

# Christmas

Christmas is my favourite holiday. My grandmother makes ham, salad, and cupcakes on Christmas. I also got a present for Christmas! Last year I got a new set of paintbrushes. This year I hope to get new pencils and a drawing pad. I always have fun at Christmas.

Halloween is another good holiday. My grandmother makes candy corn and cupcakes on Halloween. People wear costumes during Halloween. Last year I wore a skeleton costume. This year I am going to wear a zombie costume.

July 4 is a good holiday. July 4 is the birthday of the United States of America. My grandmother made hot dogs and salad on July 4. I don't have to go to school on July 4. But I don't get any presents either. If I got presents on July 4 it would be my favorite holiday.

1) When does the author's grandmother make cupcakes?

I. Christmas

II. Halloween

III. July 4

A. I only

**B. I and II only**

C. I, II, and III

2) Which holiday does the author like most?

**A. Christmas**

B. Halloween

C. Easter

3) Based on the things the author gets for Christmas, we can understand that he likes

A. sports

B. art

**C. music**

4) What is the author's favorite thing about holidays?

A. not going to school

B. eating candy

**C. getting presents**

5) What costume did the author wear for Halloween last year?

**A. a skeleton costume**

B. a zombie costume

C. a pumpkin costume

6) Based on what you know about the author, what costume will he probably wear next year?

A. a pumpkin costume

B. a flower costume

**C. a ghost costume**

7) This story is mainly about

**A. why the author likes some holidays**

B. how someone can get out of school

C. which foods are the best to eat on different holidays

8) What is the best title for this passage?

**A. The Holidays I Like**

B. Why Christmas is Best

C. Hot Dogs and Salad

## **Perseverance Rover**

**NASA's Mars 2020 Perseverance rover performed its first drive on Mars on March 4, covering 21.3 feet (6.5 meters) across the Martian landscape. The drive served as a mobility test that marks just one of many milestones as team members check out and calibrate every system, subsystem, and instrument on Perseverance. Once the rover begins pursuing its science goals, regular commutes extending 656 feet (200 meters) or more are expected.**

**The Mars 2020 Perseverance Rover mission is part of NASA's Mars Exploration Program, a long-term effort of robotic exploration of the Red Planet. The mission addresses high-priority science goals for Mars exploration, including key questions about the potential for life on Mars. Perseverance takes the next step by not only seeking signs of habitable conditions on Mars in the ancient past but also searching for signs of past microbial life itself. The rover introduces a drill that can collect core samples of the most promising rocks and soils and set them aside in a "cache" on the surface of Mars. A future mission could potentially return these samples to Earth. That would help scientists study the samples in laboratories with special room-sized equipment that would be too large to take to Mars. The mission also provides opportunities to gather knowledge and demonstrate technologies that address the challenges of future human expeditions to Mars. These include testing a method for producing oxygen from the Martian atmosphere, identifying other resources (such as subsurface water), improving landing techniques, and characterizing weather, dust, and other potential environmental conditions that could affect future astronauts living and working on Mars.**

**Perseverance was timed for a launch opportunity between July 30 and Aug. 15, 2020, when Earth and Mars were in good positions relative to each other for landing on Mars. That is, it took less power to travel to Mars at that time, compared to other times when Earth and Mars were in different positions in their orbits. To keep mission costs and risks as low as possible, the Mars 2020 design is based on NASA's successful Mars Science Laboratory mission architecture, including its Curiosity rover and proven landing system.**

1. In the following sentence fill in the blank with the appropriate phrase:

The Mars 2020 Perseverance Rover mission is part of\_\_\_\_\_

- A. National geography program
  - B. Space X project
  - C. NASA's Mars Exploration Program
  - D. International organization of geology
2. What is the main and high-priority mission of sending a rover to Mars?
    - A. Search the Aliens
    - B. Measure the temperature
    - C. Contact with Mars community
    - D. Science goals
  3. The mars is also known as :
    - A. Green planet
    - B. Brown planet
    - C. Red planet
    - D. Black planet

4. In the beginning of the passage the author implies that:
  - A. Perseverance was timed for a launch opportunity between July 30 and Aug
  - B. The first driving performance of the rover on Mars 4 March 2020
  - C. A future mission could potentially return these samples to Earth
  - D. Different kinds of stones were found on mars
5. According to the author, Perseverance takes the next step by not only seeking signs of habitable conditions on Mars in the ancient past but also searching for:
  - A. Water and sand
  - B. Signs of past microbial life itself
  - C. Oxygen and other different gases
  - D. Creatures

### **Covid-19 in India**

**India is presently witnessing a rapid surge in the number of COVID-19 cases. Although the nationwide lockdown has been able to decelerate the spread, the country's ever-increasing population, remarkably high population density and poor socioeconomic conditions are major barriers in India's battle against COVID-19. The Government of India and the health care providers have been relentless in their efforts. The citizens must also help support the fight against the pandemic by adhering to government advisories of containment and social distancing.**

**The novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) has already affected over 6.9 million people, claiming more than 400,000 lives in over 200 nations all over the world. As of June 9, 2020, most of the cases were reported from the United States of America, Brazil, and Russia. While some nations (like China and South Korea) have successfully been able to flatten the pandemic curve, other**

nations are finding it difficult to achieve the same. In the absence of any definite therapy against COVID-19, the resilience of the healthcare infrastructure and health professionals is being put to the test. The World Health Organization (WHO) recently stated that the “future of the pandemic will depend on how India handles it.”

The biggest challenge in India’s fight against COVID-19 is the population, with a population density that is almost 3 times that of China. The scenario is potentially worse in urban slums where the population density may exceed more than 250,000/km, making social distancing impossible. As many as 140 million people in India are migrant daily-wage Labs; with the imposition of nationwide lockdown, they are being forced to flock back to their villages without being able to abide by government advisories of social distancing. Unfortunately, another major hurdle in India’s struggle against COVID-19 has been the attitude and actions of some of the citizens; there have been occasional reports of civilians hiding travel history in an attempt to escape quarantine and people participating in otherwise forbidden massive religious gatherings.

1. The World Health Organization has stated that:
  - A. The people of India will fight the pandemic easily
  - B. The COVID-19 pandemic is one of the most dangerous diseases
  - C. The spread of COVID-19 pandemic is fast
  - D. The future of the pandemic will depend on how India handles it
2. Which of the following statements is the biggest challenge in fighting COVID-19?
  - A. Schools and educational institutions
  - B. Weddings and festivals

- C. population and massive religious gatherings
  - D. The nationwide lockdown
3. The beginning of the passage indicated that the citizens must also help support the fight against the pandemic by:
- A. staying home and using the sanitiser
  - B. following the instructions and the precautions
  - C. wearing mask, gloves and sanitizing the hands
  - D. Adhering to government advisories of containment and social distancing.
4. Fill in the blank with the appropriate phrase:  
The most of the cases were reported from \_\_\_\_\_
- A. United States of America, Brazil, and Russia.
  - B. China, Italy and Iran
  - C. Russia, United States of America
  - D. United states of America, china and Russia
5. The many people have already affected by COVID-19 pandemic?
- A. Over 6.9 million people
  - B. Less than 6.9 million people
  - C. Over 10 million people
  - D. Cannot be counted