

# A Thanksgiving

Almost every culture in the world has had celebrations of thanks for a good harvest<sup>1</sup>.

In the USA *Thanksgiving* is the most important festival of the year.

Thanksgiving is a time for tradition and sharing. Family members gather for Thanksgiving dinner even if they live far apart.

All give thanks together for the good things that they have.

In the spirit of sharing, charitable organizations<sup>2</sup> offer a traditional meal to those in need, particularly the homeless.

**Think about the positive aspects in your life and what you have to be thankful for?**



<sup>1</sup>harvest: gróði, at heysta

<sup>2</sup>charitable organization: hjálparfelagsskapur



## What you have to write:

Answer 1 or 2.

1. Comment on the old tradition of *Thanksgiving*. What do you think it has meant to the Americans over the years? Is it still relevant? Then write about some of the things in your life that you can be thankful for.

Essay title: **Thanksgiving**

2. Write about the most important day of the year for you and your family? Give reasons.

Make your own essay title.

## For your information:

The American **Thanksgiving holiday** began almost four hundred years ago.

In 1620, a ship sailed from England across the Atlantic Ocean with more than one hundred people to settle in the New World.

The Pilgrims settled in what is now the state of Massachusetts.

Their first winter in the New World was difficult.

They had arrived too late to grow any crops; and without fresh food half the colony died from disease.

The following spring,

Indians taught them how to grow corn (maize) and other crops and how to hunt and fish.

In the autumn of 1621, plentiful crops of corn, barley, beans and pumpkins were harvested.

The colonists had much to be thankful for, so a feast was planned.

They invited the local Indians who brought deer, which was roasted together with turkeys and other wild game offered by the colonists.

In the following years, many of the original colonists celebrated the autumn harvest with a feast of thanks.

After the United States became an independent country, Congress recommended one yearly day of thanksgiving for the whole nation to celebrate.

In 1864, at the end of the civil war, Abraham Lincoln decided that Thanksgiving Day was to be **the last Thursday in November.**



# B Too much noise!

Parents can be a nuisance sometimes.

When I go to my room to listen to my favourite music, I'm sure my mother - or my father - will soon be shouting from downstairs:

'Turn that music down. It's much too loud!'

'Too much noise', they say about my music.

Who are they to judge today's music.

They don't know the first thing about it.

Sometimes I wish I had my own special place,

where I could go whenever I wanted to be on my own.

Parents would have no admittance to that place.

That's for sure.

**Does this sound familiar to you?**



## What you have to write:

Answer 1 or 2.

1. Write an essay about your situation at home. The following questions may give you some ideas:
  - What kind of music do you listen to?
  - Do all family members enjoy your kind of music, or do you recognize the situation mentioned opposite?
  - Do you have your own place where you can do all the things that you want, or would you sometimes prefer to live on your own?
  - What are the advantages and disadvantages in living with your parents?

Essay title: **Too much noise!**

2. Write about your favourite music and say why you like it. You may also write about your favourite singer or group.

Make your own essay title.



# C Man and Animals

Animals have always meant a lot to people. They have hunted animals for food, had them as pets, or used them for work.

## What you have to write:

Answer 1 or 2.

1. Write about animals and their importance for people.  
You may write a personal essay about your own animals, if you have any.

Essay title. **Man and Animals**

2. Write a story which tells about the relationship between man and animals.  
You may write a true story or use your imagination.

Make your own title.

man: (her) *menniskja*



Prent: Føroyaprent

