English, year 4 to 6
About 20 minutes

Christmas in **Britain and Ireland**

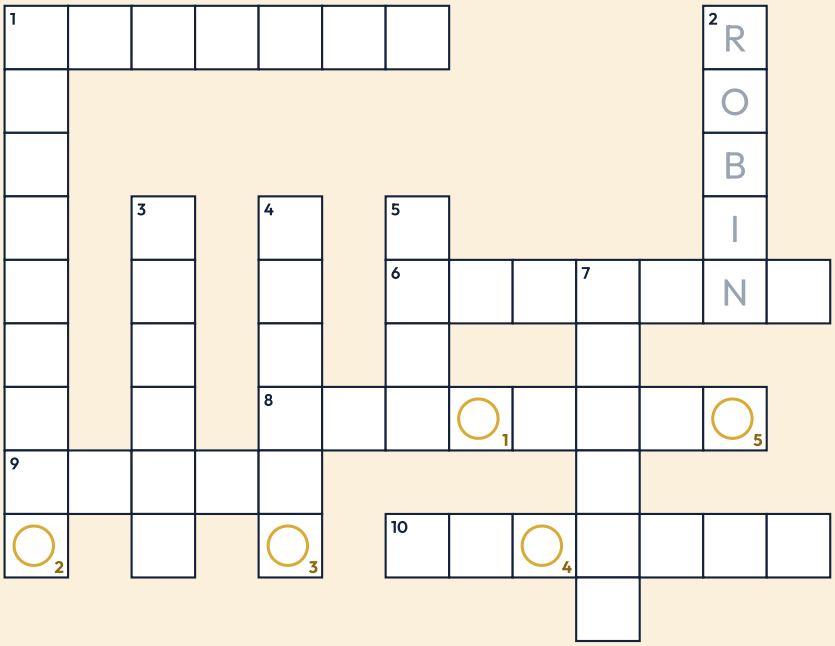
Robins, pantomimes and Christmas pudding. How much do you know about Christmas in Britain and Ireland?



Victorian Christmas card.

Name _____ Class _____

Read the clue. **Write** the word in the squares that start at the same number, one letter in each square. The word **ROBIN** is already there as an example.



The secret word

When you are done: **write** the letter in ring 1 in box 1, and so on. It finishes the greeting ___ **Christmas!**

1 2 3

4 5

Across

1 A dark dessert full of dried fruit. Some families pour brandy on it and set it alight.

6 In this country, a candle in the window on Christmas Eve welcomes travellers.

8 The name of the big New Year's Eve party in Scotland.

9 Small ___ pies are filled with dried fruit and spices. Children often leave one out for Santa.

10 Small green vegetables that look like tiny cabbages. Many people eat them with Christmas dinner.

Down

1 A funny Christmas play where the audience shouts "He's behind you!"

2 A small bird with a red breast. It is often seen on British Christmas cards. **Example**

3 The 26th of December is called ___ Day.

4 In Britain, Santa Claus is often called ___ Christmas.

5 Since 1932, the queen or ___ has spoken to the whole country on Christmas Day.

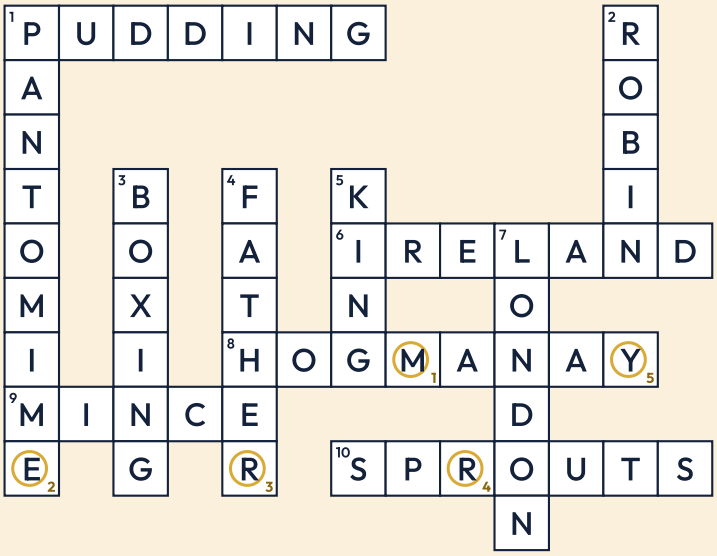
7 Since 1947, Norway has given this city a giant Christmas tree for Trafalgar Square.

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Answers

Christmas in Britain and Ireland

Print only page 1 for the students. They work alone or in pairs for about 15 minutes, and then you go through the answers together.



Across

1 Pudding
6 Ireland
8 Hogmanay
9 Mince
10 Sprouts

Down

1 Pantomime
2 Robin
3 Boxing
4 Father
5 King
7 London

The secret word

Merry Christmas!

Talk about it afterwards

Which of these traditions are the same as in Sweden, and which are new to you? Is there one you would like to try?

Britain is England, Scotland and Wales. Ireland is its own country, but Northern Ireland is part of the United Kingdom. A map helps.

Good to know: the first Christmas card was sold in London in 1843. Boxing Day may come from the boxes of money and gifts that servants and workers were given the day after Christmas.

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