

## Lesson 3

# A TRADITIONAL STORY

### A SPEAKING: EASTER DAY



What would you say if someone asked you about Easter around the world? How much do you know about customs in Greece as well as in other countries?

Let's see what some students discovered about Easter customs working on a school project.

*Κέρκυρα, το σπάσιμο των Μπότιδων*

"...On Easter Day, all the people of this Greek village attended the mass and then walked to the countryside. The Easter tables were set and the men were roasting the Easter lamb. They sat down at the tables, offering Papa-Kyriakos, the priest, a special seat. And then the feast began. They were eating happily, enjoying their Easter meal after a 40-day fast. Grown-ups were drinking local wine and joking while children were playing and singing, wishing everybody "Happy Easter".

*From "Εξοχική Λαμπρή" by Αλέξανδρος Παπαδιαμάντης*



"...At Easter there were programs on the Norwegian TV of another kind: detective series.

Nobody quite knew why, but for some reason Easter is the most popular time for reading crime stories and detective novels in Norway. The TV stations all had at least one detective series on the air at Easter. The series and the books were referred to as "Easter-crime".

Going skiing in the mountains is for many Norwegians what Easter holidays are all about. Getting away from the city, enjoying the snow and the weather and not to mention getting a tan to show off when back at work are popular things to do during the vacation...."

*From Olaf Amundsen, Norway*

"...In many communities in Mexico, the full Passion Play is enacted from the Last Supper, the Betrayal, the Judgement, the Procession of the 12 Stations of the Cross, the Crucifixion and finally, the Resurrection. The enactments are often nicely staged, costumed and acted, with participants preparing for their roles for nearly the full year leading up to Semana Santa (Holy Week)...."

*From Esther Martinez, Mexico City*

Now discuss for a few minutes with your partner. Refer to the customs mentioned in the texts above and which you found were different from those in your country. Then talk about any other Easter customs you may know about.

Look at Appendix, pp. 146-148 more information on Easter customs in other countries. Report to the class.

COUNTRY	SIMILARITIES	DIFFERENCES
Greece		
Norway		
Mexico		

## CROSS CURRICULAR PROJECT

- Now, work in groups of 3-4 pupils and make a story of your own. Imagine that last Easter you visited one of the three countries mentioned above. When you came back you wanted to write this story and send it to another friend who lives in Australia. Can you agree with your partners and write what you saw and did in the country you visited?
- Look at the Appendix, page 148, and try and memorize as many "Happy Easter" phrases as you can in different languages.