

CHRISTMAS EVE

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ALL ANSWERS ARE IN THE TEXT ON PAGE 2.

THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

Christmas Eve is, of course, the day before Christmas Day. It's quite a busy day for most people who celebrate Christmas. There are so many things to do – usually last minute things. For example, you have to quickly send a Christmas card to people you forgot, especially when they sent you one. You also have to do last minute Christmas shopping. I always find Christmas Eve afternoon is a good time to shop. Many people think this is a busy time, but the Christmas rush is over and the shops are quite empty. You just have to hope they haven't run out of wrapping paper and sellotape. Then you have to go home and wrap all of your presents and put them under the Christmas tree in the living room. It's such a lovely sight seeing a decorated tree with lots of wrapped boxes and parcels under it.

Christmas Eve is not the same in all countries. In Denmark, for example, Christmas Eve is when people have Christmas dinner and open their presents. I think most people go to midnight mass on Christmas Eve. This is a special church service held at midnight to remember the birth of Jesus. I think one of the oldest jokes in the world is: "What time is Midnight Mass?" It's an easy joke to figure out. Of course, Christmas Eve is the busiest night of the year for Santa Claus. People in England call him Father Christmas. If you look really carefully, you'll see him flying through the air on his sleigh full of presents. He used to climb down people's chimneys to deliver his presents. I'm not sure what he does nowadays because people don't have chimneys.

PHRASE MATCH

Match the following phrases from the article.

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. It's quite a busy day for | a. run out |
| 2. There are so many | b. most people |
| 3. You also have to do last | c. quite empty |
| 4. the shops are | d. lovely sight |
| 5. You just have to hope they haven't | e. things to do |
| 6. It's such a | f. minute Christmas shopping |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Christmas Eve is not the | a. through the air |
| 2. have Christmas dinner and open | b. the year |
| 3. one of the oldest jokes | c. nowadays |
| 4. the busiest night of | d. same in all countries |
| 5. you'll see him flying | e. in the world |
| 6. I'm not sure what he does | f. their presents |

LISTENING GAP FILL

Christmas Eve is, of course, the day before Christmas Day. It's quite a _____ people who celebrate Christmas. There are so many things to do – usually last minute things. For example, you have to quickly send a Christmas card to people you forgot, especially when they sent you one. You also have _____ Christmas shopping. I always find Christmas Eve afternoon is a good time to shop. Many people think this is a busy time, but the Christmas _____ shops are quite empty. You just have to hope they haven't run out of wrapping paper and sellotape. Then you have to go home _____ your presents and put them under the Christmas tree in the living room. It's such a lovely sight seeing a decorated tree with lots of wrapped boxes _____.

Christmas Eve is _____ all countries. In Denmark, for example, Christmas Eve is when people have Christmas dinner and open their presents. I think most people go to midnight mass on Christmas Eve. This is a special church _____ midnight to remember the birth of Jesus. I think one of the oldest jokes in the world is: "What time is Midnight Mass?" It's an easy joke to figure out. Of course, Christmas Eve is the busiest _____ for Santa Claus. People in England call him Father Christmas. If you look really carefully, you'll see him flying _____ his sleigh full of presents. He used to climb down people's chimneys to deliver his presents. _____ he does nowadays because people don't have chimneys.

WHILE READING / LISTENING GAP FILL

Put the words into the gaps in the text.

Christmas Eve is, of _____, the day before Christmas Day. It's quite a busy day for most people who celebrate Christmas. There are so _____ things to do – usually last minute things. For example, you have to quickly send a Christmas card to people you _____, especially when they _____ you one. You also have to do last minute Christmas shopping. I always find Christmas Eve afternoon is a good time to _____. Many people think this is a busy time, but the Christmas _____ is over and the shops are quite empty. You just have to hope they haven't run out of wrapping paper and sellotape. Then you have to go home and _____ all of your presents and put them under the Christmas tree in the living room. It's such a _____ sight seeing a decorated tree with lots of wrapped boxes and parcels under it.

rush
sent
lovely
forgot
course
wrap
shop
many

Christmas Eve is not the _____ in all countries. In Denmark, for example, Christmas Eve is when people have Christmas dinner and _____ their presents. I think most people go to midnight mass on Christmas Eve. This is a special church service _____ at midnight to remember the birth of Jesus. I think one of the oldest _____ in the world is: "What time is Midnight Mass?" It's an easy joke to _____ out. Of course, Christmas Eve is the busiest night of the year for Santa Claus. People in England _____ him Father Christmas. If you look really carefully, you'll see him flying through the air on his sleigh _____ of presents. He used to climb down people's chimneys to deliver his presents. I'm not sure what he does _____ because people don't have chimneys.

jokes
nowadays
open
call
same
figure
full
held

CHOOSE THE CORRECT WORD

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

Christmas Eve is, of course, the *day / days* before Christmas Day. It's quite a busy day for most people who celebrate Christmas. There are so many things to do – usually *last / lastly* minute things. For example, you have to quickly *sent / send* a Christmas card to people you forgot, especially when they sent you *ones / one*. You also have to do last minute Christmas shopping. I always find Christmas Eve afternoon is a good time to shop. Many people think this is a busy time, but the Christmas *rushed / rush* is over and the shops are *quite / quiet* empty. You just have to hope they haven't run out of wrapping paper and sellotape. Then you have to go home and wrap *all / every* of your presents and put them under the Christmas tree in the living room. It's such a *lovely / lovelier* sight seeing a decorated tree with lots of wrapped boxes and parcels under it.

Christmas Eve is not the *some / same* in all countries. In Denmark, for example, Christmas Eve is when people have Christmas dinner and *open / opening* their presents. I think most people go to midnight mass *in / on* Christmas Eve. This is a special church service *holding / held* at midnight to remember the birth of Jesus. I think one of the oldest *jokes / joking* in the world is: "What time is Midnight Mass?" It's an easy joke to figure out. Of course, Christmas Eve is the busiest night of the year for Santa Claus. People in England *caller / call* him Father Christmas. If you look really carefully, you'll see him flying through the air on his sleigh *full / filled* of presents. He used to climb down people's chimneys to *deliver / delivery* his presents. I'm not sure what he does nowadays because people don't have chimneys.

MULTIPLE CHOICE

Christmas Eve is, of course, the day before Christmas Day. It's (1) ____ a busy day for most people who celebrate Christmas. There are so many things to do – usually (2) ____ minute things. For example, you have to quickly send a Christmas card to people you (3) ____, especially when they sent you one. You also have to do last minute Christmas shopping. I always (4) ____ Christmas Eve afternoon is a good time to shop. Many people think this is a busy time, but the Christmas (5) ____ is over and the shops are quite empty. You just have to hope they haven't run out of wrapping paper and sellotape. Then you have to go home and wrap all of your presents and put them under the Christmas tree in the living room. It's such a (6) ____ sight seeing a decorated tree with lots of wrapped boxes and parcels under it.

Christmas Eve is not the same in (7) ____ countries. In Denmark, for example, Christmas Eve is when people have Christmas dinner and open (8) ____ presents. I think most people go to midnight mass on Christmas Eve. This is a special church service held at midnight to (9) ____ the birth of Jesus. I think one of the oldest jokes in the world is: "What time is Midnight Mass?" It's an easy joke to (10) ____ out. Of course, Christmas Eve is the busiest night of the year for Santa Claus. People in England call him Father Christmas. If you look really (11) ____, you'll see him flying through the air on his sleigh full of presents. He used to climb down people's chimneys to (12) ____ his presents. I'm not sure what he does nowadays because people don't have chimneys.

Put the correct words from this table into the article.

- | | | | | |
|-----|---------------|---------------|----------------|--------------|
| 1. | (a) quite | (b) quit | (c) quiet | (d) quits |
| 2. | (a) least | (b) last | (c) lasting | (d) lastly |
| 3. | (a) forget | (b) forgotten | (c) forgetful | (d) forgot |
| 4. | (a) found | (b) finds | (c) find | (d) findings |
| 5. | (a) rushed | (b) rush | (c) rushing | (d) rushes |
| 6. | (a) lovely | (b) lovelier | (c) love | (d) lover |
| 7. | (a) whole | (b) every | (c) the | (d) all |
| 8. | (a) they | (b) them | (c) their | (d) these |
| 9. | (a) memory | (b) remember | (c) memories | (d) memorize |
| 10. | (a) figures | (b) figured | (c) figuring | (d) figure |
| 11. | (a) carefully | (b) careful | (c) careless | (d) care |
| 12. | (a) delivery | (b) delivered | (c) delivering | (d) deliver |

SPELLING

Spell the jumbled words (from the text) correctly.

Paragraph 1

1. It's quite a busy day for most people
2. last minute things
3. the Christmas rush is over
4. run out of wrapping paper and sellotape
5. a decorated tree
6. lots of wrapped boxes and parcels

Paragraph 2

7. not the same in all countries
8. a special church service
9. one of the oldest jokes in the world
10. It's an easy joke to figure out
11. the busiest night of the year
12. deliver his presents

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () Christmas dinner and open their presents. I think most people go to midnight mass on Christmas Eve. This is a special
- () shopping. I always find Christmas Eve afternoon is a good time to shop. Many people think this is a busy time, but the
- () him flying through the air on his sleigh full of presents. He used to climb down people's chimneys to
- (**1**) Christmas Eve is, of course, the day before Christmas Day. It's quite a busy day for most people who celebrate
- () world is: "What time is Midnight Mass?" It's an easy joke to figure out. Of course, Christmas Eve is the busiest
- () Christmas. There are so many things to do – usually last minute things. For example, you have to quickly send a
- () paper and sellotape. Then you have to go home and wrap all of your presents and put them under the Christmas
- () night of the year for Santa Claus. People in England call him Father Christmas. If you look really carefully, you'll see
- () Christmas Eve is not the same in all countries. In Denmark, for example, Christmas Eve is when people have
- () church service held at midnight to remember the birth of Jesus. I think one of the oldest jokes in the
- () tree in the living room. It's such a lovely sight seeing a decorated tree with lots of wrapped boxes and parcels under it.
- () Christmas rush is over and the shops are quite empty. You just have to hope they haven't run out of wrapping
- () Christmas card to people you forgot, especially when they sent you one. You also have to do last minute Christmas
- () deliver his presents. I'm not sure what he does nowadays because people don't have chimneys.

SCRAMBLED SENTENCES

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

1. most for day busy a quite It's people

2. you Christmas forgot card quickly to send people a

3. last also minute have Christmas to shopping do You

4. quite empty the Christmas rush is over and the shops are

5. you have to go home and wrap all of your presents

6. Eve in is all not countries the Christmas same

7. midnight special service at a church held

8. an joke figure It's easy to out

9. the the year busiest for night Santa of Claus

10. chimneys used climb people's He to down

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 CHRISTMAS EVE SURVEY

Write five questions about Christmas Eve 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 Christmas Eve. Talk about what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. MAGAZINE ARTICLE: Write a magazine article about Christmas Eve. 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 Christmas Eve. Write about what 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.