

Happy Christmas everybody

Put the missing vowels back into the following text.

Santa Claus is coming to town because it's Christmas tomorrow.
Do you like Christmas? Christmas Day is on 25th December. But
a month before Christmas children write letters to Santa asking for
presents. Santa lives in the North Pole and he works very hard to
have all of the presents ready for Christmas. The day before
Christmas is called Christmas Eve. Santa brings the presents on
Christmas Eve. He comes at night when all the children are
sleeping. The children have to drink and be quiet for Santa not to
hear the presents under the Christmas tree. When the children wake up in the morning they are very
excited and they run downstairs to see what presents they get.
After they play with their presents they have Christmas dinner.
This is a very big meal with turkey, ham, roast potatoes and many
other things. During the meal people play card games. And the
card games their party hats and small presents. After the dinner
there is special dessert called Christmas pudding. The pudding is
like a hot fruit cake and you eat it with cream. It's delicious!
Then the children play with their toys again. Granddads sleep
in their chairs by the fire. The rest of the family talk, play games or
watch television. The next day is called turkey for dinner.
Happy Christmas everybody.

Happy Christmas Everybody – TEACHERS' KEY

Put the missing vowels back into the following text.

Santa Claus is coming to town because it's Christmas time again. Do you like Christmas? Christmas Day is on 25th December. About a month before Christmas children write letters to Santa asking for presents. Santa lives in the North Pole and works very hard to have all of the presents ready for Christmas. The day before Christmas is called Christmas Eve. Santa brings the presents on Christmas Eve. He comes at night when all the children are sleeping. The children leave drink and biscuits for Santa near the Christmas tree. When the children wake up in the morning they are very excited and they run downstairs to see what presents they got. After, they play with their presents and they have Christmas dinner. This is a very big meal with turkey, ham roast potatoes and many other things. During the meal people pull crackers. Inside the crackers there are party hats and small presents. After the dinner there is a special desert called Christmas pudding. The pudding is like a hot fruit cake and you eat it with cream. It's delicious! Then the children play with their toys again. Grandad falls asleep in the chair by the fire. The rest of the family talk, play games or watch television. The next day is curried turkey for dinner. Happy Christmas everybody.

Procedure:

1. Hand out one worksheet per group, pair, or learner.
2. Ask learners to guess the title.
3. Tell them that all the vowels are missing and that they need to replace them.
4. Finish with a discussion on Christmas or other feast days.

Notes:

This exercise works very well as part of a computer class where students type up the text with vowels.

The exercise can be adapted to any text, or can be used to highlight awareness of spelling difficulties for speakers of particular languages by omitting particular letters (e.g. p and b for Arabic speakers).