

Thanksgiving Trivia

Read each question aloud and let the group call out the answer, or circle A, B or C on your own. The answers are on the last page.

1. In 1939, which president moved Thanksgiving a week earlier, a change people nicknamed "Franksgiving"?

- A)** Herbert Hoover **B)** Franklin Roosevelt
C) Harry Truman

2. Which president gave the first official White House turkey pardon, in 1989?

- A)** Ronald Reagan **B)** George H. W. Bush
C) Bill Clinton

3. Swanson's first TV dinner, sold in 1953, starred which main course?

- A)** Turkey **B)** Meatloaf **C)** Fried chicken

4. Cranberries grow on low vines in wet, sandy fields called what?

- A)** Bogs **B)** Paddies **C)** Orchards

5. In what year did the Pilgrims arrive at Plymouth?

- A)** 1492 **B)** 1620 **C)** 1776

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6. Before they came ashore, the Pilgrim men signed an agreement aboard ship. What is it called?
- A)** Mayflower Compact **B)** Magna Carta
C) Bill of Rights
7. In a 1784 letter, Benjamin Franklin called which bird "a much more respectable Bird" than the bald eagle?
- A)** The owl **B)** The turkey **C)** The robin
8. What is a male turkey called?
- A)** A tom **B)** A buck **C)** A drake
9. Which long Arlo Guthrie song, set on Thanksgiving Day, is a radio tradition every November?
- A)** Alice's Restaurant **B)** City of New Orleans
C) Mr. Tambourine Man
10. Our neighbors in Canada celebrate their Thanksgiving in which month?
- A)** September **B)** October **C)** December
11. Besides the Lions, which NFL team has hosted a Thanksgiving game almost every year since 1966?
- A)** Dallas Cowboys **B)** New York Giants
C) Chicago Bears

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12. Norman Rockwell's 1943 painting of a family gathering around a turkey is called what?

- A)** Freedom from Want **B)** American Gothic
C) Nighthawks

13. Which state grows the most cranberries?

- A)** Maine **B)** Wisconsin **C)** Oregon

14. Plymouth Rock sits on the shore of which state?

- A)** Massachusetts **B)** Virginia **C)** New York

15. Which Native man, who spoke English, helped the Pilgrims learn to plant corn?

- A)** Squanto **B)** Sitting Bull **C)** Geronimo

ANSWERS

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1. B) Franklin Roosevelt
2. B) George H. W. Bush
3. A) Turkey
4. A) Bogs
5. B) 1620
6. A) The Mayflower Compact
7. B) The turkey
8. A) A tom (or gobbler)
9. A) Alice's Restaurant
10. B) October
11. A) Dallas Cowboys
12. A) Freedom from Want
13. B) Wisconsin
14. A) Massachusetts
15. A) Squanto (Tisquantum)

Every answer was checked against published sources before printing.

TRUE OR FALSE?

Thanksgiving

Read each statement aloud. Is it true or false? Circle your answer.
The answers are on the next page.

- | | | |
|--|-------------|--------------|
| 1. Wild turkeys can fly. | TRUE | FALSE |
| 2. Thanksgiving always falls on the last Thursday of November. | TRUE | FALSE |
| 3. The first Macy's parade included live animals from the Central Park Zoo. | TRUE | FALSE |
| 4. Abraham Lincoln issued the first presidential Thanksgiving proclamation. | TRUE | FALSE |
| 5. A baby turkey is called a poult. | TRUE | FALSE |
| 6. The turkey is the official national bird of the United States. | TRUE | FALSE |
| 7. The wishbone comes from a turkey's leg. | TRUE | FALSE |
| 8. The year 1620 is carved into Plymouth Rock. | TRUE | FALSE |
| 9. The Mayflower crossed the Atlantic in about two weeks. | TRUE | FALSE |
| 10. The Butterball Turkey Talk-Line has answered cooks' questions since the 1980s. | TRUE | FALSE |

ANSWERS

Thanksgiving: True or False

1. True: wild turkeys fly short distances and roost in trees.
2. False: it is the fourth Thursday, which is not always the last.
3. True: animals from the Central Park Zoo marched in 1924.
4. False: George Washington issued one in 1789.
5. True.
6. False: the bald eagle is the national bird.
7. False: it is the furcula, at the bird's breast.
8. True.
9. False: the crossing took about two months.
10. True: it began in 1981.