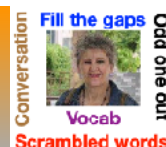


A BRIEF HISTORY



THANKSGIVING

Read a short extract about the history of Thanksgiving and answer the quiz.

American Thanksgiving can be traced back to **1620** when about 100 European travelers set sail from England, most looking for religious freedom, on the **Mayflower**.

After landing in Cape Cod in November, these **Pilgrims** began to settle in the lands of the Algonquin Tribes of present-day Massachusetts and New England.

Over half of the new population perished over those first cold months due to inadequate housing and nourishment. The few survivors held a three-day **feast** to celebrate the **harvest** and to demonstrate thanks to the native tribes who helped them survive the harsh winter.

Over the next couple of centuries, the harvest was celebrated but not in the traditional sense of a holiday. Colonies, towns, and villages would hold their own “Thanksgivings” to honor victories over frequent battles with native tribes.

President Teddy Roosevelt declared the **third Thursday of November** to be **Thanksgiving**, and now, 100 years or so down the road, Thanksgiving feels very much like it might have done in 1620.

People who love each other get together, **eat together, relax together**, give **thanks for their tidings**, and of course, **watch American football!**

Extracted from: <https://www.makaitalia.com/en/a-short-history-of-thanksgiving/>

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Quiz

1. Where did the people come from who settled in present-day Massachusetts and New England?

2. How did they travel from England to America?

3. What were these people known as?

4. What did the people celebrate?

5. What do we call a celebration where people come together and enjoy eating all kinds of food?

6. On what day do Americans celebrate Thanksgiving?

7. Can you name three foods that Americans eat during Thanksgiving?

8. What do the Americans do on this day besides eating?



Teacher's Key

1. Where did the people come from who settled in present-day Massachusetts and New England?
England.
2. How did they travel from England to America?
By ship.
3. What were these people known as?
Pilgrims.
4. What did the people celebrate?
A good harvest.
5. What do we call a celebration where people come together and enjoy eating all kinds of food?
Feast.
6. On what day do Americans celebrate Thanksgiving?
The third Thursday in November.
7. Can you name three foods that Americans eat during Thanksgiving?
Corn, mashed potatoes, candy sweet potatoes, turkey, cranberries, pumpkin pie, etc.
8. What do the Americans do on this day besides eating?
They watch American football.