

## LS and US First Christmas Homework

**Reading** – read about ‘Not your typical Christmas’ by Grace L.



I work at a school in Germany and recently I have been going into lots of different English lessons to explain how Christmas is in England and how it is for me. I find it difficult to explain how it is in England for most people as my Christmas is totally different! In this post I will tell you about how my family and I spend the day and our own family traditions.

We don't wake up as early as we did when we were younger on Christmas day; some time around 9am. We sit and eat breakfast together and then we go to a famous place called Stanage Edge.

Stanage Edge is well known to climbers and walkers and is in a very beautiful place called the Peak District. For climbers it is a popular tradition to climb up a special climbing route called “Christmas Crack”. It is quite an easy climb that people do for fun. There are always lots of people waiting to do the climb and it's nice to stand and talk with them and friends. We usually drink hot chocolate together and eat mince pies while we wait. After we have finished the climb, we go for a short walk with our friends.

Afterwards we drive home and the long day of cooking begins! My mother

and I are vegetarian, so we don't eat the usual Christmas turkey. In the past we have eaten mushroom and chestnut wellington or nut roast. It's always delicious and we always eat it for a few days afterwards because there is so much! We usually eat our "dinner" at about 6pm (dinner is normally eaten in the afternoon, much earlier) and we watch the TV program Doctor Who. There is always a Christmas special and it's fun to watch.

At the end of the day, we are so tired and so full that we can't do much more! We sit and play board games or sing together. My parents are divorced so it's nice to have the family all together.

Is your Christmas Day different too? How do you celebrate?

➔ Write about what you do on Christmas Day

## **Writing – FOMO?**

Do you suffer from FOMO? Look at the magazine article and do the exercises to improve your writing skills.

<https://learnenglishteens.britishcouncil.org/skills/writing/b2-writing/fomo>

## **Listening and Vocabulary**

What does "Light up like a Christmas tree" mean?

Listen and find out!

[https://www.bbc.co.uk/learningenglish/features/the-english-we-speak\\_2023/ep-231226](https://www.bbc.co.uk/learningenglish/features/the-english-we-speak_2023/ep-231226)

➔ Write down the different examples given. When do you "light up like a Christmas tree"?

## Listening and grammar – New Year New Project!

Think about your new year's resolutions and revise just, already and yet with the present perfect tense at the same time! Rob and Finn share their ideas for the New Year. Finn wants to be healthy - but can he stick to his plans? We also take a look at the words

Watch the video and do the activities

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/learningenglish/english/course/lower-intermediate/unit-14/session-1>

### Exam Practice –

(from Grammar and Vocabulary for First and First for Schools Cambridge University Press 2015)

Read about Paco and his school. Choose the correct words in his email to a penfriend.

Hi Paco

You asked me about the education system in my country. I'm still at (1) **school / the school** because it's (2) **essential / compulsory** here up to the (3) **age / year** of 16. We go to a kindergarten or nursery school first and then, when we're four or five years of (4) **old / age** we (5) **start/ join** primary school, where we spend seven years. I now (6) **go / attend** a state secondary school, which has about 1,000 (7) **pupils / undergraduates**. We have six lessons a day and each subject is (8) **taught / learnt** by a different teacher. We have a lot of homework and projects, and if we (9) **lose / miss** an important deadline, we have to stay (10) **following / after** school to finish the work and hand it in. We have to wear a uniform until we're 15 but after that we're (11) **let / allowed** to wear our own clothes. When we're 16 we (12) **take / pass** some exams. Then we can either (13) **leave/ depart** school and go to a different college or stay on for two more years. During those years we (14) **learn / study** just three or four subjects. There are also (15) **opportunities / occasions** to do vocational courses like sport or mechanics at a college of further education. I haven't decided what to do yet.

All the best, David

**Have a lovely Christmas holiday and see you in the New Year!**