

Christmas: Family Traditions

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

BEFORE YOU READ

Talk with a partner. What do people do with family at the end of the year?

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

- | | | |
|-------------|-------|---|
| 1. tree | _____ | A. food eaten at one time |
| 2. decorate | _____ | B. a tall plant with a trunk and branches |
| 3. present | _____ | C. parents, children and other relatives |
| 4. meal | _____ | D. make something look nice |
| 5. holiday | _____ | E. a special day when people do not work |
| 6. family | _____ | F. a gift for a person |

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

- Christmas is a **holiday** in many countries. For some people, it is a religious day. For other people, it is a time for friends and **family**.
- Many homes have a Christmas **tree**. People **decorate** it with lights, small balls and stars. Shops and streets often have lights too.
- Families may share a special **meal**. The food is different in each country. Some people cook at home, and some people go to a restaurant.
- Many people give a **present** to a friend or family member. A present does not need to be expensive. A card, food or time together can also be kind.

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UNDERSTAND, DISCUSS AND WRITE

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

1. Who do people often spend Christmas with?

2. What do people put on a Christmas tree?

3. Where can people see holiday lights?

4. Is Christmas food the same in every country?

5. Does a present need to be expensive?

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

- Do you like decorations?
- What food do you eat with family?
- Is a card a good present? Why?
- What holiday do you enjoy?

5. Homework: Write a short paragraph.

Write 5-6 sentences about a holiday meal or a family tradition.

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ANSWER KEY AND TEACHING NOTE

Vocabulary matching

1. tree - B
2. decorate - D
3. present - F
4. meal - A
5. holiday - E
6. family - C

Comprehension answers

1. Who do people often spend Christmas with?

They often spend it with friends and family.

2. What do people put on a Christmas tree?

They put lights, small balls and stars on it.

3. Where can people see holiday lights?

They can see them at homes, shops and on streets.

4. Is Christmas food the same in every country?

No. The food is different in each country.

5. Does a present need to be expensive?

No, it does not need to be expensive.

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.