

1 Match the definition to a symbol or tradition associated with Ireland.

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| 1 a plant with three round leaves in a triangular pattern | a | harp |
| 2 a religious ceremony | b | leprechauns |
| 3 a march or public celebration | c | Irish coffee |
| 4 magical creatures, mischievous little old men | d | mass |
| 5 a hot drink made with cream | e | parade |
| 6 traditional stories and culture | f | Celtic Cross |
| 7 a traditional stringed instrument | g | folklore |
| 8 colours seen in arcs in the sky | h | ceilidh |
| 9 a symbol often seen made of silver, stone or as a tattoo | i | rainbows |
| 10 a traditional Irish dance event | j | shamrock |

2 Find out more about Ireland by reading this excerpt from a brochure.

Place the above words in the gaps.



Visit the magical Emerald Isle

Known as the Emerald Isle, beautiful Ireland is a land where you will make many wonderful discoveries. Come here to see its stunning scenery and frequent (1) _____. Walk in the picturesque mountains or along the rugged coasts. You may be lucky enough to see some (2) _____ standing proudly in the landscape.

Encounter Irish traditions in music and literature by dancing at a (3) _____, listening to a (4) _____ performance or reading about mischievous little (5) _____ in Irish (6) _____.

Relax and drink an (7) _____ or a pint of Guinness while you watch a St Patrick's Day (8) _____, or attend Sunday (9) _____ along with many of the locals. Wear green or a (10) _____ to blend in with the crowd.

3 Match these sentence-halves.

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| a St Patrick's Day is said | i | in Ireland. |
| b The shamrock was used | ii | Irish Guards on St Patrick's Day. |
| c The best Guinness is brewed | iii | many people of Irish descent. |
| d The Saint's Day is celebrated by | iv | to explain the Holy Trinity. |
| e St Patrick's Day celebrations are held in | v | by a large number of people in Ireland. |
| f St Patrick's Day is one of a number of | vi | buried in County Down, Ireland. |
| g Parades are attended | vii | to date back to medieval times. |
| h St Patrick is said to be | viii | feast days enjoyed in Ireland. |
| i Shamrocks are worn by the | ix | many countries e.g. the UK,
Canada, Argentina and New Zealand. |

4 Choose the correct alternative in each of these sentences:

- a Ireland *surrounds/is surrounded by* hundreds of islands and islets.
- b Ireland's first settlers *arrived/were arrived* in 8000 BC.
- c The current population *is/is been* around 4.2 million.
- d Ireland *has made/has been made* a great contribution to world literature.
- e The tradition of Irish folk music and dance *knows/is known* worldwide.
- f Gaelic Games *mostly govern/are mostly governed by* the Gaelic Athletics Association.
- g Ireland *has produced/is produced* four Nobel Prize winners for literature.
- h Ireland *affects/is affected by* a mild, but changeable oceanic climate.
- i The 1990s *saw/is seen* a period of economic growth, which *knows/was known* as the Celtic Tiger.
- j Irish *speaks/is spoken by* less than 10% of the population.

