Name: Date: Score: / 6

# National Holidays in Depth: Learn and Practice

Why we celebrate each federal holiday.

Read each question. Circle the best answer.

**The 11 federal holidays**

- New Year's Day, Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Washington's Birthday (Presidents' Day), Memorial Day, Juneteenth, Independence Day.
- Labor Day, Columbus Day (also observed by many as Indigenous Peoples' Day), Veterans Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day.
- Some holidays have a fixed date (July 4). Others fall on a set Monday or Thursday.

**1** Independence Day remembers the day in 1776 when...

A. the Declaration of Independence was adopted

B. the Constitution was signed

C. the first president was born

**2** Veterans Day is November 11 because on that date in 1918...

A. the first election was held

B. the Statue of Liberty arrived

C. the fighting in World War I ended

**3** How are Memorial Day and Veterans Day different?

A. They are the same day

B. Memorial Day honors workers

C. Memorial Day remembers those who died serving; Veterans Day honors all who served

**4** Martin Luther King Jr. Day is on the third Monday in...

A. April B. August C. January

**5** Juneteenth marks June 19, 1865, when news reached Galveston, Texas that...

A. the war had started

B. enslaved people were free

C. Texas became a state

**6** Which president made Thanksgiving a national holiday in 1863?

A. Abraham Lincoln B. Thomas Jefferson

C. George Washington

**Explain it! Write two facts you learned about national holidays in depth.**

ANSWER KEY

# National Holidays in Depth: Learn and Practice (answers)

Why we celebrate each federal holiday.

Read each question. Circle the best answer.

1. Independence Day remembers the day in 1776 when...

**A. the Declaration of Independence was adopted**

B. the Constitution was signed

C. the first president was born

*The Continental Congress adopted it on July 4, 1776.*

2. Veterans Day is November 11 because on that date in 1918...

A. the first election was held

B. the Statue of Liberty arrived

**C. the fighting in World War I ended**

*World War I fighting stopped on November 11, 1918.*

3. How are Memorial Day and Veterans Day different?

A. They are the same day

B. Memorial Day honors workers

**C. Memorial Day remembers those who died serving; Veterans Day honors all who served**

*Both honor the military in different ways.*

4. Martin Luther King Jr. Day is on the third Monday in...

A. April B. August **C. January**

*It is near Dr. King's birthday, January 15.*

5. Juneteenth marks June 19, 1865, when news reached Galveston, Texas that...

A. the war had started

**B. enslaved people were free**

C. Texas became a state

*It became a federal holiday in 2021.*

6. Which president made Thanksgiving a national holiday in 1863?

**A. Abraham Lincoln** B. Thomas Jefferson

C. George Washington

*Lincoln proclaimed a national day of thanksgiving in 1863.*