



石家莊鐵道大學
SHIJIAZHUANG TIEDAO UNIVERSITY

网络精品课程

A General Survey of English-Speaking Countries

12. Christmas 2

主讲：李兰冬

Christmas

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

Christmas

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Christmas Traditions

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

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◆ Mistletoe and Holly



Christmas Traditions

◆Mistletoe & Holly (槲寄生&冬青)

◆ *Mistletoe*

- *Mistletoe* is a widespread flowering plant parasite(寄生植物) that grows on oak, apple, juniper(刺柏属树木), pine, and other trees. Their leaves, found on the surface of branches and trunks, produce sugar through photosynthesis (光合作用), but their roots penetrate into the tree' s tissue and absorb its nutrients. Some species of mistletoe(槲寄生) lack leaves altogether and rely solely on their host tree to provide all their nourishment.

◆ Mistletoe

Mistletoe



◆Mistletoe

- ***The* custom of decorating with mistletoe at Christmastime dates to the Romans. They thought of mistletoe as a symbol of peace. They believed enemies would resolve their differences when they met beneath it. The Christmas custom of kissing under the mistletoe is thought to come from this ancient belief.**

◆Mistletoe

- Northern Europeans associated the plant with the Norse (挪威的) goddess of love, Freya (司爱与美的女神), and developed the custom of kissing underneath mistletoe branches. Christians incorporated this custom into their Christmas celebrations, and kissing under a mistletoe branch eventually became a part of secular (非宗教的) Christmas tradition.

◆Holly

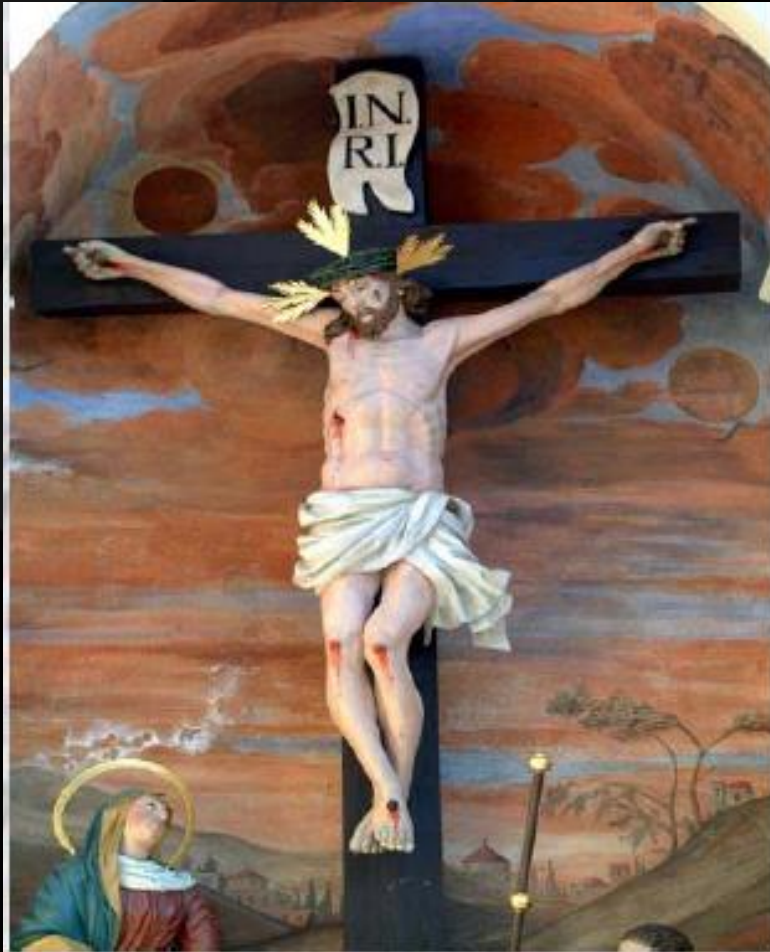


◆Holly

- *What Does Holly Symbolize ?*

Holly is also a popular Christmas decoration. Its sharp, pointed leaves are considered a symbol of Christ' s crown of thorns (荆棘冠冕) . Christ wore the crown when he was crucified (nailed to a cross).

◆Holly



Jesus Christ was *crucified*

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Christmas Traditions

◆ Santa Claus



◆Santa Claus



Father Christmas' (or Santa Claus) pictures will be seen everywhere of the old man with long white beard, red coat, and bag of toys. Children are taught that he brings them presents the night before Christmas. In most countries, it is said that he lives near the North Pole, and arrives through the sky on a sledge(雪橇) pulled by reindeer(驯鹿).

◆ Santa Claus



◆ *Santa Claus*



◆ Santa Claus



◆ *Santa Claus*



- *He* comes into houses down the chimney at midnight and places presents for the children in socks or bags by their beds or in front of the family Christmas tree. Presents are usually opened on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day.

◆ Santa Claus



Santa Got Stuck in Chimney

◆ Santa Claus



**Santa Claus down the Chimney with Toys
for Every Child Who's Tried to Do Their
Best**

◆ Santa Claus



Christmas Stockings

◆ *Santa Claus*



In shops or at children's parties, someone will dress up as Father Christmas and give small presents to children, or ask them what gifts they want for Christmas. Christmas can be a time of magic and

◆ *Santa Claus*



**At Christmastime,
Santa Claus can
often
be found at major
shopping malls.
Santa invites
children
to sit on his lap and
have their picture
taken with him.**

Christmas Traditions

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Christmas Traditions

◆ Sharing Christmas Cookies



◆Sharing Christmas Cookies



**Mince(肉) Pies on a Cooling Rack
(架)**

Christmas Traditions

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Christmas Traditions

- ◆ **Ornaments of Stars and Lights**



◇ *Star of Bethlehem*

The star that guided the Wise Men to Bethlehem on the holy night when Christ was born

◆Stars



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◇ *Christmas Star*

◆Stars



◆Lights

◇ *Christmas Lights*

- **Today, most people decorate their homes and yards with electric lights in place of candles.**



Christmas Traditions

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Christmas Traditions

- ◆ **Candy Canes**
(拐棍糖)

◆ Candy Canes (手杖/拐棍糖)



Christmas Traditions

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Christmas Traditions

◆ Song

◆ Song

We Wish You a Merry Christmas



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Stories about Christmas

- ★ The Story of Christ' s Birth**
- ★ The Story of the Shepherds**
- ★ The Angel Announcing Christ' s Birth**
- ★ The Story of the Wise Men**
- ★ Christmas around the World**

★ The Story of Christ's Birth

★The Story of Christ's Birth

- ***The story of Christ's birth comes mainly from the New Testament of the Bible (圣经新约), a holy book of Christianity. According to the Bible, Jesus was born as a baby to Mary. This was no ordinary birth! She was not married, she was a virgin, and an angel had told her she would bear a special baby. Her husband-to-be, Joseph, did not believe her at first. Then an angel told him in a dream that it was true! So when they had to travel from their home in Nazareth (巴勒斯坦地区北部古城拿撒勒) to Bethlehem (near Jerusalem), to register their names with the ruling Roman government, they probably escaped many hard words from other people.***

★The Story of Christ's Birth

- ***Arrival*** in Bethlehem brought worry and upset: The town's inn had no room for them, even though Mary was expecting a child. There was only space in the stable --- the animal house for travelers' donkeys and horses. Jesus was born that night, and as they had no bed for him, he was placed in a manger (马槽) filled with the dry grass the animals ate. Christmas cards and pictures today make it all seem very nice. In truth, it must have been dirty and frightening for a young couple, far from their home and families. Possibly the birth was premature after the stress of the journey. This was a very poor place for Jesus to start his life on earth. Christians believe that it was exactly God's plan that things happened this way. They say that it shows that Jesus came as a humble, poor person and not as a strong, rich king.

★The Story of Christ's Birth



耶穌降生

中國書法網
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★ The Story of the Shepherds

★ *The Story of the Shepherds*



★The Story of the Shepherds



In the fields near Bethlehem, an angel appeared before shepherds who were guarding their flocks. At that time, sheep farmers were seen by other people as low and of no value. Yet it was to these shepherds that the birth of Jesus was first announced.

★The Story of the Shepherds



The angel told the shepherds that a holy child named Jesus Christ had been born. 'Don't be afraid. I have good news for you, and for all people. Someone great has been born today. He is Christ, the great King you have been waiting for. He will save you from all that is wrong and evil. You will find him dressed in baby clothes, lying on a bed of dry grass. Other angels appeared and sang. After the angels had gone, the shepherds went to Bethlehem to see the child.

★The Story of the Shepherds



**The Angels Told the
Shepherds about the Birth of**

★ The Story of the Wise Men

★The Story of the Wise Men



After Jesus was born, Wise Men of the East, also called Magi or Three Kings of the Orient, came to look for Him, from an area which is now in either Iran (伊朗) or Saudi Arabia (沙特阿拉伯). Although they are often called the "Three Kings", the Bible does not say how many there were, or that they were kings. Three is only a guess because they brought with them three gifts. They were certainly men of learning-- probably today we would call them

★*The Story of the Wise Men*

They had seen an unusual new star in the sky, and knew

that it told of the birth of a special king. They followed

this guiding star to Israel to pay homage (向... 表敬意)

to the newborn Christ child, bringing with them the rich

gifts gold, frankincense (乳香, a resin (树脂) which

burns with a beautiful smell), and myrrh(没药, a plant

oil with a very strong, sweet smell) . These gifts tell us three key things about Jesus:



**★ Christmas around the
World**

★ Christmas around the World

- **Each part of the world has its own Christmas traditions. In many countries, gifts are exchanged on January 6 to mark the Epiphany(主显节). On January 5, the eve of the Epiphany, children in Spain leave grain in their shoes for the Wise Men's camels. The next morning, they find**

★ Christmas around the World

- **In Mexico, singing children parade from house to house in a tradition called posadas(客棧). They ask for shelter, like Mary and Joseph in Bethlehem before Jesus' birth. The children are turned away at many doors before they are finally invited in. Then, everyone enjoys a large meal, singing, and dancing.**

★ Christmas around the World

- In the southern part of the world, in places like Australia, Christmas arrives in summer. Australians often celebrate Christmas with a beach picnic! And Santa's sleigh is said to be pulled by eight kangaroos!**



★ Christmas around the World



Christmas Festivities, Guatemala(危地马拉)

★ Christmas around the World Review



Polish Carolers

Throughout the world singing plays an important part in Christmas festivities. The Polish women shown here are gathered together in traditional dress to sing Polish Christmas carols.

圣诞之歌

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Review

- 1. How to translate "Mistletoe and Holly"?**
- 2. What is the custom of decorating with mistletoe?**
- 3. What Does Holly Symbolize?**
- 4. Can you give 5 examples of traditions when Christmas come?**
- 5. How to translate "three wise men"?**
- 6. Santa Claus comes into houses down the _____ at midnight and places presents for the children in socks or bags by their beds or in front of the family Christmas tree.**