

The Easter Story: A Historical and Cultural Quiz

Learning objective: To understand the origins and traditions of the Easter story, exploring the narrative structure and symbolic themes within a Year 5 historical and cultural context.

Read the summary passage carefully, then use your knowledge to answer the questions below. Think critically about the significance of the traditions described.

Answer Key: 1.C, 2.True, 3.False, 4.New life, 5.B, 6.A, 7.Lent, 8.True, 9.Spring Equinox, 10.Easter Sunday.

Note: The Easter story is a foundational narrative for Christians, representing reflection and the hope of renewal. In the UK, this is often marked by the consumption of hot cross buns, which feature a cross to represent the crucifixion. Eggs are widely used as symbols of new life, reflecting the theme of the Resurrection.

Word bank: Resurrection · Symbolism · Tradition · Observance · Springtime · Narrative · Significance

1. 1. What does the cross on a traditional hot cross bun symbolise? A) The start of spring B) A secret recipe C) The crucifixion* D) A game of noughts and crosses (1 mark)

2. 2. True or False: The Easter story is traditionally associated with themes of renewal and new life. (True/False) (1 mark)

3. 3. True or False: The Easter story has no connection to any specific religious tradition. (True/False) (1 mark)

4. 4. In many cultures, why are eggs used as a common symbol during this period? (1 mark)

5. 5. Which of these is a traditional UK food associated with the Easter period? A) Christmas pudding B) Hot cross bun* C) Pumpkin pie D) Strawberry tart (1 mark)

6. 6. What is the name of the period of reflection that precedes Easter? A) Lent* B) Summer C) Winter D) Autumn (1 mark)

7. 7. How many days long is the period of Lent usually observed? (One word answer) (1 mark)

8. 8. True or False: The date of Easter changes every year because it is linked to the lunar calendar. (True/False) (1 mark)

9. 9. Easter often falls near which astronomical event related to the sun? (Two words) (1 mark)

10. 10. What is the day called that marks the celebration of the Resurrection? (Two words) (1 mark)

Draw: Draw a scene that represents 'New Life' in springtime, incorporating a pattern inspired by traditional Easter egg designs.



Extension challenge: 1. Explain why cultural traditions often use symbols like eggs or bread to tell a story. 2. Compare and contrast how different communities might observe the arrival of spring. 3. Justify why symbols are sometimes more effective than words for teaching history. 4. What might happen if we stopped celebrating ancient traditions? 5. If you were designing a new tradition to represent 'renewal' in your school, what would it be and why? 6. Research and write a short paragraph explaining the link between the lunar calendar and the date of Easter.