

The Springtime Traditions: An Easter Narrative

Learning objective: To analyse the themes and historical origins of Easter traditions through a descriptive narrative.

Read the passage carefully, then answer the questions below. Think about how the author uses descriptive language to convey the feeling of the season.

As the spring equinox arrives, the world begins to stir from its winter slumber. Ellie the elephant, with her incredible memory for stories and history, often gathers her friends to discuss the meaning behind the changing seasons. She explains that Easter is a time steeped in history, representing renewal and the return of light. In many cultures, the egg has been used for centuries to symbolise new life and the potential of the future. Just as the crocuses push through the soil after the frost, these traditions remind us that growth is always possible. For many families, this time of year involves the simple joy of sharing a meal, perhaps including hot cross buns, which have been a part of British heritage since the 12th century. Whether it is the exchange of small gifts or the quiet observation of the season, the focus remains on hope, community, and the beauty of the natural world waking up.

Word bank: renewal · tradition · symbolise · equinox · bountiful · heritage · commemoration

1. According to the text, what does the egg symbolise in the context of Easter traditions? (2 marks)

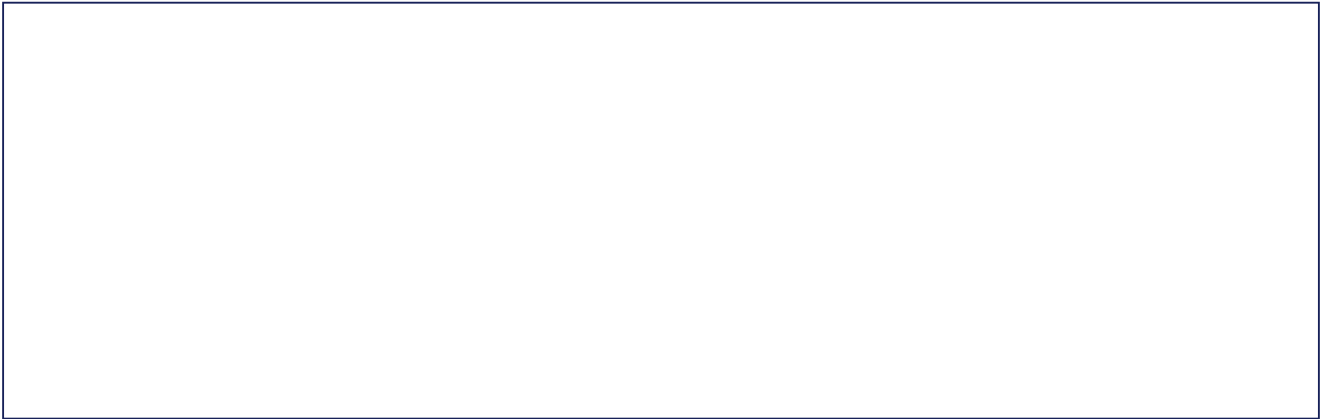
2. Explain why Ellie is the perfect character to teach her friends about the history of Easter. (2 marks)

3. How does the author use the imagery of 'crocuses pushing through the soil' to reflect the theme of the season? (2 marks)

4. Identify two traditions mentioned in the passage and explain why they are significant. (3 marks)

5. Find and copy one word from the text that means 'a long-held custom or belief'. (1 mark)

Draw: Draw a scene of a garden in early spring, including symbols of new life like eggs, _____ flowers, or budding trees, inspired by the themes of renewal in the passage.



Extension challenge: Research one other spring celebration from a different culture. Write a short paragraph comparing its themes to the ones described in Ellie's story.