

Words and expressions

a public holiday официальный праздник	to be no longer limited to banks не распространяться больше только на банки
a bank holiday "банковский" праздник (официальный праздник)	to be observed праздноваться, соблюдаться
that is то есть	respectively соответственно
Christmas Day Рождество	to fall выпадать
Boxing Day День подарков	origin происхождение
New Year's Day Новый год	greater больший
Good Friday пятница перед Пасхой	to relax отдыхать
Easter Monday понедельник после Пасхи	to make merry веселиться
May Day Первое мая	custom обычай
term термин	to be associated быть связанным
to date back to восходить к	to be a part of a holiday season быть частью многодневного праздника
to be constituted a bank holiday получить статус официального праздника	centuries-old traditions многовековые традиции
observance Празднование	unless they... если они не...

PRE-READING

Task 1. Find Russian equivalents to English idioms about different holidays.

1.To ring out the Old Year	a) Идти как по маслу
2.To ring in the New Year	b) Единение с семьей
3.To be dressed up like a Christmas tree	c) Замечательно провести время
4.To cancel someone's Christmas	d) Быть душой компании
5.To deck the halls	e) Вырядиться слишком ярко, вызывающе
6.Togetherness	f) Влетать в копеечку
7.Have a whale of a time	g) Декорировать помещения
8.Break the bank	h) Провожать старый год
9.Be the life and soul of the party	i) Встречать Новый год
10.Run (go) like clockwork	j) Испортить кому-то настроение

Task 2. Make sentences about celebrating New Year using English idioms.

Model: Our family has a tradition to ring in the New Year abroad.

Holidays

There are eight public holidays (bank holidays) a year in Great Britain, that is days on which people do not need to go to work. They are: Christmas Day, Boxing Day, New Year's Day, Good Friday, Easter Monday, May Day, Spring Holiday and Late Summer Holiday. The term "bank holiday" dates back to the 19th century when in 1871 and 1875 most of these days were constituted bank holidays, that is, days on which banks were to be closed. The observance of these days is no longer limited to banks.

All the public holidays, except Christmas Day and Boxing Day observed on the 25th and 26th of December respectively, do not fall on the same date each year. Good Friday and Easter Monday depend on Easter Sunday which falls on the first Monday in May. The Spring Holiday falls on the last Monday of May, while Late Summer Holiday falls on the last Monday in August.

Most of these holidays are of religious origin, though for the greater part of the population they have lost their religious significance and are simply days on which people relax, eat, drink and make merry.

Certain customs and traditions are associated with most public holidays. The reason is that many of them are part of holiday seasons as Easter and Christmas holiday seasons which are religious by origin and are connected by centuries-old traditions.

Besides public holidays, there are other festivals, anniversaries and simply days, on which certain traditions are observed, but unless they fall on a Sunday, they are ordinary working days.

WHILE-READING

Task 3. Read the text and prove whether the given statements are true.

Model: Public holidays include Christmas Day, Boxing Day, New Year's Day, Good Friday, Easter Monday, May Day, Spring Holiday and Late Summer Holiday, don't they? – *Yes, they do. There are 8 public holidays in UK and among them are Christmas Day, Boxing Day, New Year's Day, Good Friday, Easter Monday, May Day, Spring Holiday and Late Summer Holiday.*

1. Certain customs and traditions are associated with most public holidays, aren't they?
2. People go to work on many festivals, anniversaries and simply days, on which certain traditions are observed, don't they?
3. Most of these holidays have lost their religious significance and are simply days, aren't they?

Task 4. Read the text and prove whether the given statements are false.

Model: There are eight public holidays (bank holidays) a year in America, that is days on which people must go to work, mustn't they? – *No, they mustn't. On these days people do not need to go to work.*

1. All the public holidays, except Christmas Day and Boxing Day observed on the 25th and 26th of December respectively, fall on the same date each year, don't they?
2. Good Friday and Easter Monday don't depend on Easter Sunday which falls on the first Monday in May, do they?
3. All holidays are not of religious origin, they are simply days on which people relax, eat, drink and make merry, are they?

Task 5. Answer the questions according to the text. Your answer should be as full as possible.

1. What holidays are "bank holidays"? What does it mean?
2. How many public holidays are there in Great Britain?
3. Why most of these holidays are simply days on which people relax, eat, drink and make merry?
4. Are there any holidays that are connected by centuries-old traditions?
5. There are only eight public holidays that are celebrated in Britain, aren't they?

Task 6. Retell the text. Use about 4-5 sentences from it.

POST-READING

Task 7. Represtate the text according the context.

1. There are eight a year in Great Britain, that is days on which ... do not need to go to

2. dates back to the 19th century when in 1871 and 1875 most of these days were holidays, that is, days on which batiks were to be... .
3. the public, except Christmas Day and Boxing Day on the 25th and 26th of , do not fall on the same date year.
4. The falls on the last..... of....., while Late Summer falls on the last..... in
5. customs and traditions are with most holidays.
6. The of these is no longer to
7. Good and depend on which falls on the first..... in
8. public, there are other festivals, and simply, on certain are, but unless they fall on a they are working
10. Most of these holidays..... of origin, for the greater part of the they have lost and are simply days on people, eat, drink and merry .

Task 8. Let's speak about one of these holidays in Britain. Use the information from the chart.

Holidays in Britain

Public holidays (bank holidays)	The date	People usually ...	Traditional meals
Christmas Day	the 25 th of December	Get together, share happiness, exchange gifts, hag stockings, deck the halls	Roast turkey Christmas pudding Christmas pie
New Year's Day	The 31 th of December	To ring out the Old Year, ring in the New Year, have a whale of a time, get together, decorate houses	Citrus-roasted salmon Grape salad Apricot-stuffed pork loin
Easter Monday	?	Color eggs, hide colored and chocolate eggs, prepare Hot Cross Buns, Have a whale of a time	English apple pie Hot Cross Buns Eggs Stuffed leg of lamb Honey butter ham Irish lamb stew