

Read the text and choose the correct word for each space. For each question circle A, B, C or D.

## SAINT PATRICK'S DAY



Saint Patrick's Day, *Lá Fhéile Pádraig* in Irish, is celebrated on 17<sup>th</sup> March, his religious (1) \_\_\_\_\_ day and the anniversary of his death in 461 AD. The Irish have (2) \_\_\_\_\_ this day as a religious holiday over a thousand years. On St. Patrick's Day, also called St. Paddy's Day or (3) \_\_\_\_\_ Paddy's Day, (4) \_\_\_\_\_ falls during the Christian season of Lent, Irish families would traditionally (5) \_\_\_\_\_ church in the morning and celebrate in the afternoon. Lenten prohibitions against the consumption of meat were forgotten and people (6) \_\_\_\_\_ dance, drink and feast on the traditional meal of Irish bacon and cabbage.

The first St. Patrick's Day parade took place in the United States. Irish soldiers (7) \_\_\_\_\_ in the British military (8) \_\_\_\_\_ through New York City, on March 17<sup>th</sup>, 1792. Along with their music, the parade helped the soldiers to (9) \_\_\_\_\_ with their Irish roots, as (10) \_\_\_\_\_ as with fellow Irishmen serving in the British Army. Over the next thirty-five years, Irish patriotism (11) \_\_\_\_\_ American immigrants flourished.

Today, St. Patrick's Day is celebrated by people of all backgrounds in the United States, Canada and Australia. (12) \_\_\_\_\_ North America is (13) \_\_\_\_\_ to the largest productions, St. Patrick's Day has been celebrated in (14) \_\_\_\_\_ locations far from Ireland, including Japan, Singapore and Russia.

In modern-day Ireland, St. Patrick's Day has traditionally been a religious occasion. (15) \_\_\_\_\_, up until the 1970s, Irish laws (16) \_\_\_\_\_ that pubs (17) \_\_\_\_\_ be closed on 17<sup>th</sup> March. Beginning in 1995, (18) \_\_\_\_\_, the Irish government began a national campaign to use St. Patrick's Day as an opportunity to drive tourism and showcase Ireland to the rest of the world. Last year, (19) \_\_\_\_\_ to one million people took part in Ireland's St. Patrick's festival in Dublin, a multi-day celebration featuring parades, concerts, (20) \_\_\_\_\_ theatre productions and fireworks displays.

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|----------------|-------------|-----------------|------------------|
| 1. A) holy     | B) saint    | C) feast        | D) patron        |
| 2. A) observed | B) watched  | C) seen         | D) perceived     |
| 3. A) easily   | B) simply   | C) plainly      | D) purely        |
| 4. A) when     | B) what     | C) that         | D) which         |
| 5. A) attend   | B) go       | C) assist       | D) visit         |
| 6. A) should   | B) could    | C) might        | D) would         |
| 7. A) serving  | B) joining  | C) assisting    | D) working       |
| 8. A) walked   | B) marched  | C) went         | D) passed        |
| 9. A) link     | B) attach   | C) reconnect    | D) unite         |
| 10. A) soon    | B) far      | C) well         | D) long          |
| 11. A) between | B) among    | C) with         | D) for           |
| 12. A) However | B) Despite  | C) Nevertheless | D) Although      |
| 13. A) house   | B) home     | C) household    | D) residence     |
| 14. A) any     | B) another  | C) other        | D) few           |
| 15. A) Really  | B) Truly    | C) Currently    | D) In fact       |
| 16. A) obliged | B) forced   | C) mandated     | D) required      |
| 17. A) could   | B) should   | C) would        | D) ought         |
| 18. A) while   | B) whereas  | C) even though  | D) however       |
| 19. A) almost  | B) nearly   | C) close        | D) approximately |
| 20. A) outdoor | B) outdoors | C) outside      | D) outer         |