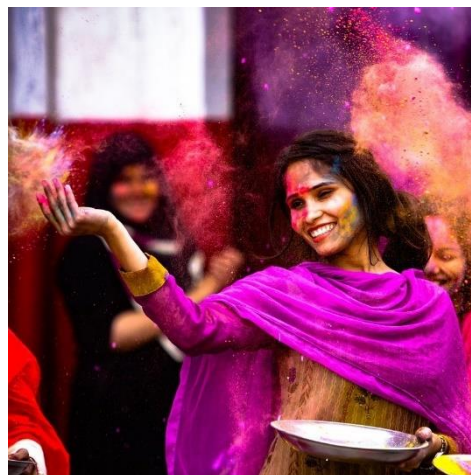


## Holidays around the World

### Warm Up

- What are your favourite holidays and why?
- Can you describe a holiday tradition from your country?
- Are there any holiday traditions you find annoying or confusing?
- What do you like to do on your birthday?
- Do you like to travel when you have a holiday, or have a “staycation”?
- When was the last time you spent a holiday with friends or family? What did you do together?



### 1. Match the holiday in the box with the tradition below.

Easter

Christmas

Hanuka

Chinese New Year

St Patrick's Day

Diwali

a) On this day, children get chocolate eggs. Some families hide chocolate eggs around their house and garden so the children can have a “chocolate egg hunt.”

b) This is often seen as a day to celebrate Irish culture. People usually wear green clothes, and often drink quite a lot of beer.

c) This is a Jewish holiday that is celebrated by lighting special candles, giving friends and family coins made of chocolate, and eating lots of fried food.

d) This is the most commonly celebrated public holiday in the world. On this day, people give family and friends gifts, eat and drink together, and put trees in their houses.

e) Many people celebrate this day by giving each other red envelopes filled with money, cleaning their houses, and lighting firecrackers.

f) This is a holiday that lasts five days. In this time, it is traditional to wear light, warm colours on this holiday and use coloured rice or sand to make beautiful art on the ground.

Present Simple and General Truths

Present simple is the tense we use for things that are generally true.

Eg. *“Their father gives them chocolate on Easter.”*


This is not talking about the past, present, or future. This is saying that *in general*, every easter their father gives them chocolate.

When we use present simple, the structure changes with “he”, “she”, and “it.”

Eg. *“I never eat cake on my birthday”* vs *“He never eats cake on his birthday.”*

Study the table below for the structure of present simple.

	Open Question	Closed Question	Positive	Negative
I/you/we/they	What do you eat on your birthday?	Do you celebrate Thanksgiving Day?	I always buy my friends Christmas presents.	We don't cook Turkey on Christmas.
He/she/it	What <i>does</i> he eat on his birthday?	<i>Does</i> John celebrate Thanksgiving Day?	She always buys <i>her</i> friends Christmas presents.	Lisa <i>doesn't</i> cook Turkey on Christmas.

 2. Write a short paragraph about what you usually do on a public holiday of your choice. Try to use present simple.

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 3. Pairwork: listen to your partner read the paragraph they wrote and try to ask a few present simple questions about it.

Eg “Why don't you like to have big parties on your birthday?”

### A day off

The sentence "I have Monday off" simply means "I am not working on Monday." We do not usually use this for weekends, more for holidays or other reasons for not working.

Eg. "*I had last Wednesday off, I had the flu and couldn't come to work.*"

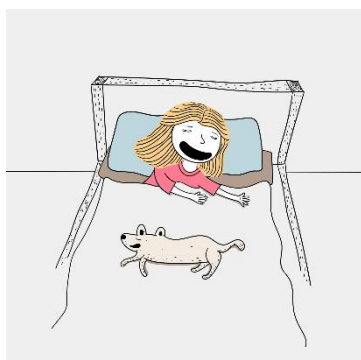
We can also use this to ask for time off.

Eg. "*Can I take next week off to see my niece and nephew? They're visiting for a week.*"



#### 4. Ask and answer the questions below with a partner.

- When was the last time you had a day off? What did you do?
- When is the next time you will have a week or more off work? What will you do?
- If you want to take some time off work or school, who do you have to ask?
- Do you think people in your country have enough time off? Should they have more?
- If you had next week off, what would you do?



### Qualifiers

If we want to make an adjective stronger, we can use *very* or *really*. We call these words qualifiers.

Eg. "*He is good at football.*" vs "*He is very good at football.*" The second sentence is stronger.

We can also use *quite* or *pretty* to make an adjective weaker (note: in this context pretty does not mean beautiful).

Eg. "*He is good at football.*" vs "*He is quite good at football.*" the second sentence is weaker.





6. You are going to listen to 3 people talk about their favourite public holidays. The audio contains the words in the box. Match the words to the pictures below.

army/soldiers      grave      water pistol/ water gun      bucket  
 pumpkin      waterproof jacket      biscuit      American Indians

a)



b)



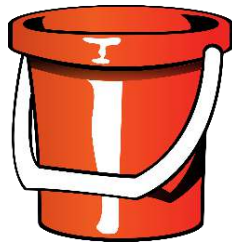
c)



d)



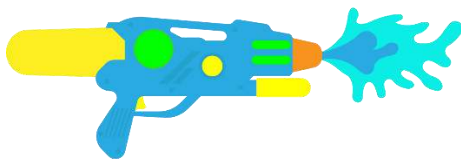
e)



f)



g)



h)



7. Listen to the people talk about their favourite public holidays and tick which box is true.

	Anzac Day	Songkran Day	Thanksgiving Day
A lot of people don't like this holiday			
People usually eat a lot on this holiday			
People usually don't have parties or drink			

 **8. Listen again and answer the questions.****Marie-Louise**

- a) When is Anzac Day?
- b) Which two countries have a public holiday on Anzac Day?
- c) What are two things they do to show respect for soldiers who died?
- d) Why do kids like Anzac Day?
- e) Why does Marie-Louise like Anzac Day?

**Mark**

- a) Why does Mark find Thai public holidays confusing?
- b) How long does Songkran festival last?
- c) What do people do during the Songkran festival?
- d) Why do some people hate the festival?
- e) What is Mark's biggest tip for Songkran festival?

**Cathy**

- a) Why does Cathy love Thanksgiving Day?
- b) What is Cathy's family tradition on Thanksgiving Day?
- c) Why do a lot of people take a day off after Thanksgiving Day?
- d) What did Cathy and her family do last year on Thanksgiving Day?
- e) What does Cathy think people should remember on Thanksgiving Day?