

Easter: Traditions, Symbols and Significance

Learning objective: To understand the religious significance of Easter for Christians and explore how the festival is observed through traditions and symbolism.

Read each question carefully and use your knowledge of Christian beliefs and Easter traditions to provide detailed, thoughtful answers.

Easter is the most significant festival in the Christian calendar, marking the culmination of Holy Week. It involves a period of preparation known as Lent, followed by the solemnity of Good Friday, which commemorates the crucifixion of Jesus. The festival concludes with Easter Sunday, celebrating the Resurrection. Beyond the religious narrative, Easter is widely associated with symbols of new life, such as eggs and spring flowers, representing hope and renewal. Christians worldwide attend services to reflect on these events, while many families also participate in cultural traditions that have evolved over centuries.

Word bank: Resurrection · Crucifixion · Lent · Good Friday · Easter Sunday · New Life · Symbolism · Reflection · Sacrifice

1. Explain the significance of the 'Resurrection' in the Christian faith. Why is this event considered the focal point of the Easter festival? (2 marks)

2. Max the monkey is confused about why eggs are used as a symbol during Easter. Can you explain the symbolism of the egg and how it relates to the theme of 'new life'? (2 marks)

3. Compare and contrast the mood and purpose of Good Friday with the mood and purpose of Easter Sunday. How do these two days differ in their focus? (3 marks)

4. Justify your answer: Why do you think many Christian traditions involve a period of preparation, like Lent, before celebrating a major festival? (2 marks)

5. What might happen if the symbols of Easter, such as spring flowers and eggs, were removed from the festival? How would this change the way people perceive the season? (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a scene that represents the theme of 'New Life' at Easter. Include at least three symbols of spring and explain in a sentence below your drawing why you chose these specific items.



Extension challenge: Leo the lion is writing a poem about the concept of 'renewal'. Write a two-stanza poem reflecting on how nature and faith both celebrate the idea of a fresh start during the spring season. Use sophisticated vocabulary to describe the transition from winter to spring.