Thanksgiving Facts Worksheet: Traditions, History, and Evidence

Print on US Letter paper at actual size.

A fact is a statement that can be checked with evidence. A tradition is a practice people may continue or share. Wampanoag communities had long-established lives and traditions before English colonists arrived. In 1621, English colonists and Wampanoag people took part in a harvest gathering. Later relationships included conflict, so that gathering is not the whole history. Today, people may connect Thanksgiving with meals, thanks, family activities, or other choices. Not every household observes the day in the same way. Careful readers ask where information comes from and whose experiences it includes. A short worksheet can introduce a subject, but learning about the past requires more than one scene, picture, or familiar story.

1. What can help us check a fact?

2. Who had established communities before English colonists arrived?

3. Why is the 1621 gathering not the whole history?

4. Why should a family custom not be described as everyone's custom?

Thanksgiving Facts Worksheet: Traditions, History, and Evidence - Answer Key

Sample responses; accept other answers supported by the passage.

1. Evidence.

2. Wampanoag people.

3. It was one event, and later relationships included conflict.

4. Households observe the day in different ways.