St. Patrick’s Day Trivia

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

1. On what date is St. Patrick’s Day observed in Ireland?
   A. March 17
   B. March 7
   C. March 21
   D. April 17

2. Which plant is traditionally worn as a small sprig on St. Patrick’s Day?
   A. Heather
   B. Rosemary
   C. Shamrock
   D. Ivy

3. In a popular story about St. Patrick, which animals did he drive out of Ireland?
   A. Wolves
   B. Snakes
   C. Foxes
   D. Owls

4. Which river is famously turned green during the St. Patrick’s Day celebrations in downtown Chicago?
   A. The Milwaukee River
   B. The Illinois River
   C. The Mississippi River
   D. The Chicago River

5. What holiday is called ‘Lá Fhéile Pádraig’ in Irish?
   A. St. Brigid’s Day
   B. St. Patrick’s Day
   C. All Saints’ Day
   D. All Souls’ Day

6. In his Confession, about how old did Patrick say he was when he was taken captive and brought to Ireland?
   A. 16
   B. 8
   C. 25
   D. 40

7. Galway City Museum describes the decorated crosses children wore on St. Patrick’s Day in the 1800s. Which description matches a typical badge?

A. A carved wooden harp worn on a belt
B. A miniature cast-iron bell attached to a shoe
C. A tile painted with a map and sewn into a coat lining
D. A cross on a base of card, decorated with colored paper or ribbon

8. In 2023, An Post issued St. Patrick’s Day stamps showing a lion motif from an illustrated medieval manuscript. Which manuscript supplied the design?

A. The Book of Armagh
B. The Book of Durrow
C. The Book of Kells
D. The Lindisfarne Gospels

9. Under the Bank Holiday (Ireland) Act of 1903, when was the bank holiday to be observed if March 17 fell on a Sunday?

A. The following Monday
B. The preceding Saturday
C. The following Friday
D. The next Sunday

10. Croagh Patrick in County Mayo is the site of a traditional pilgrimage called Reek Sunday. In which month does the main annual pilgrimage traditionally take place?

A. September
B. March
C. May
D. July

11. A curator finds George Washington’s March 16, 1780, order for the next day at his winter camp. Which change in camp routine can the order itself support?

A. Washington declared St. Patrick’s Day a federal holiday for the whole country.
B. Washington scheduled the usual work parties for an extra shift.
C. Washington directed routine work parties to stop for St. Patrick’s Day.
D. Washington changed the observance to the following week.

12. Adriaen Collaert’s 1603 engraving places episodes from Patrick’s life around a central figure of the saint. Which claim can that print support most directly?

A. The artist witnessed the events and drew them as they happened.
B. An artist in 1603 presented the saint through several stories in one picture.
C. Patrick dictated the engraving’s captions during his lifetime.
D. Every scene in the print came from Patrick’s account of his life.

13. An exhibit says St. Patrick’s Day observances in what is now the United States began in the 1700s. Spanish colonial records from around 1600 describe a public observance of San Patricio in St. Augustine. How do those records affect the exhibit’s claim?

A. The records establish the year when the feast was first celebrated in Ireland.
B. St. Augustine celebrated the feast annually without interruption from then onward.
C. The holiday reached St. Augustine from a nineteenth-century New York parade.
D. They document an observance in what is now the United States before the 1700s.

14. Traveler Thomas Dinely described shamrock wearing in Ireland in 1681. Which statement is directly supported by his account?

A. Shamrock wearing was part of the holiday for some people by 1681.
B. Patrick himself taught with a shamrock during his lifetime.
C. People across Ireland began wearing shamrock for the first time in 1681.
D. Everyone who observed the day wore shamrock in 1681.

15. The National Museum of Ireland dates a bell traditionally linked to Patrick to the eighth or ninth century. An inscription dates its protective shrine to about 1100. Which conclusion fits the evidence?

A. The shrine was made before the bell it now encloses.
B. The inscription dates the bell and shrine to the same year.
C. The bell is older than the shrine made to house it.
D. The inscription records the date Patrick began using the bell.