

## **EASTER TRADITIONS**

### **1. Read the article:**

Today let's talk about Easter traditions. Every Christian country and region has its own. In this lesson we will look at a few of them.

Most people associate Easter with Easter eggs, Easter bunnies and Easter egg hunts. Easter though is about Christ. Many Christians celebrate Easter to commemorate the resurrection of Christ. For this reason they go to church over this period.

Easter traditions do vary depending on where you live and what religion you have. A favourite Easter game is egg tossing or egg throwing.

Why? Because the egg is a symbol of the rebirth of the earth in Pagan celebrations of spring and was adopted by early Christians as a symbol of the rebirth of man at Easter. The idea being to toss an egg so it falls on the ground without breaking. The secret is to play it on grassy meadows.

In some countries in Central Europe the girls paint an actual egg.

On Easter Monday in Slovakia they give them to a boy after he has soaked her with water or believe it or not, whipped her with a whip made from willow! It is all to do with fertility! In Poland and Ukraine eggs are often painted in silver and gold.

There is the traditional Easter Egg Hunt, which can be played by kids in the garden, home or these days even in stately homes. There is also the Easter Bunny! Years ago, before emails, people used to send each other Easter cards.

Many people eat lamb on Easter Sunday. It is said lamb was Jesus' last supper. Hot cross buns are eaten on Good Friday. These are buns with a cross on top.

Lastly, pussy willow (male catkins before they come into full flower) is used by many religions on Palm Sunday for decoration in churches.

### **2. Discuss the following questions:**

- 1) What is the article about?
- 2) What do you think about the article?
- 3) What is a pussy willow?
- 4) What is a whip? What is the whip used on?
- 5) What is Easter about?
- 6) In which country are girls soaked with water?
- 7) Who goes to church over Easter?
- 8) Easter is associated with what?
- 9) What is the secret and of what?

**3. Complete the gap-fills with the words in red:**

**meadows / Pagan / Christians / traditions / Christ / vary / secret / church**

Today let's talk about Easter (1)\_\_\_\_\_. Every Christian country and region has its own. In this lesson we will look at a few of them.

Most people associate Easter with Easter eggs, Easter bunnies and Easter egg hunts. Easter though is about Christ. Many (2)\_\_\_\_\_ celebrate Easter to commemorate the resurrection of (3)\_\_\_\_\_.

For this reason they go to (4)\_\_\_\_\_ over this period.

Easter traditions do (5)\_\_\_\_\_ depending on where you live and what religion you have. A favourite Easter game is egg tossing or egg throwing. Why? Because the egg is a symbol of the rebirth of the earth in (6)\_\_\_\_\_ celebrations of spring and was adopted by early Christians as a symbol of the rebirth of man at Easter.

The idea being to toss an egg so it falls on the ground without breaking. The (7)\_\_\_\_\_ is to play it on grassy (8)\_\_\_\_\_.

**fertility / egg / willow / whip / catkins / actual / decoration / traditional**

In some countries in Central Europe the girls paint an (2)\_\_\_\_\_ egg. On Easter Monday in Slovakia they give them to a boy after he has soaked her with water or believe it or not, whipped her with a (3)\_\_\_\_\_ made from willow! It is all to do with (4)\_\_\_\_\_! In Poland and Ukraine eggs are often painted in silver and gold.

There is the (5)\_\_\_\_\_ Easter Egg Hunt, which can be played by kids in the garden, home or these days even in stately homes. There is also the Easter Bunny! Years ago, before emails, people used to send each other Easter cards.

Many people eat lamb on Easter Sunday. It is said lamb was Jesus' last supper. Hot cross buns are

eaten on Good Friday. These are buns with a cross on top. Lastly, pussy (6)\_\_\_\_\_ (male (7)\_\_\_\_\_ before they come into full flower) is used by many religions on Palm Sunday for (8)\_\_\_\_\_ in churches.

**4. Listen to your teacher read the article again and fill in the gaps:**

Today let's talk about \_\_\_\_\_. Every Christian country and region has its own. In this lesson we will look at a few of them. Most people associate Easter with Easter eggs, Easter bunnies and Easter egg hunts.

Easter though is about Christ. Many Christians celebrate Easter to commemorate the \_\_\_\_\_.

For this reason they go to church over this period.

Easter traditions do vary depending on where you live and \_\_\_\_\_.

A favourite Easter game is egg tossing or egg throwing. Why? Because the egg is a symbol of the rebirth of the earth in \_\_\_\_\_ of spring and was adopted by early Christians as a symbol of the rebirth of man at Easter. The idea being to toss an egg so it falls on the ground

without breaking. The secret is to play \_\_\_\_\_. In some countries in Central Europe the girls paint an actual egg.

On Easter Monday in Slovakia they give them to a boy after he has soaked her with water \_\_\_\_\_, whipped her with a whip made from willow! It is all to do with fertility! In Poland and Ukraine eggs are often painted in silver and gold.

There is the traditional \_\_\_\_\_, which can be played by kids in the garden, home or these days even in stately homes. There is also the Easter Bunny! Years ago, before emails, people used to send \_\_\_\_\_. Many people eat lamb on Easter Sunday. It is said lamb was Jesus' last supper. \_\_\_\_\_ eaten on Good Friday.

These are buns with a cross on top.

Lastly, pussy willow (male catkins before they come into full flower) is used by many religions on Palm Sunday for decoration in churches.

