ENGLISH

Friday the 13th

Reading & Activities
≈ 20 min

The text



In many countries, Friday the 13th is seen as an unlucky day. People are more careful and they avoid certain things, like walking under a ladder or breaking a mirror. This belief is very old. The number 13 was already considered unlucky in the past, and Friday was the day of bad luck in some traditions. But today, not everyone is superstitious. For many people, it's just a normal day!

Vocabulary

Match the words with the pictures.

1. a black cat ○
2. a ladder ○
3. a broken mirror ○
4. bad luck ○
5. a four-leaf clover (luck) ○

A 

B 

C 

D 

E 

Comprehension questions

1. Why is Friday the 13th often considered an unlucky day?
2. What are two things people try to avoid?
3. Is this belief new or old?
4. Do all people believe in bad luck on this day?
5. What is Friday the 13th for many people today?

True or False?

	True	False
1 Friday the 13th is lucky in most countries.	☐	☐
2 People avoid walking under a ladder.	☐	☐
3 The number 13 was already unlucky in the past.	☐	☐
4 Everyone is superstitious today.	☐	☐

Your turn!

Do you believe in superstitions? Write 3–4 sentences about Friday the 13th.

Example:

I don't believe in superstitions. For me, Friday the 13th is just a normal day.