



THANKSGIVING

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B1–C1 • Writing and Reflection

Choose one writing task. Plan your ideas, organise your paragraphs, and check your tone and evidence before you finish.

Task 1 — An informed article (250–300 words)	2 — A balanced opinion essay (300–350 words)	Task 3 — A comparative reflection (220–280 words)
Write an article for an international student magazine explaining Thanksgiving in the United States. Include contemporary traditions, the familiar story often told about 1621, and a wider historical perspective. Make clear which details are well established and where interpretations differ.	Prompt: “Public holidays should preserve tradition while making space for difficult history.” Discuss both sides and give your own view. Use examples and address at least one counterargument.	Compare Thanksgiving with a celebration or public holiday you know. Discuss what brings people together, whose stories are represented, and how the celebration has changed over time. If you do not celebrate holidays, compare two public celebrations you have studied.

Planning framework

1. Purpose: What do I want my reader to understand?
2. Context: Which key facts does the reader need?
3. Perspectives: Whose experiences should be included?
4. Evidence: Which reliable sources support my points?
5. Balance: Have I explained complexity without flattening differences?
6. Conclusion: What should the reader take away?

Self-edit checklist

- My opening clearly introduces the topic and purpose.
- Each paragraph has one main idea and supporting detail.
- I distinguish facts, interpretations, and personal opinions.
- I avoid generalisations such as “all Native people think...” or “everyone celebrates...”.
- I use respectful, precise language when discussing historical harm.
- I checked grammar, punctuation, spelling, and word count.

Final reflection

Has your understanding of Thanksgiving or public holidays changed after this lesson? What is one question you would like to explore further?

Assessment guide

Strong work is accurate, well organised, supported by relevant examples or sources, aware of different perspectives, and written in a respectful tone. Accept different conclusions when they are reasoned and evidence-based.