

Festivals of Light

Introduction

Light plays a very important part in many religious festivals and special occasions. For many people, light stands for goodness, truth and freedom.



1. What does light play an important part in?

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Religious festivals and special occasions.

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The cleaning of shoes.

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The building of houses.

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The digging of gardens.

2. Finish the following sentence:

For many people, light stands for _____

Divali

Divali is a special festival of light celebrated by people who are Hindus and Sikhs. During Divali fireworks are set off and special little *diva* lamps are lit.



3. What is the name of the Hindu and Sikh festival of light?

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Christmas

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Divali

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Bonfire Night

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Easter

4. What kind of lamps are lit during Divali?

Hannukah

Hannukah is a festival celebrated by Jewish people. The festival lasts eight days and on each day a candle is lit in a special candle-holder called a *menorah*.



5. Which people celebrate Hannukah?

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Clever people

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Happy people

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Tired people

☐

Jewish people

6. How many days does the Hannukah festival last?

Advent

Christians usually celebrate the time of *Advent* which comes just before Christmas. At the beginning of Advent a special wreath is made which holds four candles. One candle a week is lit in the four weeks leading up to Christmas.



7. When do Christians celebrate Advent?

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Just before winter.

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Just before summer.

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Just before Christmas.

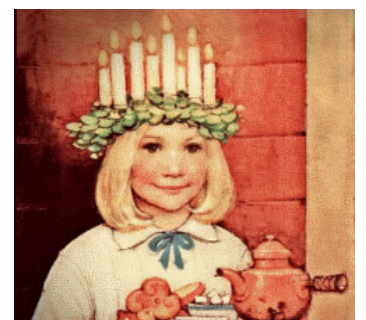
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Just after Christmas.

8. How many candles would you find in an Advent Wreath?

St Lucia's Day

In Sweden another festival of light takes place on December 13th — *St. Lucia's Day*. In this celebration a young girl gets up very early and, wearing a crown of green leaves and candles, she takes special biscuits and coffee to the rest of her family.



9. When is St. Lucia's Day celebrated?

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23rd December

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16th November

☐

13th January

☐

13th December

10. In which country is St. Lucia's Day celebrated?

Draw a picture of a time when you shared a celebration with loved ones.