in the Jewish calendar. It means the Festival of Lights. It is an eight-day holiday that *took / takes* place each year in November or December. The festival is to *celebration / celebrate* a miracle that happened in the Second Temple in Jerusalem. A Syrian king *mistook / took* the temple from the Jews. In 164BC, a small *group / groups* of people called the Maccabees revolted against the king and took back their temple. Their leader Judah Maccabee decided to cleanse the altar *by / for* burning olive oil in a special candle holder called a Menorah. They only had enough to burn for one day, *yet / still* miraculously, it burned for eight days and nights. Jewish elders declared an eight-day holiday to commemorate this *miraculous / miracle*.

Today the festival is *observation / observed* by lighting the lights of the family Menorah. One light is *light / lit* on each night of the holiday until there are eight lights on the *finally / final* night. Families also say prayers throughout the festival, especially after meals. In Israel, schools close for a week *for / to* celebrate Hanukkah. Families exchange gifts and eat festive food. Potato pancakes and fruit-filled doughnuts are the most traditional food, but there is also a *customs / custom* of frying or baking food in olive oil. Hanukkah is also a time for singing and *played / playing* games. There are more songs for Hanukkah than for any *another / other* Jewish celebration. The most traditional game is played using a four-sided spinning top, *called / calling* a dreidel, and coins or tokens.

## Multiple Choice

Hanukkah is one of the most (1) \_\_\_\_ celebrations in the Jewish calendar. It means the Festival of Lights. It is an eight-day holiday that takes (2) \_\_\_\_ each year in November or December. The festival is to celebrate a miracle that (3) \_\_\_\_ in the Second Temple in Jerusalem. A Syrian king took the temple from the Jews. In 164BC, a small group of people called the Maccabees revolted (4) \_\_\_\_ the king and took back their temple. Their leader Judah Maccabee decided to cleanse the altar by burning olive oil in a special candle (5) \_\_\_\_ called a Menorah. They only had enough to burn for one day, yet miraculously, it burned for eight days and nights. Jewish elders declared an eight-day holiday to commemorate (6) \_\_\_\_ miracle.

Today the festival is (7) \_\_\_\_ by lighting the lights of the family Menorah. One light is lit on each night of the holiday (8) \_\_\_\_ there are eight lights on the final night. Families also say prayers throughout the festival, especially after meals. In Israel, schools close for a week (9) \_\_\_\_ celebrate Hanukkah. Families exchange gifts and eat festive food. Potato pancakes and fruit-(10) \_\_\_\_ doughnuts are the most traditional food, but there is also a custom of frying or baking food in olive oil. Hanukkah is also a time for singing and playing games. There are more songs for Hanukkah (11) \_\_\_\_ for any other Jewish celebration. The most traditional game is played using a four-sided spinning top, (12) \_\_\_\_ a dreidel, and coins or tokens.

**Put the correct words from this table into the article.**

1.	(a)	importance	(b)	important	(c)	importantly	(d)	imports
2.	(a)	place	(b)	placed	(c)	placing	(d)	places
3.	(a)	happened	(b)	happening	(c)	happens	(d)	happen
4.	(a)	for	(b)	versus	(c)	back	(d)	against
5.	(a)	holds	(b)	hold	(c)	holding	(d)	holder
6.	(a)	than	(b)	this	(c)	these	(d)	that
7.	(a)	observation	(b)	observes	(c)	observed	(d)	observe
8.	(a)	until	(b)	yet	(c)	still	(d)	after
9.	(a)	at	(b)	to	(c)	for	(d)	so
10.	(a)	filled	(b)	fills	(c)	fill	(d)	fill up
11.	(a)	that	(b)	this	(c)	then	(d)	than
12.	(a)	calling	(b)	call	(c)	called	(d)	calls

**Spell the jumbled words (from the text) correctly.**

**Paragraph 1**

1. one of the most important crlsieoabten \_\_\_\_\_
2. The festival is to celebrate a raceilm that happened \_\_\_\_\_
3. lsneeac the altar \_\_\_\_\_
4. unibngr olive oil in a special candle holder \_\_\_\_\_
5. miyrlucusao, it burned for eight days and nights \_\_\_\_\_
6. Jewish elders declared an eight-day holiday to crtammoemeo this \_\_\_\_\_

## Paragraph 2

7. the festival is vredbsoe by lighting the lights
8. say prayers ttrhuouogh the festival
9. Families exgaen gifts
10. eat vistee food
11. a oscmut of frying or baking food in olive oil
12. The most otarliandti game is played

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### Number these lines in the correct order.

- ( ) traditional game is played using a four-sided spinning top, called a dreidel, and coins or tokens.
- ( ) declared an eight-day holiday to commemorate this miracle.
- ( ) to cleanse the altar by burning olive oil in a special candle holder called a Menorah. They only had enough to burn
- ( ) playing games. There are more songs for Hanukkah than for any other Jewish celebration. The most
- ( ) of people called the Maccabees revolted against the king and took back their temple. Their leader Judah Maccabee decided
- ( ) happened in the Second Temple in Jerusalem. A Syrian king took the temple from the Jews. In 164BC, a small group
- ( ) Today the festival is observed by lighting the lights of the family Menorah. One light is lit on each
- ( ) after meals. In Israel, schools close for a week to celebrate Hanukkah. Families exchange gifts and eat
- ( 1 ) Hanukkah is one of the most important celebrations in the Jewish calendar. It means the
- ( ) Festival of Lights. It is an
- ( ) night of the holiday until there are eight lights on the final night. Families also say prayers throughout the festival, especially
- ( ) of frying or baking food in olive oil. Hanukkah is also a time for singing and
- ( ) for one day, yet miraculously, it burned for eight days and nights. Jewish elders
- ( ) eight-day holiday that takes place each year in November or December. The festival is to celebrate a miracle that
- ( ) festive food. Potato pancakes and fruit-filled doughnuts are the most traditional food, but there is also a custom

With a partner, put the words back into the correct order.

1.	one	is	Hanukkah	celebrations	important	most	the	of		
2.	miracle	is	that	to	happened	celebrate	The	a	festival	
3.	altar	burning	oil	the	by	olive	cleanse			
4.	eight	,	days	it	and	burned	nights	for	miraculously	
5.	commemorate	-	this	day	miracle	holiday	an	to	eight	
6.	lights	the	Menorah	the	of	family	lighting			
7.	also	prayers	the	Families	say	throughout	festival			
8.	exchange	and	festive	Families	gifts	eat	food			
9.	of	baking	olive	custom	or	in	a	frying	food	oil
10.	top	a	four	spinning	called	a	sided	,	dreidel	-

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_
9. \_\_\_\_\_
10. \_\_\_\_\_