

What's Cooking?



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It's time to celebrate the holidays. Many people celebrate with special foods.

Something Smells Good!

People from different cultures eat special foods during the holidays.

Christmas is a Christian holiday. Many people bake and decorate cookies at Christmastime.

Diwali is a Hindu holiday. Many people celebrate the holiday with sweets called mithai (mih-TAH-ee).

Hanukkah is a Jewish holiday. Many people make latkes. Those are fried potato pancakes.

Kwanzaa is an African American holiday. Many people eat black-eyed peas. They are thought to bring good luck.

Las Posadas is a Latin American Christian holiday. People eat tamales. Tamales are corn dough filled with stuffing and wrapped in corn husks.

Ramadan is a Muslim holiday. Many people eat lamb, spicy chickpeas, and fig cake.

celebrate

 cel · e · brate

Definition

verb

1. to honor something or make it special by giving gifts or doing things that people enjoy.

Our family celebrates holidays with a special dinner.

We celebrated her birthday with a big party.

Advanced Definition

transitive verb

1. to observe or commemorate (an occasion or event), as with gifts, festivities, or special rituals.

They celebrated their daughter's birthday with a small party.

Christians celebrate Easter in the spring.

America celebrated its bicentennial in 1976.

2. to perform (a religious ceremony or ritual).

The priest will celebrate a special Mass on that day.

3. to praise or gratefully acknowledge.

His music celebrates freedom.

Every day I celebrate living in such a beautiful place as this.

intransitive verb

1. to observe or commemorate a happy occasion or event with special ceremonies or festivities.

She passed her exams, so now we're all celebrating.

Spanish cognate

celebrar: The Spanish word *celebrar* means celebrate.

These are some examples of how the word or forms of the word are used:

1. March is National Nutrition Month. You can **celebrate** this special month by learning how to eat healthfully.
2. Artists make pottery and other crafts. They often sell their crafts at powwows. A powwow is a festival that **celebrates** Native American life.
3. It is time to **celebrate** poetry. Poetry is a type of writing that lets people express, or show, their emotions. Some poems rhyme, and some do not.
4. The Rose Harvest Festival in Bulgaria takes place in June. People **celebrate** with folk music, dances, and traditional costumes. Many roses grow in Bulgaria. Those flowers are used to make products such as perfume and chocolate.
5. To **celebrate** Earth Day, people get together once a year to think about ways to protect Earth. But many people think that every day should be Earth Day. They say people should always work to stop and clean up the land and water.
6. People **celebrate** the New Year with parades, decorations, and gifts. Everyone visits family and friends. On New Year's Eve, the whole family gathers for a feast. After dinner, the family stays up playing games. They leave the lights on in the house all night.

culture cul · ture**Definition****noun**

1. the language, ideas, inventions, and art of a particular group of people.

American culture has been influenced by the cultures of people from other countries.

Advanced Definition**noun**

1. the sum of the language, customs, beliefs, and art considered characteristic of a particular group of people.

The Catholic church has played a large role in the development of French culture.

The drive-in movie was a part of American culture that seems lost now.

2. the artistic and intellectual endeavors of a society or social class, as in the areas of music, art, fashion, and literature, or the works that are produced from these endeavors, esp. those considered of good taste and high value.

She feared that her children, growing up on this isolated farm, would never be exposed to culture.

3. a developed state of refinement through experience or training in the arts and worldly affairs.

She returned from her travels abroad as a woman of culture.

4. improvement of the mind or body through special training.

An international festival for physical culture will be taking place in Moscow this spring.

5. the raising of plants or animals.

Silkworm culture began in China thousands of years ago.

6. a colony of bacteria or other microscopic living matter, often produced for medical purposes or scientific experimentation.

The scientists will examine the culture for traces of the virus.

transitive verb

1. to cultivate.

Pearls grow naturally inside mollusks, but they can be cultured by humans as well.

2. to grow or produce (microscopic organisms) in a special medium.

Scientists have been attempting to culture this special type of cell for some time.

Spanish cognate

cultura: The Spanish word *cultura* means culture.

These are some examples of how the word or forms of the word are used:

1. China's art, food, and government influenced all the nearby **cultures**.
2. [Confucius'] philosophy was the official philosophy of China for over 2,000 years. It is still a major part of Chinese **culture**.
3. During the summer and other school vacations, the family travels around the United States and Canada. They perform their songs and share their **culture**.
4. Many ancient people had myths that explained how the world began. These are known as creation myths. Creation myths are very important myths in a **culture's** mythology.
5. The middle class also wanted to separate themselves from the poorer people who had no time or money to be interested in **culture**. Before long, the middle class became wealthier and even began to support the arts as patrons.
6. People came from all over Europe seeking freedom or fortune in the colonies. Many people brought their **culture** with them, and people of similar backgrounds often came together or settled in the same place. Soon, each colony began to take on its own character.

decorate

 dec · o · rate

Definition

verb

1. to make more attractive by adding things.

We decorated the room with balloons for the party.

2. to put furniture and other things in a room to make a pleasant appearance.

My sister decorated her new home with modern furniture and bright colors.

Advanced Definition

transitive verb

1. to make more attractive or interesting by adding ornamental items or designs.

We decorated the Christmas tree with white lights and red ornaments.

They decorated the backyard for the wedding reception.

2. to serve as a decoration for.

Huge posters decorated the boy's room.

Gilt mirrors decorated the front hall.

3. to design and carry out a plan for the appearance of the interior of (a room or building), including color combinations, furnishings, floorings, and the like.

They called in a professional to decorate the new office.

4. to give distinction to, by conferring a medal or other honorific ornament.

The soldier was decorated for his bravery by the army.

intransitive verb

1. to design and carry out a plan for the appearance of the interior of a room or building.

Who will you hire to decorate?

Spanish cognate

decorar: The Spanish word *decorar* means decorate.

These are some examples of how the word or forms of the word are used:

1. Christmas is a Christian holiday. It is celebrated on December 25th. People **decorate** trees with ornaments and lights. Some people string lights on the outside of their homes.
2. It was gigantic, a great long hall filled with gleaming tables, all **decorated** in a cowboy theme. On one end was the window to the kitchen, which Harvey raced to see. How could they have possibly made enough food for this many people?
3. A big fireworks show is held at midnight. It takes place over the Sydney Harbour Bridge. A harbor is a part of a body of water where ships can stay safe from storms. People also watch a parade of boats on the water. The boats are **decorated** with lights.
4. After classes at university, the girls would repair bikes and learn about how they worked. Each of them ended up building a custom bicycle from the spare parts of other models. They **decorated** each one with tassels, glitter paint, panniers and baskets. The baskets were especially useful for carrying boom boxes.

Name: _____ Date: _____

1. All of these foods are eaten during Ramadan except

- A. Candy canes.
- B. Spicy chickpeas.
- C. Fig cake.
- D. Lamb.

2. The following foods are very sweet:

- A. Cookies and lamb.
- B. Black-eyed peas and tamales.
- C. Latkes and spicy chick peas.
- D. Mithai and Christmas cookies.

3. Diwali is a _____ holiday.

- A. Muslim
- B. Jewish
- C. Hindu
- D. Christian

4. All of these are special foods for Christmas except

- A. Gingerbread cookies.
- B. Chocolate chip cookies.
- C. Lollipops.
- D. Sugar cookies.

5. Why do people eat black-eyed peas during Kwanza?
