

SAINT PATRICK'S DAY

http://www.eslHolidayLessons.com/03/saint_patricks_day.html

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ALL ANSWERS ARE IN THE TEXT ON PAGE 2.

THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

Saint Patrick's Day, March 17, is an annual celebration of the patron saint of Ireland. It is a national holiday in Ireland, and millions of Irish people all over the world where there are Irish communities celebrate. Celebrations are based on all things Irish and the colour green. City authorities in Chicago even dye the city's river green for this day. Many people wear green clothes, eat Irish food and drink the Irish drink Guinness, which many bars also try and dye green. There are also traditional St Patrick's Day parades. The one in Dublin is spread over five days and attracts half a million people. The New York parade is the largest, with two million spectators. Many people with no Irish connections celebrate and declare themselves Irish for a day.

Saint Patrick was a Christian missionary. Some scholars say he was born in England, while others believe he was Italian. Most agree he lived in the fifth century. When he was sixteen, he was captured and taken as a slave to Ireland. He lived as a slave for six years before escaping. He joined the church to train as a priest and became a missionary in the north and west of Ireland. Legend has it that Patrick drove all the snakes out of Ireland. There are many other legends about Patrick that have cemented him as a key part of Irish culture. March 17 is believed to be the date of his death. Unlike other saints, Patrick was never canonized by a Pope, although most Christian churches list him as a "Saint in Heaven".

PHRASE MATCH

Match the following phrases from the article.

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|------------------------------|----------------|
| 1. the patron saint | a. spectators |
| 2. where there are Irish | b. five days |
| 3. dye the city's river | c. connections |
| 4. spread over | d. green |
| 5. two million | e. of Ireland |
| 6. Many people with no Irish | f. communities |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Some scholars say he was | a. as a slave to Ireland |
| 2. Most agree he | b. to train as a priest |
| 3. captured and taken | c. a Pope |
| 4. He joined the church | d. lived in the fifth century |
| 5. Patrick drove all the snakes | e. born in England |
| 6. Patrick was never canonized by | f. out of Ireland |

LISTENING GAP FILL

Saint Patrick's Day, March 17, _____ celebration of the patron saint of Ireland. It is a national holiday in Ireland, and millions of Irish people all over the world _____ Irish communities celebrate. Celebrations are based on all things Irish and the colour green. City authorities in Chicago _____ river green for this day. Many people wear green clothes, eat Irish food and drink the Irish drink Guinness, which many bars _____ green. There are also traditional St Patrick's Day parades. The one in Dublin _____ five days and attracts half a million people. The New York parade is the largest, with two million spectators. Many people with no Irish connections celebrate and _____ Irish for a day.

Saint Patrick was a Christian missionary. Some scholars say he was born in England, while _____ was Italian. Most agree he lived in the fifth century. When he was sixteen, he was captured and _____ to Ireland. He lived as a slave for six years before escaping. He joined the church _____ priest and became a missionary in the north and west of Ireland. Legend has it that Patrick _____ snakes out of Ireland. There are many other legends about Patrick that have cemented him as a key part of Irish culture. March 17 is believed _____ of his death. Unlike other saints, Patrick was never canonized by a Pope, although most Christian churches _____ "Saint in Heaven".

WHILE READING / LISTENING GAP FILL

Put the words into the gaps in the text.

Saint Patrick's Day, March 17, is an _____ celebration of the patron saint of Ireland. It is a national holiday in Ireland, and millions of Irish people all over the _____ where there are Irish communities celebrate. Celebrations are _____ on all things Irish and the colour green. City authorities in Chicago even _____ the city's river green for this day. Many people wear green clothes, eat Irish food and drink the Irish drink Guinness, which many bars also _____ and dye green. There are also traditional St Patrick's Day parades. The one in Dublin is _____ over five days and attracts half a million people. The New York parade is the _____, with two million spectators. Many people with no Irish connections celebrate and _____ themselves Irish for a day.

spread
based
declare
largest
annual
dye
try
world

Saint Patrick was a Christian missionary. Some _____ say he was born in England, while others _____ he was Italian. Most agree he lived in the fifth _____. When he was sixteen, he was captured and taken as a slave to Ireland. He lived as a slave for six years before _____. He joined the church to _____ as a priest and became a missionary in the north and west of Ireland. Legend has it that Patrick drove all the _____ out of Ireland. There are many other legends about Patrick that have cemented him as a key part of Irish culture. March 17 is believed to be the _____ of his death. Unlike other saints, Patrick was never canonized by a Pope, although most Christian churches _____ him as a "Saint in Heaven".

escaping
date
century
snakes
scholars
list
train
believe

CHOOSE THE CORRECT WORD

Delete the wrong word in each of the pairs of *italics*.

Saint Patrick's Day, March 17, is an *annually* / *annual* celebration of the patron saint of Ireland. It is a national holiday in Ireland, and millions of Irish people *every* / *all* over the world where there are Irish communities *celebrate* / *celebration*. Celebrations are based on all things Irish and the colour green. City authorities in Chicago even *die* / *dye* the city's river green for this day. *Many* / *Much* people wear green clothes, eat Irish food and drink the Irish drink Guinness, which many bars also try and dye green. There are also traditional St Patrick's Day parades. The one in Dublin is *spread* / *spreading* over five days and attracts half a million people. The New York parade is the *large* / *largest*, with two million spectators. Many people with no Irish connections celebrate and declare themselves Irish *for* / *by* a day.

Saint Patrick was a Christian *mission* / *missionary*. Some scholars say he was born in England, while others *belief* / *believe* he was Italian. Most agree he lived in the fifth century. When he was sixteen, he was captured and taken as a *slavery* / *slave* to Ireland. He lived as a slave for six years before escaping. He joined the church to *train* / *trained* as a priest and became a missionary in the north and west of Ireland. Legend has it that Patrick *drove* / *driven* all the snakes out of Ireland. There are many other legends about Patrick that have *cement* / *cemented* him as a key part of Irish culture. March 17 is believed to be the date of his death. Unlike *other* / *another* saints, Patrick was never canonized by a Pope, although most Christian churches *list* / *listing* him as a "Saint in Heaven".

MULTIPLE CHOICE

Saint Patrick's Day, March 17, is an annual (1) _____ of the patron saint of Ireland. It is a national holiday in Ireland, and millions of Irish people all over the world where there are Irish (2) _____ celebrate. Celebrations are based on all (3) _____ Irish and the colour green. City authorities in Chicago even (4) _____ the city's river green for this day. Many people wear green clothes, eat Irish food and drink the Irish drink Guinness, which many bars also try and dye green. There are also traditional St Patrick's Day parades. The (5) _____ in Dublin is spread over five days and attracts half a million people. The New York parade is the largest, with two million spectators. Many people with (6) _____ Irish connections celebrate and declare themselves Irish for a day.

Saint Patrick was a Christian missionary. Some (7) _____ say he was born in England, while others believe he was Italian. Most agree he lived in the fifth century. When he was sixteen, he was captured and taken as a (8) _____ to Ireland. He lived as a slave for six years before (9) _____. He joined the church to train as a priest and became a missionary in the north and west of Ireland. Legend has it that Patrick (10) _____ all the snakes out of Ireland. There are many other legends about Patrick that have cemented him as a key part of Irish culture. March 17 is (11) _____ to be the date of his death. Unlike other saints, Patrick was never canonized by a Pope, although most Christian churches (12) _____ him as a "Saint in Heaven".

Put the correct words from this table into the article.

- | | | | | |
|-----|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| 1. | (a) celebrate | (b) celebrations | (c) celebration | (d) celebrated |
| 2. | (a) communities | (b) community | (c) commune | (d) communal |
| 3. | (a) thing | (b) thingy | (c) things | (d) thingamy |
| 4. | (a) die | (b) died | (c) dyed | (d) dye |
| 5. | (a) this | (b) one | (c) ones | (d) that |
| 6. | (a) no | (b) non | (c) know | (d) now |
| 7. | (a) scholarly | (b) scholars | (c) scholar | (d) school |
| 8. | (a) slavery | (b) slaved | (c) slave | (d) slaving |
| 9. | (a) escaped | (b) escapist | (c) escape | (d) escaping |
| 10. | (a) drive | (b) drove | (c) driven | (d) driver |
| 11. | (a) belief | (b) believer | (c) believing | (d) believed |
| 12. | (a) list | (b) listing | (c) lists | (d) list of |

SPELLING

Spell the jumbled words (from the text) correctly.

Paragraph 1

1. an alannu celebration
2. a ilaoannt holiday
3. sbdea on all things Irish
4. dye the city's vrrei green
5. prasde over five days
6. The New York aedpra

Paragraph 2

7. others lebivee he was Italian
8. he lived in the fifth yuncert
9. taken as a veasl
10. atinr as a priest
11. sgnedel about Patrick
12. the date of his ehdat

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () Saint Patrick was a Christian missionary. Some scholars say he was born in England, while others
- () believe he was Italian. Most agree he lived in the fifth century. When he was sixteen, he was captured and taken as a
- (**1**) Saint Patrick's Day, March 17, is an annual celebration of the patron saint of Ireland. It is a national holiday in
- () saints, Patrick was never canonized by a Pope, although most Christian churches list him as a "Saint in Heaven".
- () spectators. Many people with no Irish connections celebrate and declare themselves Irish for a day.
- () out of Ireland. There are many other legends about Patrick that have cemented him as a key part of Irish
- () over five days and attracts half a million people. The New York parade is the largest, with two million
- () on all things Irish and the colour green. City authorities in Chicago even dye the city's river
- () bars also try and dye green. There are also traditional St Patrick's Day parades. The one in Dublin is spread
- () green for this day. Many people wear green clothes, eat Irish food and drink the Irish drink Guinness, which many
- () culture. March 17 is believed to be the date of his death. Unlike other
- () became a missionary in the north and west of Ireland. Legend has it that Patrick drove all the snakes
- () slave to Ireland. He lived as a slave for six years before escaping. He joined the church to train as a priest and
- () Ireland, and millions of Irish people all over the world where there are Irish communities celebrate. Celebrations are based

SCRAMBLED SENTENCES

With a partner, put the words back into the correct order.

1. saint celebration of of Ireland the an patron annual

2. are on things Celebrations based all Irish

3. the in city's Chicago river even green dye authorities

4. in five Dublin days is The spread one over

5. Many with Irish celebrate people no connections

6. was he say scholars Some England in born

7. century fifth the in lived he agree Most

8. escaping as for before lived slave years He a six

9. the all drove Patrick Ireland of out snakes

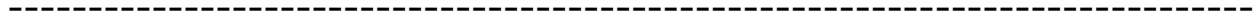
10. other about There many legends Patrick are

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

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DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

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THE SAINT PATRICK'S DAY SURVEY

Write five questions about Saint Patrick's Day in the table. Do this in pairs/groups. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper.

Without your partner, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

Return to your original partner(s) and share and talk about what you found out. Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

HOMEWORK

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. INTERNET: Search the Internet and find more information about Saint Patrick's Day. Talk about what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. MAGAZINE ARTICLE: Write a magazine article about Saint Patrick's Day. Write about what happens around the world. Include two imaginary interviews with people who did something on this day.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

4. POSTER: Make your own poster about Saint Patrick's Day. Write about will happen on this day around the world.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.