

The Easter Story: A Year 4 Reading Challenge

Learning objective: To demonstrate comprehension of the narrative structure and historical context of the Easter story, focusing on key themes and vocabulary.

Read the summary passage provided below carefully. Use your knowledge of the Easter narrative to answer the ten questions that follow. Good luck!

The Easter story begins during the festival of Passover in the ancient city of Jerusalem. It follows the journey of Jesus, who entered the city to celebrate with his followers. Throughout the week, many events occurred, including the Last Supper, a final meal shared with his disciples. Following a time of great challenge and sorrow, the narrative concludes with the Resurrection, an event celebrated on Easter Sunday. For many, this story is a cornerstone of Christian history, representing themes of hope, new beginnings, and sacrifice. Today, traditions such as exchanging eggs and holding special services reflect these themes, marking the arrival of spring and the importance of the story in global culture.

Word bank: Resurrection · Passover · Jerusalem · Tradition · Symbolism · Gospel · Reflection

1. 1. In which ancient city does the Easter story take place? A) Rome B) Jerusalem* C) Athens D) London (1 mark)

2. 2. True or False: The Easter story takes place during the festival of Passover. (1 mark)

3. 3. What was the name of the final meal shared with the disciples? (One word answer) (1 mark)

4. 4. The event celebrated on Easter Sunday is known as the: A) Passover B) Last Supper C) Resurrection* D) Spring Equinox (1 mark)

5. 5. Which animal is traditionally associated with Easter as a symbol of new life? A) Lion B) Owl C) Rabbit* D) Dolphin (1 mark)

6. 6. True or False: The passage states that the story is a cornerstone of Christian history. (1 mark)

7. 7. What season is often associated with the timing of Easter? (One word answer) (1 mark)

8. 8. Which of these is NOT mentioned as a theme of the Easter story? A) Hope B) Sacrifice C) New beginnings D) Anger* (1 mark)

9. 9. What is the historical document type that records these events? A) A map B) A Gospel* C) A diary D) A poem (1 mark)

10. 10. True or False: The story mentions that the events occurred in a modern, brand-new city. (1 mark)

Draw: Draw a scene that represents 'new beginnings' as described in the story, such as a garden in spring, incorporating a pattern inspired by Zara the zebra's artistic style.



Extension challenge: 1. Explain why the concept of 'new beginnings' is significant to the Easter story. 2. Compare and contrast how different families might celebrate Easter today. 3. Justify your answer: Why do you think stories like this are preserved for thousands of years? 4. What might happen if the traditions of Easter were never recorded in history? 5. If Ellie the elephant were to recount this history, what specific details would she likely remember most clearly and why? 6. Design a new tradition that focuses on the theme of 'hope' and explain its symbolism.