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The 4 page 60 minute ESL British English lesson – 05/04/17

Easter

Easter is a Christian holiday. Easter can be between March 19 and April 25. The dates vary because of the March equinox. Many countries have public holidays on Good Friday, Easter Sunday, and Easter Monday.

Good Friday commemorates the crucifixion and death of Jesus. His body was then moved to a cave where it was placed in a tomb. The cave's entrance was covered by a giant stone put there by Roman soldiers. Many Christians remember this by going to church on Good Friday. Easter Sunday is when Christians celebrate the resurrection of Christ, after his crucifixion.

Easter for many, is all about chocolate bunnies and Easter eggs (chocolate eggs). The Easter bunny originates from the pagan festival of Eastre. Eastre was a goddess worshipped by the Anglo-Saxons. Her symbol was the rabbit.

Easter games to play include: rolling eggs down hills, an egg and spoon race, and egg tossing. Easter egg hunts are quite popular in the garden.

Easter is a time of celebration. It is when eggs are decorated, either by dying them, or by painting them. In Eastern Europe, in Ukraine and Slovakia, you will find finely painted eggs in silver and gold. Eggs are a symbol of fertility and life.

Easter Markets in Central Europe have become highly popular. These include ones in Nuremburg (Germany), Prague (Czech Republic), and Vienna (Austria). All feature many different eggs! Many people like to send Easter cards. It is the fourth most popular time for sending cards, after Christmas, Mother's Day, and Valentine's Day.

Easter Monday sees many girls in Eastern Europe whipped by boys, using handmade whips, made from willow. The girls are also splashed or soaked by a bucket of cold water in bed. The lucky few get a dip in the stream. It's about fertility. Nice!

SPEAKING – WARM UP

What is Easter? Go round the room swapping details with others.

LISTENING – WRITING - DICTATION

The teacher will read some lines of the article slowly to the class.

READING

Students should now read the article aloud, swapping readers every paragraph.

SPEAKING - UNDERSTANDING

1) The article – Students check any unknown vocabulary or phrases with the teacher.

2) The article - Students should look through the article with the teacher.

- 1) What is the article about?
- 2) What do you think about the article?
- 3) Was this an easy or difficult article to understand?
- 4) Was this a boring or interesting article?
- 5) Discuss the article.

3) Article quiz - Students quiz each other in pairs. Score a point for each correct answer. Score half a point each time you have to look at the article for help. See who can get the highest score!

Student A questions

- 1) Name three countries.
- 2) What is Easter?
- 3) What is Valentine's Day?
- 4) What happens on Easter Monday?
- 5) What is an egg and spoon race?

Student B questions

- 1) Who was Eastre?
- 2) Which countries paint their eggs silver and gold?
- 3) What happened on Good Friday?
- 4) What have whips and water got to do with girls? Why?
- 5) Why do the dates for Easter vary?

Category: Lifestyle/ Tradition / Easter
Level: Intermediate / Upper Intermediate

WRITING / SPEAKING

In pairs. On the board write as many words about '**Easter**'. *One-two minutes.* Compare with other teams. Using your words compile a short dialogue together.

WRITING / SPEAKING

In pairs – think of three about Easter from the article. Write them below and discuss.

- 1) _____
- 2) _____
- 3) _____

Think of three things not in the article about Easter. Write them below and discuss.

- 1) _____
- 2) _____
- 3) _____

SPEAKING – EASTER 3

In groups/pairs – You go into a travel agent. You wish to spend Easter somewhere. Talk to the travel agent (one of you) about some last minute ideas. Book a destination!

SPEAKING – EASTER - 4

In groups/pairs - Prepare a one minute speech about **Easter**. Stand up and deliver it. *Allow 2-3 mins to prepare some notes.*

DISCUSSION

Student A questions

- 1) What do you think about what you've read?
- 2) What did you do last Easter?
- 3) What was your most memorable Easter? Why?
- 4) Do you go home for Easter? Explain.
- 5) Do you give or receive Easter eggs? Explain.
- 6) What does Easter mean to you?
- 7) Is Easter too commercial? Explain.
- 8) Should we all be going to church at Easter? Why? Why not?
- 9) Should we all get a longer holiday at Easter? Why? Why not?
- 10) Is Easter about fertility, about Christ, about chocolate eggs, or something else?

SPEAKING – ROLEPLAY 1

In groups. One of you is the interviewer. The others are one of the following people. You are in the *Discussion FM* radio studio in London. Today's interview is about: *Easter*.

- 1) Someone who likes traditions and who has visited an Easter market.
- 2) Someone from a chocolate egg factory.
- 3) Someone who goes to church at Easter.
- 4) Someone who paints eggs.

The teacher will choose some groups to roleplay their interview in front of the class.

SPEAKING - ROLEPLAY 2

Student A is a barman/barmaid in a café bar. *Student B* is at the bar. The conversation is about **Easter**. *2 mins.*

SPEAKING - DISCUSSION - 5

Allow 10 minutes – As a class.

Easter – What it means to you today

The teacher can moderate the session.

DISCUSSION

Student B questions

- 1) Did the headline make you want to read the article?
- 2) Have you ever visited an Easter market? If yes, was it good?
- 3) Do you send Easter cards? Explain.
- 4) What do you think of the East European tradition of the boys whipping the girls or splashing them with water?
- 5) Have you ever been splashed with water or thrown in a stream?
- 6) Had you heard of the goddess Eastre before? Explain further.
- 7) Have you ever taken part in an egg and spoon race? If yes, did you win?
- 8) Why are eggs the fertility of life? Explain.
- 9) Would you like to go away for Easter?
- 10) Did you like this discussion?

GAP FILL: READING

Easter

Easter is a Christian holiday. Easter can be between March 19 and April 25. The dates (1)___ because of the March equinox. Many countries have public holidays on Good Friday, Easter Sunday, and Easter Monday. Good Friday commemorates the (2)___ and death of Jesus. His body was then moved to a cave where it was placed in a (3)__. The cave's (4)___ was covered by a giant stone put there by Roman soldiers. Many Christians remember this by going to church on Good Friday. Easter Sunday is when Christians celebrate the (5)___ of Christ, after his crucifixion. Easter for many, is all about (6)___ bunnies and Easter eggs (chocolate eggs). The Easter (7)___ originates from the pagan festival of Eastre. Eastre was a goddess worshipped by the Anglo-Saxons. Her symbol was the (8)___.

rabbit / chocolate / resurrection / vary / tomb / entrance / crucifixion / bunny

(1)___ games to play include: rolling eggs down hills, an egg and spoon race, and egg tossing. Easter egg hunts are quite (2)___ in the garden. Easter is a time of celebration. It is when eggs are decorated, either by dyeing them, or by painting them. In Eastern Europe, in Ukraine and Slovakia, you will find finely painted (3)___ in silver and gold. Eggs are a (4)___ of fertility and life.

Easter Markets in Central Europe have become highly popular. These include ones in Nuremburg (Germany), Prague (Czech Republic), and Vienna (Austria). All (5)___ many different eggs! Many people like to send Easter cards. It is the fourth most popular time for sending cards, after Christmas, Mother's Day, and Valentine's Day. Easter Monday sees many girls in Eastern Europe whipped by boys, using handmade (6)___, made from willow. The girls are also splashed or soaked by a (7)___ of cold water in bed. The lucky few get a dip in the stream. It's about (8)___ . Nice!

whips / fertility / popular / symbol / eggs / Easter / bucket / feature

GAP FILL: GRAMMAR

Easter

Easter is a Christian holiday. Easter can be between March 19 and April 25. The dates vary (1)___ of the March equinox. (2)___ countries have public holidays on Good Friday, Easter Sunday, and Easter Monday. Good Friday commemorates the crucifixion and death of Jesus. (3)___ body was (4)___ moved to a cave (5)___ it was placed in a tomb. The cave's entrance was covered by a giant stone put there by Roman soldiers. Many Christians remember (6)___ by going to church on Good Friday. Easter Sunday is (7)___ Christians celebrate the resurrection of Christ, after his crucifixion. Easter for many, is all about chocolate bunnies and Easter eggs (chocolate eggs). The Easter bunny originates from the pagan festival of Eastre. Eastre was a goddess worshipped by the Anglo-Saxons. (8)___ symbol was the rabbit.

when / where / then / many / because / this / his / her

Easter games to play include: rolling eggs down hills, an egg and spoon race, and egg tossing. Easter egg hunts are quite popular in the garden. Easter is a time (1)___ celebration. (2)___ is when eggs are decorated, either by dyeing them, or by painting them. In Eastern Europe, in Ukraine and Slovakia, you will find finely painted eggs in silver (3)___ gold. Eggs are a symbol of fertility and life.

Easter Markets in Central Europe have become highly popular. These include ones in Nuremburg (Germany), Prague (Czech Republic), and Vienna (Austria). All feature many different eggs! Many people like to send Easter cards. It is the fourth most popular time (4)___ sending cards, after Christmas, Mother's Day, and Valentine's Day. Easter Monday sees many girls in Eastern Europe whipped by boys, using handmade whips, made from willow. (5)___ girls are also splashed (6)___ soaked (7)___ a bucket of cold water (8)___ bed. The lucky few get a dip in the stream. It's about fertility. Nice!

for / by / of / it / or / in / the / and



GAP FILL: LISTENING

WRITING/SPELLING

Easter

Easter is a _____. Easter can be between March 19 and April 25. The dates vary because of the March equinox. Many countries have public holidays on Good Friday, Easter Sunday, and Easter Monday. Good Friday commemorates the _____ of Jesus. His body was then moved to a cave where it was placed in a tomb. The cave's entrance was covered by a giant stone put there by Roman soldiers. Many Christians remember this by going to church on Good Friday. _____ is when Christians celebrate the resurrection of Christ, _____.

Easter for many, is all about chocolate bunnies and Easter eggs (chocolate eggs). The Easter bunny originates from the pagan festival of Eastre. Eastre was a goddess worshipped by the Anglo-Saxons. Her symbol was the rabbit. Easter games to play include: rolling eggs down hills, an egg and spoon race, _____. Easter egg hunts are quite popular in the garden.

Easter is a time of celebration. It is when eggs are decorated, either by dying them, _____.

In Eastern Europe, _____, you will find finely painted eggs in silver and gold. Eggs are a symbol of fertility and life. _____ Europe have become highly popular. These include ones in Nuremburg (Germany), Prague (Czech Republic), and Vienna (Austria). All feature many different eggs! Many people like to send Easter cards. It is the fourth most popular time for sending cards, after Christmas, Mother's Day, and Valentine's Day.

Easter Monday sees many girls in Eastern Europe whipped by boys, _____, made from willow. The girls are also splashed or soaked by a bucket of cold water in bed. The lucky few _____. It's about fertility. Nice!

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WRITING / SPEAKING

1) On the board - In pairs/As a class, list **10 different things about Easter**. Five minutes. Talk briefly about each of them.

2) Sentence starters - Finish these sentence starters. Correct your mistakes. Compare what other people have written.

- 1) Easter _____
- 2) I think _____
- 3) Easter today _____

3) Write down 50 words about: *Easter*. Your words can be read out in class.

4) Homework - Write and send a 200 word email to your teacher about: ***Easter***.

SPELLING

The teacher will ask the class individually to spell the following words that are in the article. Afterwards check your answers.

- 1) Christian
- 2) resurrection
- 3) crucifixion
- 4) church
- 5) tossing
- 6) celebration
- 7) when
- 8) dying
- 9) these
- 10) Vienna

SPELLING

Use the following ratings:

- Pass = 12**
- Good = 15**
- Very good = 18**
- Excellent = 20**

- 11) Nuremburg
- 12) handmade
- 13) whips
- 14) fertility
- 15) popular
- 16) willow
- 17) bucket
- 18) soldiers
- 19) Eastre
- 20) goddess

Easter – 05th April 2017