

Christmas: A Religious Day

A2 | Teens / Adults | Reading + Vocabulary + Discussion | 30-40 minutes

BEFORE YOU READ

Talk with a partner. Do you know why Christians celebrate Christmas?

1. Match the words (1-6) with the definitions (A-F).

- | | | |
|-----------|-------|---|
| 1. church | _____ | A. a time with no fighting |
| 2. star | _____ | B. a place where Christians pray |
| 3. angel | _____ | C. something you give to another person |
| 4. peace | _____ | D. a bright object in the night sky |
| 5. carol | _____ | E. a song people sing at Christmas |
| 6. gift | _____ | F. a messenger in a religious story |

2. Read the article. The bold words are the vocabulary from Activity 1.

- Christmas is a special day for Christians. It remembers the birth of Jesus. The Christmas story says that Jesus was born in Bethlehem.
- In the story, an **angel** tells people about the baby. A **star** helps visitors find him. Many people know this story from a book, a play or a picture.
- Some Christians go to **church** at Christmas. They may sing a **carol**, listen to the story and pray. Families can also eat together at home.
- At Christmas, people often talk about love and **peace**. Some people give a **gift** or help people who need food or support.

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UNDERSTAND, DISCUSS AND WRITE

3. Comprehension. Answer in complete sentences. Use the article to help you.

1. What does Christmas remember for Christians?

2. Where was Jesus born in the story?

3. What helps visitors find the baby?

4. What may people do at church?

5. What do people often talk about at Christmas?

4. Discuss. Talk in small groups. Give reasons and examples.

- Do you like singing holiday songs?
- What gifts are good for families?
- How can people help others at a holiday?
- What is an important day in your culture?

5. Homework: Write a short paragraph.

Write 5-6 sentences about an important day in your culture. What do people do on this day?

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ANSWER KEY AND TEACHING NOTE

Vocabulary matching

1. church - B
2. star - D
3. angel - F
4. peace - A
5. carol - E
6. gift - C

Comprehension answers

1. What does Christmas remember for Christians?

It remembers the birth of Jesus.

2. Where was Jesus born in the story?

He was born in Bethlehem.

3. What helps visitors find the baby?

A star helps them find the baby.

4. What may people do at church?

They may sing, listen to the story and pray.

5. What do people often talk about at Christmas?

They often talk about love and peace.

Teaching note

Compare matching answers before reading. Accept other article-supported comprehension answers; discussion and homework answers vary. Discuss customs respectfully, distinguishing religious, cultural and personal traditions.