

Easter Traditions and Meanings: A Quiz with Max and Ellie

Learning objective: To identify the core themes of Easter within the Christian faith and understand the origins of common cultural traditions.

Read the questions carefully. Some require a single word, while others ask you to choose the best option. Max the monkey is helping you with the maths of the calendar, and Ellie the elephant is sharing her historical knowledge!

Answer Key: 1.C, 2.True, 3.Lent, 4.A, 5.True, 6.Crucifixion, 7.B, 8.False, 9.Resurrection, 10.B. Background: Christians celebrate Easter as the most important festival in the faith, marking the return of life after winter and the belief in new beginnings.

Word bank: Resurrection · Lent · Crucifixion · Spring · Hope · Good Friday · Easter Sunday

1. **1. What is the name of the 40-day period of reflection leading up to Easter? A) Advent B) Half-term C) Lent* D) Summer (1 mark)**
2. **2. True or False: Easter is considered a 'movable feast' because it falls on a different date each year depending on the moon. (1 mark)**
3. **3. Which season does Easter usually occur in within the Northern Hemisphere? (1 mark)**
4. **4. On which day do Christians remember the event of the Crucifixion? A) Good Friday* B) Maundy Thursday C) Easter Monday D) Ash Wednesday (1 mark)**
5. **5. True or False: Many people give up certain treats or habits during the period before Easter. (1 mark)**
6. **6. What is the specific term for the event where Christians believe Jesus returned to life on the third day after his death? (1 mark)**
7. **7. Why are eggs often used as symbols at Easter time? A) They are cheap B) They symbolise new life* C) They are easy to paint D) They are a type of vegetable (1 mark)**
8. **8. True or False: Hot cross buns are traditionally eaten at Christmas time. (1 mark)**

9. 9. What does the cross on a hot cross bun represent? A) A map B) A window C) The shape of the cross D) A maths sign (1 mark)

10. 10. Which of these is a traditional colour associated with Easter? A) Black B) Yellow* C) Grey D) Navy (1 mark)

Draw: Draw a scene that represents 'New Beginnings' in nature, which is a key theme of Easter. Include a symbol of spring such as a sprouting bulb or a chick.



Extension challenge: Greater Depth Questions: 1. Explain why the date of Easter changes every year. 2. Compare and contrast the religious meaning of Easter with the cultural traditions (like egg hunts) we see today. 3. Justify why symbols like the egg or the butterfly are used to represent the concept of 'Resurrection'. 4. What might happen if we stopped observing traditions like Lent? 5. Why do you think different cultures around the world have developed their own unique ways of celebrating the arrival of spring? 6. Imagine you were asked to design a new symbol for Easter that represents 'Hope'. Describe your design and justify your choice of colours and shapes.