



# Christmas



***Read the passage below and answer the questions on the next page.***

Christmas is celebrated in many countries around the world, and each country has its own unique traditions. In Germany, for example, one tradition is to leave a shoe out the night before Christmas so St. Nicholas can fill it with presents and treats. In Puerto Rico, children wake up to find their shoes filled with gifts from the Three Kings. In the United States, families often hang stockings by the fire and exchange presents on Christmas morning.

In France, it's traditional to display a nativity scene known as a 'crèche' in homes throughout the holiday season. The Netherlands is known for its wooden shoes, which are filled with hay and gifts for children come Christmas Day. In Sweden, kids leave their shoes outside their bedroom door on Christmas Eve so they can be filled with candy and treats from elves.

Italy is famous for its elaborate feasts during the festive season, with many families gathering around tables overflowing with dishes such as lasagne, pasta, or roasted meats. Children are often given small gifts from La Befana, an old woman who is said to fly around on a broomstick delivering presents.

In Japan, Christmas isn't celebrated as a religious holiday but instead as a time for family and friends to get together and enjoy good food. Instead of exchanging gifts, people often visit department stores or amusement parks to admire the seasonal decorations.

No matter where you are in the world during Christmas, you're sure to find unique and special traditions that bring joy to the season!

1) According to the text, what Christmas tradition does Germany have?

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2) What do children in Puerto Rico wake up to find on Christmas morning?

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3) What is traditionally displayed in French homes for the holiday season?

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4) How do children in Sweden receive treats from elves on Christmas Eve?

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5) In Japan, what do people typically do instead of exchanging gifts during the holidays?

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