Mixed Holiday Trivia

Choose one answer per question. Circle A, B, C, or D.

1. What are the diyas that many people light for Diwali?
   A. Small oil lamps
   B. Paper kites
   C. Colorful wristbands
   D. Decorated bells

2. When lighting a Hanukkah menorah, what is the role of the helper light called the shamash?
   A. It measures the oil used for each light.
   B. It counts as the light for the first night.
   C. It provides the flame for lighting the other lights.
   D. It covers the wick after the lights burn out.

3. Which celebration of African American and Pan-African heritage runs from December 26 through January 1?
   A. Hanukkah
   B. Kwanzaa
   C. Diwali
   D. Vesak

4. In Japan, the koinobori streamers flown for Children’s Day are traditionally shaped like which fish?
   A. Flounder
   B. Swordfish
   C. Tuna
   D. Carp

5. Which country is known for Junkanoo street parades on Boxing Day and New Year’s Day?
   A. Barbados
   B. The Bahamas
   C. Jamaica
   D. Saint Lucia

6. Which Islamic holiday marks the end of Ramadan?

A. Eid al-Fitr
B. Eid al-Adha
C. Islamic New Year
D. Laylat al-Qadr

7. In the Thai government’s account of Songkran, what do younger people traditionally pour onto their elders’ palms as a sign of respect?

A. Tea leaves
B. Rice
C. Flower petals
D. Water

8. What type of food is songpyeon, which Korea’s National Folk Museum associates with Chuseok?

A. Wheat flatbreads
B. Buckwheat noodles
C. Rice cakes
D. Pickled vegetables

9. On which day of the first lunar month does Taiwan’s calendar place the traditional Lantern Festival?

A. The 15th day
B. The 1st day
C. The 5th day
D. The 25th day

10. Ethiopia’s heritage register describes parish processions during Timkat. What kind of place is the destination called Timkete-Bahir?

A. A courtyard reserved for a royal banquet
B. A marketplace for the harvest
C. A hall for civic meetings
D. A body of water, such as a pool, river, or reservoir

11. Which caption fits Te Papa’s account of regional ways to mark the Māori New Year in Aotearoa New Zealand?

A. Puanga and Matariki are two names for the same star cluster.
B. All iwi watch for the same star and call it Puanga.
C. Some iwi watch for the rising of Puanga as a sign of the new year.
D. Puanga is the November full moon that marks the beginning of summer.

12. Which pairing fits the Jewish Museum’s description of matzah and bitter herbs at a Passover seder?

A. Matzah is sweet fruit paste. Bitter herbs recall the construction of the Temple.
B. Matzah is unleavened bread. Bitter herbs recall the hardship of slavery.
C. Matzah is leavened bread. Bitter herbs mark the start of a harvest festival.
D. Matzah is a roasted egg. Bitter herbs represent fresh mortar.

13. Which events in the life of the Buddha are named in the 1999 United Nations resolution recognizing the Day of Vesak?

A. His final journey, first sermon, and birth
B. His marriage, first journey, and enlightenment
C. His birth, first sermon, and marriage
D. His birth, enlightenment, and death

14. Which caption correctly dates the two events the French presidency discusses in its history of the July 14 national holiday?

A. The Bastille fell in 1789. The Festival of the Federation took place in 1790.
B. The Festival of the Federation took place in 1789. The Bastille fell in 1790.
C. The Bastille fell and the Festival of the Federation took place in 1789.
D. The Bastille fell and the Festival of the Federation took place in 1790.

15. Which timeline matches the National Library of Jamaica’s account of independence and the later restoration of the August 1 Emancipation Day holiday?

A. Jamaica became independent in 1962 and restored Emancipation Day on August 6 in 1997.
B. Jamaica restored the August 1 holiday in 1962 and became independent in 1997.
C. Jamaica became independent in 1962 and restored the August 1 holiday in 1997.
D. Jamaica restored the August 1 holiday and became independent in 1962.