

THE EASTER BONNET PARADE – NEW YORK CITY

"In your Easter bonnet,
with all the frills upon it,
You'll be the grandest lady
in the Easter parade!"



1. Read the text below and use the word given in brackets to form a word that fits in the gap.

The Easter Parade is a New York phenomenon that dates back to the middle of the 1800s. The social elite would attend services at one of the 1) _____ [FASHION] 5th Avenue churches, such as St. Patrick's Cathedral, and parade down the Avenue 2) _____ [AFTER] to give onlookers - and each other - a chance to view their new Easter hats and dresses.

The less well to do would come to gawk at the 3) _____ [CARRY] set and see what the latest trends were. Many handy dressmakers found 4) _____ [INSPIRE] for their middle class clients' wardrobes at the parade. It was a 5) _____ [COMBINE] of religious services, 6) _____ [REAL] TV and haute couture in the days before mass media, when only the 7) _____ [WEALTH] New Yorkers could attend the hottest Paris fashion shows and keep up with the latest fashion trends.

While there is still an element of fashion involved in the modern spectacle, the current version tends to be more 8) _____ [FANTASY]. Live birds nest in bonnets of real flowers and pets are dressed in the latest 5th Avenue doggy wear.

The flamboyant headgear and costumes are paraded down 5th Avenue to the delight of onlookers. You don't need a special 9) _____ [FIT] to join in the fun. Anyone can step out and stroll down the Avenue.

The parade takes place on Fifth Avenue from 49th to 57th Streets. The 10) _____ [ACT] starts at 10 am and goes on for hours. You can join the 11) _____ [OBSERVE] in the viewing stands or along the streets. You can dress up for a chance at being caught in the modern version - the TV camera. Who knows, you may find that you are on the 12) _____ [EVE] news.

Either way, it's a lot of fun!

2. Find words in the text that correspond in meaning to the following definitions.

- _____ : The most powerful, rich or talented people within a particular group, place or society.
- _____ : To look at somebody in a rude, stupid or unthinking way.
- _____ : A grand and impressive event or performance.
- _____ : Hats or other things worn on the head.
- _____ : Walk in a slow, relaxed way.
- _____ : People who make women's or children's clothes.

3. Find synonyms in the text for the following words or expressions.

- Go to : _____
- Observers : _____
- Clothes : _____
- Extravagant : _____
- Pleasure : _____
- Possibility : _____