Thanksgiving Trivia

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

1. Which Thursday in November is the U.S. federal Thanksgiving holiday?
   A. The fourth Thursday
   B. The first Thursday
   C. The second Thursday
   D. The third Thursday

2. What bird is presented for the annual Thanksgiving pardon at the White House?
   A. A duck
   B. A goose
   C. A turkey
   D. A pheasant

3. Growers often flood cranberry beds to collect the ripe fruit. What lets the berries rise to the top of the water?
   A. Long stems that act as floats
   B. Air spaces inside the berries
   C. Waterproof seed shells
   D. Thick outer layers of ice

4. In which month does Canada observe its Thanksgiving holiday?
   A. December
   B. September
   C. November
   D. October

5. Which familiar Thanksgiving ingredient is a swollen storage root?
   A. Pumpkin
   B. Sweet potato
   C. Cranberry
   D. Acorn squash

6. Which president proclaimed a national day of thanksgiving in 1863, during the Civil War?
   A. Abraham Lincoln
   B. Andrew Johnson
   C. Ulysses S. Grant
   D. James Buchanan

7. Which magazine editor wrote to Lincoln in 1863 urging a national Thanksgiving holiday?

A. Elizabeth Cady Stanton
B. Harriet Beecher Stowe
C. Louisa May Alcott
D. Sarah Josepha Hale

8. Which Indigenous people joined English colonists at the 1621 harvest gathering at Patuxet, where Plymouth was settled?

A. Seminole
B. Cherokee
C. Wampanoag
D. Hopi

9. According to Edward Winslow’s account, how long did the 1621 harvest gathering last?

A. Three days
B. One day
C. Five days
D. Seven days

10. Which group of crops is known as the Three Sisters in a number of Indigenous farming traditions?

A. Apples, grapes, and cranberries
B. Wheat, oats, and barley
C. Potatoes, onions, and turnips
D. Corn, beans, and squash

11. Which Wampanoag leader at the 1621 gathering did English sources call Massasoit?

A. Metacom
B. Wamsutta
C. Ousamequin
D. Tisquantum

12. Which English colonist wrote the surviving eyewitness account describing the three-day gathering and the deer brought by Wampanoag participants?

A. William Bradford
B. Edward Winslow
C. John Smith
D. John Winthrop

13. In what year did Franklin D. Roosevelt sign the resolution establishing the fourth Thursday of November as Thanksgiving Day?

A. 1945
B. 1933
C. 1939
D. 1941

14. Which president explicitly granted a Thanksgiving turkey a presidential pardon at the 1989 ceremony?

A. George H. W. Bush
B. Ronald Reagan
C. Jimmy Carter
D. Bill Clinton

15. Which sequence puts these U.S. Thanksgiving milestones in order from earliest to latest?

A. The law fixing the fourth Thursday, Lincoln’s Civil War proclamation, Washington’s national proclamation
B. Lincoln’s Civil War proclamation, Washington’s national proclamation, the law fixing the fourth Thursday
C. Washington’s national proclamation, Lincoln’s Civil War proclamation, the law fixing the fourth Thursday
D. Washington’s national proclamation, the law fixing the fourth Thursday, Lincoln’s Civil War proclamation