

Global View - Thanksgiving Dinner (C0324)

A: So what are you doing for Thanksgiving?

B: Not much really. It's more of an American tradition, so back home we don't really celebrate it. In fact, I am not even sure of what exactly is being celebrated!

A: Well you know, it's a time to get together with all your family and be thankful for everything!

B: Yeah but, how did this holiday come to be?

A: Well, the first settlers of Massachusetts arrived there because of religious persecution from England and King James. Once in the New World, they befriended a native named Squanto, who taught them how to harvest food from the area such as corn.

B: Interesting! I am amazed how big and delicious thanksgiving dinners are!

A: Come to my house for Thanksgiving! We are having turkey, pumpkin pie, mashed potatoes with gravy, and lots of stuffing!

B: Count me in!

Key Vocabulary

Thanksgiving	<i>N</i>	a holiday
tradition	<i>N</i>	special way of doing things that is accepted by a
celebrate	<i>V</i>	hold a feast in memorial of
religious	<i>A</i>	exhibiting religion, faithful, devout
persecution	<i>N</i>	to exterminate, drive away, or subjugate a people because of their religion, race, or beliefs
befriend	<i>V</i>	to make friends or become friendly with
native	<i>A</i>	of indigenous origin
harvest	<i>N</i>	the gathering of crops
gravy	<i>N</i>	sauce for meat, potatoes

turkey	<i>N</i>	a large American bird similar to the chicken
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Supplementary Vocabulary

Cranberry	<i>N</i>	a firm, sour, edible, red berry
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Pilgrim	<i>N</i>	the English settlers of New England, who celebrated the "First Thanksgiving" with the Natives
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Cider	<i>N</i>	a fermented beverage made from apple juice
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Cornucopia	<i>N</i>	a hollow, horn-shaped wicker basket filled with various kinds of festive fruit and vegetables
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Yam	<i>N</i>	specifically its orange-fleshed cultivars, often marketed as 'yams' in North America and as 'kumara' in New Zealand
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