CULTURE

HOLIDAYS IN THE USA

FACTFILE **Holidays in the USA**

On public holidays, schools and offices close. There are about ten public holidays in the United States of America (the USA).

People do different things to celebrate these holidays. People also eat different food on different holidays.

Some public holidays in the USA are:

- ★ Thanksgiving
- ★ Labor Day
- ★ Independence Day
- ★ Martin Luther King Day

61 **1** Look at the photos 1–4. Listen and repeat the words.









2 In pairs, talk about the questions.

1 What colours is the American flag?
2 Are there parades where you live? When?
3 Are there fireworks where you live? When?
4 Do you have barbecues? When?

3 Read the web page and look at the calendar. For this calendar, what *date* is:

Martin Luther King Day?
Thanksgiving?

What *day* is:
Independence Day?

JANUARY						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10

JULY						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11

NOVEMBER						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8

62 **Hi, everyone.**

Can you help me with my school project on American holidays? What are your favourite holidays?

Hi, I'm Megan. My favourite holiday is Thanksgiving. It's on the fourth Thursday in November. On Thanksgiving, we say thank you for the things we've got. We have a big family meal. We eat lots of food together. We eat turkey, potatoes and vegetables. And we eat pumpkin pie for dessert.





4 Read the web page again. What happens on these days? Tick (✓) columns 1–3 of the table.

	1 Martin Luther King Day	2 Independence Day	3 Thanksgiving	4 Labor Day
a family meal				
a barbecue				
a parade				
fireworks				

LIVEWORKSHEETS



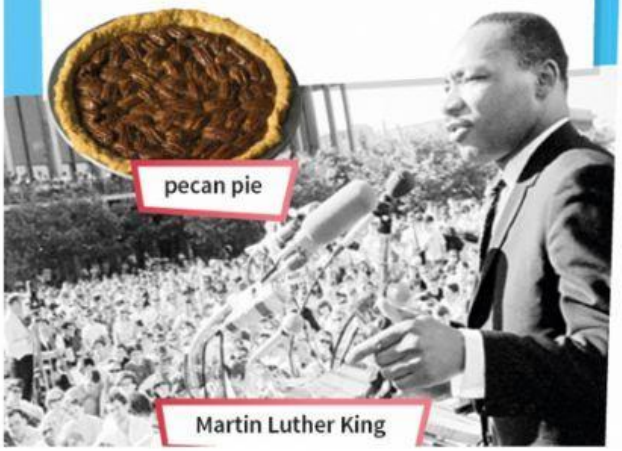
Hello, I'm Jake. My favourite holiday is Independence Day. It's on 4th July. On Independence Day, we celebrate the birthday of the USA – the declaration of independence on 4th July, 1776. Some people go and see parades and hold American flags. In my family, we have a barbecue with friends. We eat burgers and corn on the cob. At night, there are fireworks.





Hi, I'm Sandra. My favourite holiday is Martin Luther King Day (MLK Day). It's on the third Monday in January. On MLK Day, we celebrate Martin Luther King's birthday and we remember his ideas. We sometimes help other people on this day. For example, we visit and talk to old people. In my family, we have a family meal. We eat chicken and sweet potatoes. And we eat pecan pie for dessert.





TALKING POINTS

Do you have a holiday for workers in your country? When is it?

What are your favourite holidays in your country? When are they?

5 **Put the letters in the correct order and write the food words.**

1 o n c r _____ on the cob
2 i p e _____
3 t w s e e _____ potatoes
4 t k y e r u _____
5 g u r b r e s _____

Look at the highlighted words on the web page and check your answers.

63 **6** **Listen to Ava talking about her favourite holiday, Labor Day. Answer a or b.**

1 What month is Labor Day?
a August b September
2 Who does Labor Day celebrate?
a workers b children
3 What does Ava's family have?
a a family meal b a barbecue

63 **7** **Listen again. What happens on Labor Day? Tick (✓) column 4 of the table on page 42.**

PROJECT *A web page*

In small groups, write a web page about a holiday in another English-speaking country. Use the questions as headings. Answer the questions on the web page. Find photos or draw pictures for your web page.

- When is the holiday?
- What is the holiday for?
- What special things do people do?
- What special food do people eat?

Present the web page to the class.

LIVEWORKSHEETS