

HAPPY THANKSGIVING DAY

23rd November

Important facts:

- **Origin:** Thanksgiving originated from a harvest festival celebrated by the Pilgrims in 1621 in Plymouth, Massachusetts, to commemorate a successful harvest season.
- **Tradition:** It's a time for families and friends to come together, typically celebrated on the **fourth Thursday in November in the United States** and on the second Monday in October in Canada.
- **Feasting:** A traditional Thanksgiving meal often includes turkey, stuffing (relleno), mashed potatoes (puré de patatas), cranberry sauce (salsa de arándanos), and pumpkin pie. It's a time of abundant and hearty feasting.
- **Gratitude:** Central to the holiday is the expression of gratitude and thankfulness for the blessings (bendiciones) of the past year. Many families have a tradition of going around the table, sharing what they are thankful for.
- **Parades (desfiles) and Events:** In the U.S., the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York City is a significant event, featuring giant balloons, floats, and performances.
- **Sports:** Thanksgiving is a big day for American football, with numerous games played at both professional and college levels, attracting millions of viewers.
- **National Holiday:** It's a national holiday in the United States and Canada, where people often have the day off from work and school to spend time with loved ones.
- **Symbols:** The cornucopia, or horn of plenty (cuerno de la abundancia), symbolizing abundance, and the turkey are often associated with Thanksgiving.
- **Cultural Variations:** While it's primarily celebrated in North America, other countries and cultures also have similar harvest or thanksgiving celebrations at different times of the year.
- **Community Service:** Some individuals and families engage in charitable (benéfico) activities or volunteer work to help those in need during Thanksgiving, emphasizing the spirit of giving and compassion.

These aspects encapsulate the essence and significance of Thanksgiving, emphasizing gratitude, togetherness, and appreciation for the harvest and blessings of the year.

Reading comprehension

1. When did the Pilgrims celebrate the harvest festival that is considered the origin of Thanksgiving?
 - a. a) 1620

- b. b) 1621
 - c. c) 1600
 - d. d) 1630
2. Which of the following is a traditional food commonly served during Thanksgiving?
 - a. a) Tacos
 - b. b) Sushi
 - c. c) Pizza
 - d. d) Turkey
 3. In which months are Thanksgiving typically celebrated in the United States and Canada respectively?
 - a. a) November and December
 - b. b) November and October
 - c. c) October and November
 - d. d) December and November
 4. What is the central theme of Thanksgiving?
 - a. a) Festive decorations
 - b. b) Giving gifts
 - c. c) Expressing gratitude
 - d. d) Fireworks
 5. What major event takes place in New York City on Thanksgiving?
 - a. a) Fireworks show
 - b. b) Music festival
 - c. c) Thanksgiving parade
 - d. d) Food festival
 6. Which activity is commonly associated with Thanksgiving in terms of sports?
 - a. a) Soccer
 - b. b) Baseball
 - c. c) Basketball
 - d. d) American football
 7. What symbols are often associated with Thanksgiving?
 - a. a) Shamrocks and leprechauns
 - b. b) Cornucopia and turkey
 - c. c) Christmas trees and ornaments
 - d. d) Pumpkins and witches
 8. What value or theme is emphasized by engaging in charitable activities during Thanksgiving?
 - a. a) Selfishness
 - b. b) Greed
 - c. c) Generosity and compassion
 - d. d) Competition