

# A General Survey of English-Speaking Countries

11. Christmas 1

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圣诞节





- Silent night
- Decoration
- What Does Christmas Commemorate
- Christmas traditions
- Stories about Christmas

### Silent night

#### December 24







Christmas trees

decorated with lights and Christmas ornaments

### artificial snow





• Christmas is a Christian holiday that commemorates the birth of Christ

more than 2,000 years ago.

· 'Christ' means 'Messiah'(弥赛亚, 犹太人盼望的复国救主) or 'Anointed One' (基督, 救世主) — the title given to Jesus.

• At midnight on Christmas Eve, most churches hold special candlelight services that feature decorations, candles, and singing.















Candlelight Service in a Village Church



 Would you please tell us some Christmas traditions?



#### **Christmas Traditions**

- Christmas Cards
- **◆**Exchanging Gifts
- **◆Christmas Trees**
- **◆**Mistletoe and Holly
- **◆Santa Claus**
- Sharing Christmas Cookies
- Ornaments of Stars and Lights
- **Candy Canes**
- **◆**Song



### Origin:

"Penny Post": Any one of several postal systems in which normal letters could be sent for one penny.



• Traditionally, Christmas cards showed what kind of pictures?

• - Mary, Joseph and baby Jesus, or other parts of the Christmas story. Today, pictures are often jokes, winter pictures, Father Christmas, or romantic scenes of life in past times.





















City Scenes Card

**Country Scenes Card** 



# Exchanging Gifts



# ◆Exchanging Gifts

圣经中的人物。由于波其 士

黄金表征神圣的性情, 乳香表 征复活的馨香, 没药表征死的 馨香。星象家献上这些礼物, 无疑是受了神的灵感动,来指 • Three Wise Men东方三 明基督神圣性情的价值,以及 他复活与受死的宝贵。

(法师)之义,他们可能是古》 祭司。据圣经马 太福音记载,耶稣出生三位博士、东方看见伯利恒 方向的天空上有一颗大星,于是便跟着它来到了耶 稣基督的出生地。因为他们带来黄金、乳香、没药 , 所以有人称他们为"东方三博士": 但在有提到 这几位学者的马太福音,只是写了有几位来自东方 的博士。而从没有提到博士的数目

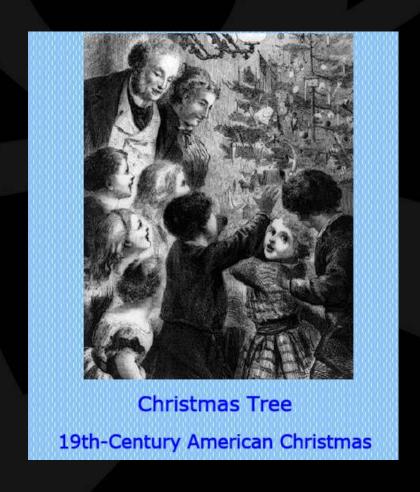
# Exchanging Gifts



# Exchanging Gifts



• Before, ancient people used evergreens for decoration and religious ceremonies. Because evergreens do not die in the winter, they came to symbolize eternal life (永生). Many features of the modern American Christmas did not become familiar until the 19th century, when the newly emerged middle class used the occasion to draw families together and lavish(愧 慨给予) gifts on children.



This 1870 illustration shows an American family gathered around a Christmas tree, then a relatively new symbol of the holiday. German immigrants to the United States brought the custom of Christmas trees with them in the 1800s.







#### White House Tree

The tradition of placing a decorated tree in the White House began in 1889 on Christmas morning during the Presidency of Benjamin Harrison(本杰明·哈里



**President Roosevelt** 



President Kennedy and the First Lady Jacqueline Kennedy



Photo courtesy the Nixon Presidential Materials Project

1969 Nixon tree featured velvet(天鹅绒的) and satin(绸缎做的) balls representing each of the 50 states made by disabled workers in Florida. The ornaments were embossed(饰以浮饰) with the flower of each state.



The 1986 Reagan tree



The 1998 Clinton tree was based on the theme "A Winter Wonderland(仙境)." The tree featured fabric snowmen ornaments, knitted mittens (棒球手 套) and hats, and painted wooden ornaments.





Christmas Tree at Rockefeller Center,
New York , Dec. 2004

### Review

- 1. Silent night falls on December \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2. Christmas is a Christian holiday that commemorates the birth of \_\_\_\_\_ more than 2,000 years ago.
- 3. "Penny Post": Any one of several postal systems in which normal letters could be sent for \_\_\_\_\_ penny.
- 4. What kinds of traditions do we have when Christmas comes?