Easter ESL Activity Pack

Five printable Easter activities for adult English classes: a crossword, an egg hunt, traditions from around the world, egg idioms and an office mystery. Every page works for one student alone or for pairs, and page 8 has the answers.

LEVEL	STUDENTS	GROUPING	TIME
A1 to C1	Adults and older teens	Alone, pairs or teams	10 to 25 minutes each

What's inside, numbered like the blog post

2	**Easter crossword**	14 Easter words with definition clues	**Page 2**
3	**Egg hunt**	A numbered hunt board and 24 egg slips: define it, answer it, finish it	**Pages 3-4**
5	**Real or invented?**	12 Easter traditions from around the world. Three are invented.	**Page 5**
7	**Easter idioms**	Eight egg idioms: match the meanings, then use them in six situations	**Page 6**
8	**Who ate the Easter egg?**	An office mystery solved with must have, might have and can't have	**Page 7**
	Answers	For pages 2, 5, 6 and 7, so students can check their own work	**Page 8**
3	**Egg hunt on screen**	One open egg per page. Click an egg on the board to open it. No need to print these.	**Pages 9-32**

Activities 1, 4, 6, 9 and 10 in the post need nothing printed: the post gives you the words, questions and motions. For the egg hunt, print page 4 once per class and cut out the eggs, or online share page 3 and click an egg to open it. Print the other pages for every student.

Language for the activities

TRADITIONS

In my country, we usually ...
When I was a child, we used to ...
It's similar to our ...

GUESSING

It must be real, because ...
It might be invented.
It can't be true!

WISHING WELL

Happy Easter!
Have a lovely Easter weekend.
Enjoy the long weekend!

Which errors to fix

FIX THESE, THEY COME UP EVERY YEAR

~~Congratulations with Easter!~~ → **Happy Easter!**

~~In Easter we paint eggs.~~ → **At Easter we paint eggs.**

~~We are painting eggs every year.~~ → **We paint eggs every year.**

LET THESE GO

Names of dishes and customs in the student's own language.

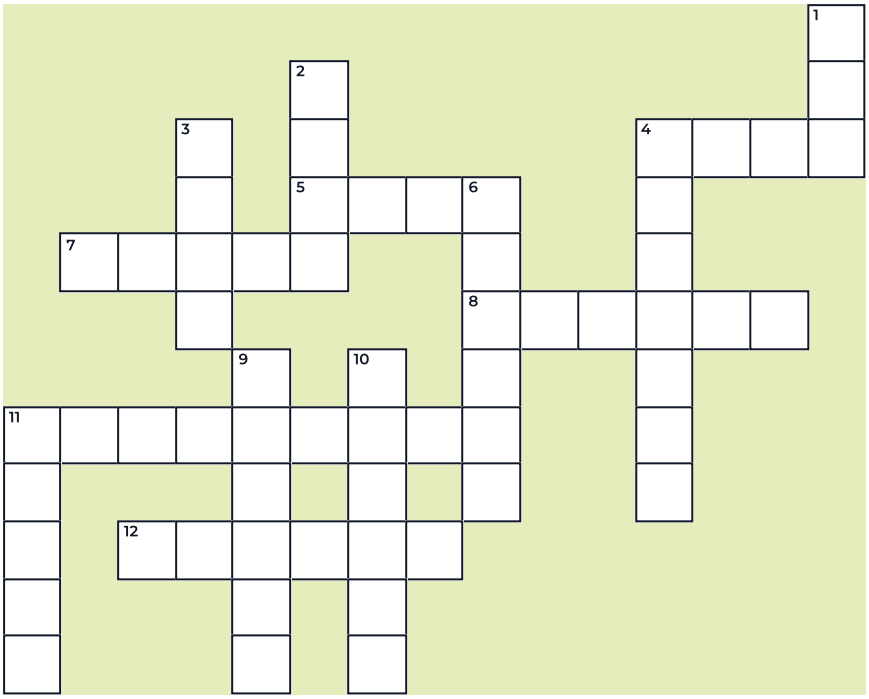
Paska, mazurek or torrijas have no English name. Ask the student to explain the dish instead of translating it.

Free for classroom use. Share the link, not the file: **esllaboratory.com**

ACTIVITY 2

Easter crossword

Read the clues and write one Easter word in each line of boxes. Every word is about Easter or spring.



Across

4 To put something where other people can't see it.

5 A young sheep. Many families also eat it at Easter.

7 A young rabbit. In many countries it brings the eggs.

8 The season after winter.

11 Sweet and brown. Most Easter eggs in shops are made of it.

12 Easter Day is always on this day of the week.

Down

1 To change the color of an egg with a colored liquid.

2 A white flower you often see in churches at Easter.

3 Children look for hidden eggs in an egg ____.

4 A day when you don't go to work.

6 You carry Easter eggs and sweets in this.

9 A hat tied under the chin, worn in Easter parades.

10 People walk through the streets together in a ____.

11 A baby chicken.

Then write. Choose five words from the crossword and write one true sentence about your own Easter or spring with each.

1

2

3

4

5

ACTIVITY 3

Egg hunt: the board

Choose an egg and say its number. On screen, click the egg to open it. On paper, find the egg with the same number on page 4. Each number can be chosen once.



In the classroom

Cut out the eggs on page 4 and hide them around the room. Students find two each and write their answers on the back. You don't need this page.

Online or one-to-one

Share this page on screen. The student picks a number and you click that egg: it opens on its own page. Click *Back to the board* for the next egg.

ACTIVITY 3

Egg hunt: the eggs

Do the task on your egg and write the answer on the back. White eggs: explain the word. Pink: answer the question. Green: finish the sentence. Cut on the dashed lines.

1 · ANSWER IT
What do people in your country eat at Easter?

2 · ANSWER IT
Chocolate eggs or painted eggs? Why?

3 · ANSWER IT
What do you do when the weather gets warm?

4 · DEFINE IT
spring

5 · FINISH IT
At Easter, my family usually ...

6 · DEFINE IT
hunt

7 · FINISH IT
If I found a giant chocolate egg, I would ...

8 · DEFINE IT
tradition

9 · ANSWER IT
Who do you usually spend holidays with?

10 · DEFINE IT
celebrate

11 · FINISH IT
The strangest holiday food I've eaten is ...

12 · FINISH IT
In my country, people never ...

13 · DEFINE IT
bonnet

14 · DEFINE IT
bunny

15 · FINISH IT
When I was a child, Easter was ...

16 · ANSWER IT
What was the best holiday of your childhood?

17 · DEFINE IT
basket

18 · DEFINE IT
chick

19 · FINISH IT
This year at Easter, I'm going to ...

20 · FINISH IT
The best thing about spring is ...

21 · ANSWER IT
What do you usually do on a long weekend?

22 · FINISH IT
A tradition I don't understand is ...

23 · ANSWER IT
What is your favorite season, and why?

24 · ANSWER IT
Which tradition from another country would you like to try?

ACTIVITY 5

Real or invented?

Nine of these Easter traditions are real and three are invented. Tick **Real** or **Invented** for each card. Then write one true tradition from your country and one you invent, and test a partner.

1 · Poland

On Easter Monday, people throw water at each other in the street. Getting wet is said to bring good luck.

☐ **Real** ☐ **Invented**

2 · Norway

At Easter, many people read crime novels and watch detective series. For years, milk cartons even printed short crime stories.

☐ **Real** ☐ **Invented**

3 · Switzerland

The first person in the family to crack their egg on Easter morning has to wash the dishes until Christmas.

☐ **Real** ☐ **Invented**

4 · Ukraine

People decorate eggs with hot wax and dyes, one line at a time. Each pattern and color has its own meaning.

☐ **Real** ☐ **Invented**

5 · Sweden

Before Easter, children dress up as witches and go from door to door. They give drawings and get sweets.

☐ **Real** ☐ **Invented**

6 · Guatemala

In Antigua, people cover the streets with carpets of colored sawdust and flowers. Then processions walk over them.

☐ **Real** ☐ **Invented**

7 · Canada

On Easter Monday, towns race wooden eggs down frozen rivers. The winning family keeps the egg for a year.

☐ **Real** ☐ **Invented**

8 · Italy

In Florence on Easter Sunday, an old cart full of fireworks is pulled to the cathedral and set off in front of a crowd.

☐ **Real** ☐ **Invented**

9 · Greece

On the island of Corfu, people throw clay pots full of water from their windows and balconies on Holy Saturday.

☐ **Real** ☐ **Invented**

10 · Ireland

On Good Friday, families paint their front door yellow to bring luck for the spring.

☐ **Real** ☐ **Invented**

11 · Bermuda

On Good Friday, families fly homemade kites. Many are made of colored tissue paper.

☐ **Real** ☐ **Invented**

12 · Iceland

Big chocolate Easter eggs have a small piece of paper inside with an old proverb on it. People read theirs aloud.

☐ **Real** ☐ **Invented**

True, from my country: _____

Invented by me: _____

ACTIVITY 7

Easter idioms

A · Match each idiom to its meaning. Write the letter in the box.

1	a good egg	**A**	make a clever plan, often in secret
2	have egg on your face	**B**	a kind, honest person you can trust
3	walk on eggshells	**C**	you can't say which of two things caused the other
4	put all your eggs in one basket	**D**	be very careful not to upset a person
5	hatch a plan	**E**	push a friend to do something silly or risky
6	count your chickens before they hatch	**F**	look silly because something went wrong in public
7	a chicken-and-egg situation	**G**	feel sure of a good result too early
8	egg a friend on	**H**	risk everything on one plan

B · Complete each sentence with an idiom from part A. Change the form if you need to. Two idioms are not used.

1 My boss is in a terrible mood this week, so the whole team is _____.

2 Lena told everyone she had the job before the interview. She didn't get it, and now she has _____.

3 I want to invest all my savings in one company. My dad says I shouldn't _____.

4 Marco helped me move house on a Sunday and brought pizza. He's _____.

5 You need experience to get a job, but you need a job to get experience. It's _____.

6 The sales team _____ to surprise the manager on her birthday.

C · Write about your own life with the two idioms you did not use in part B.

1

2

ACTIVITY 8

Who ate the Easter egg?

On Thursday morning, Olena, the office manager, put a giant chocolate egg in the kitchen fridge for Friday's Easter party. At 1 p.m. the egg was gone. In the recycling bin there was only its gold foil, folded into a tiny, neat square.

Marta
ACCOUNTANT

"I was at a client's office from 10 to 2. Here's my taxi receipt."

Diego
DESIGNER

"I love chocolate, but I can't eat nuts. I'm allergic."

Tom
DEVELOPER

There is chocolate on his keyboard. "It's from my muffin!"

Olena
OFFICE MANAGER

"I was on calls in my office all morning, with the door closed."

Clues

1. The egg was hazelnut praline: chocolate full of nuts.
2. The kitchen door code was used at 11:40.
3. Olena's phone shows no calls between 11:30 and 12:00.
4. There is an empty chocolate-chip muffin wrapper in Tom's bin.
5. Olena folds every receipt and wrapper into a tiny square.

Guessing about the past

must have eaten = I'm sure it's true.

might have eaten = it's possible.

can't have eaten = I'm sure it's not true.

Write one sentence about each suspect with must have, might have or can't have, and say why.

Marta _____

_____

Diego _____

_____

Tom _____

_____

Olena _____

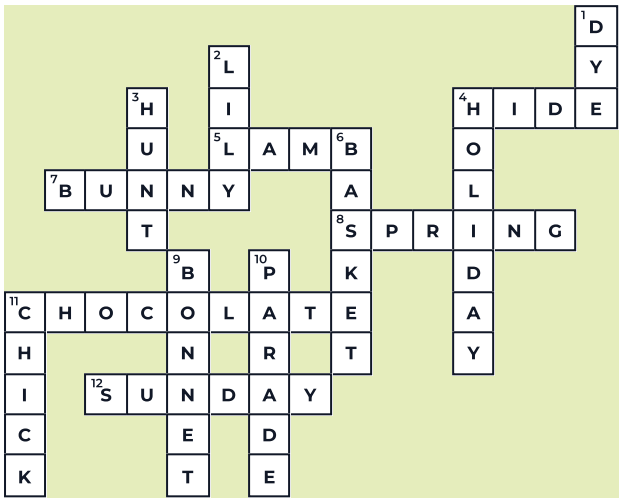
_____

So who ate the Easter egg? _____

CHECK YOUR WORK

Answers

Crossword · page 2



Real or invented? · page 5

1 Poland: **Real** Śmigus-dyngus, or Wet Monday.

2 Norway: **Real** Påskekrim, Easter crime.

3 Switzerland: **Invented**

4 Ukraine: **Real** Pysanky.

5 Sweden: **Real** Påskkärringar, Easter witches.

6 Guatemala: **Real** Alfombras, made for Holy Week.

7 Canada: **Invented**

8 Italy: **Real** Scoppio del Carro, the explosion of the cart.

9 Greece: **Real** Botides, the pot smashing.

10 Ireland: **Invented**

11 Bermuda: **Real** The kites fly all day, often in the shape of a cross.

12 Iceland: **Real** The proverb is called a málsháttur.

Easter idioms · page 6

A 1 B, 2 F, 3 D, 4 H, 5 A, 6 G, 7 C, 8 E

1 walking on eggshells

2 egg on her face

3 put all my eggs in one basket

4 a good egg

5 a chicken-and-egg situation

6 hatched a plan

Not used in part B: count your chickens before they hatch, egg a friend on. Part C: your own sentences.

Who ate the Easter egg? · page 7

Marta can't have eaten it, because she was at a client's office from 10 to 2.

Diego can't have eaten it, because the egg was full of nuts and he is allergic.

Tom might have eaten it, but the chocolate on his keyboard is probably from his chocolate-chip muffin.

Olena must have eaten it, because she had no calls at 11:40 and the foil was folded into a tiny square.

Olena ate the egg. Her answer: "I was only checking the quality."

ACTIVITY 3 · ON SCREEN

Egg 1



Answer the question and give one example.

← Back to the board

ACTIVITY 3 · ON SCREEN

Egg 2

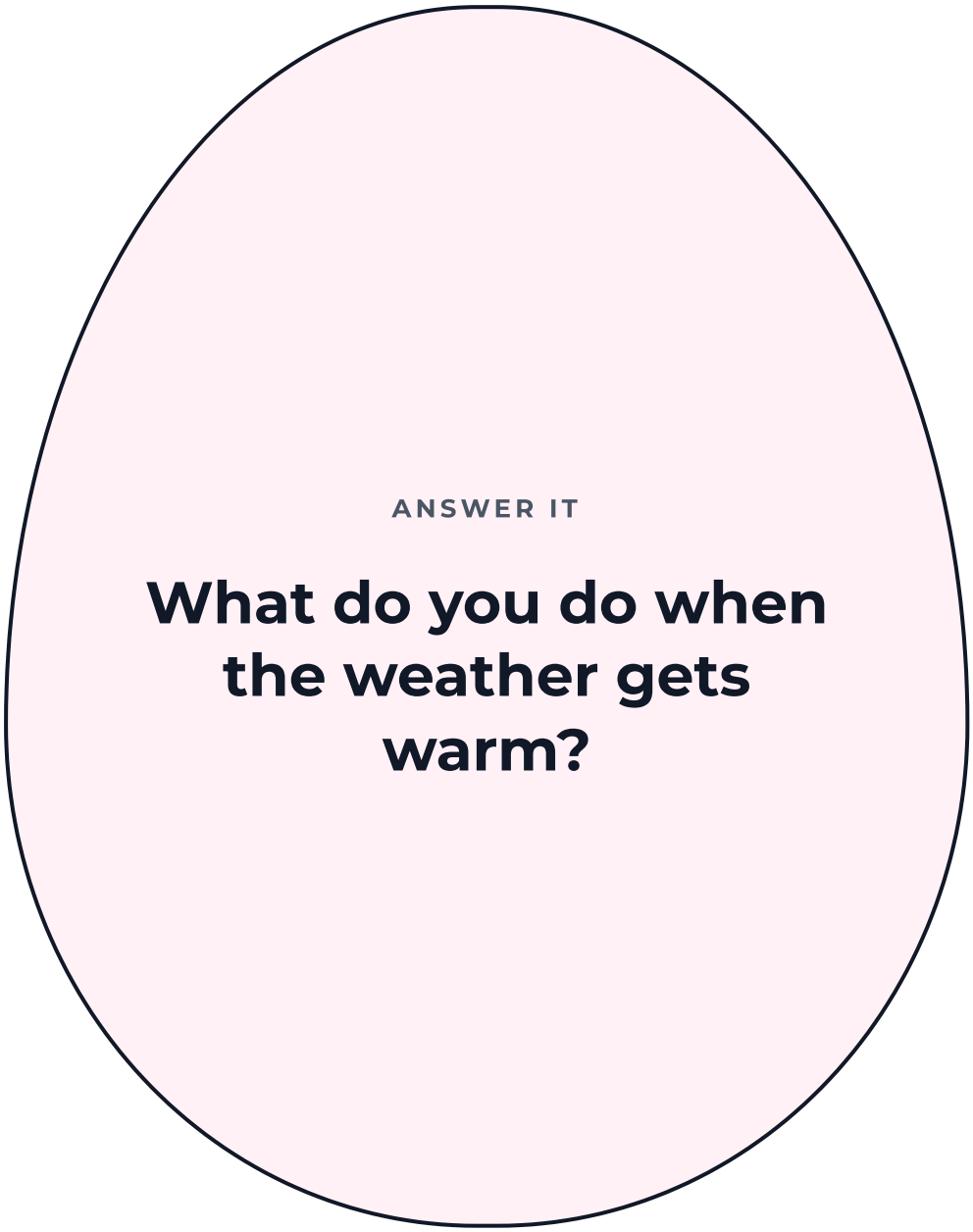


Answer the question and give one example.

← Back to the board

ACTIVITY 3 · ON SCREEN

Egg 3



Answer the question and give one example.

← Back to the board

ACTIVITY 3 · ON SCREEN

Egg 4



Explain this word in English. Don't translate it.

← Back to the board

ACTIVITY 3 · ON SCREEN

Egg 5



Finish the sentence about your own life.

← Back to the board

ACTIVITY 3 · ON SCREEN

Egg 6



Explain this word in English. Don't translate it.

← Back to the board

ACTIVITY 3 · ON SCREEN

Egg 7



Finish the sentence about your own life.

← Back to the board

ACTIVITY 3 · ON SCREEN

Egg 8



Explain this word in English. Don't translate it.

← Back to the board

ACTIVITY 3 · ON SCREEN

Egg 9



Answer the question and give one example.

← Back to the board

ACTIVITY 3 · ON SCREEN

Egg 10



Explain this word in English. Don't translate it.

← Back to the board

ACTIVITY 3 · ON SCREEN

Egg 11

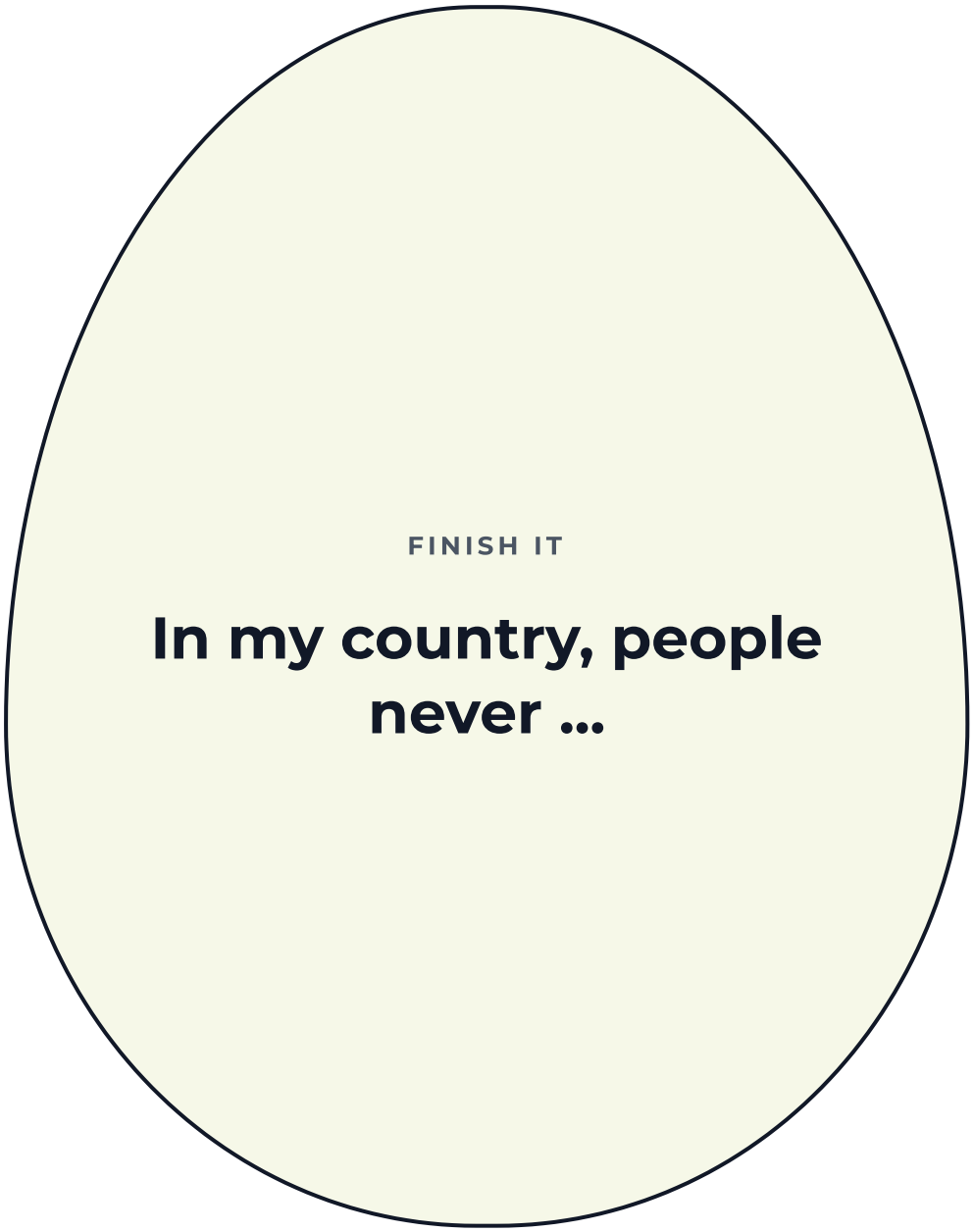


Finish the sentence about your own life.

← Back to the board

ACTIVITY 3 · ON SCREEN

Egg 12

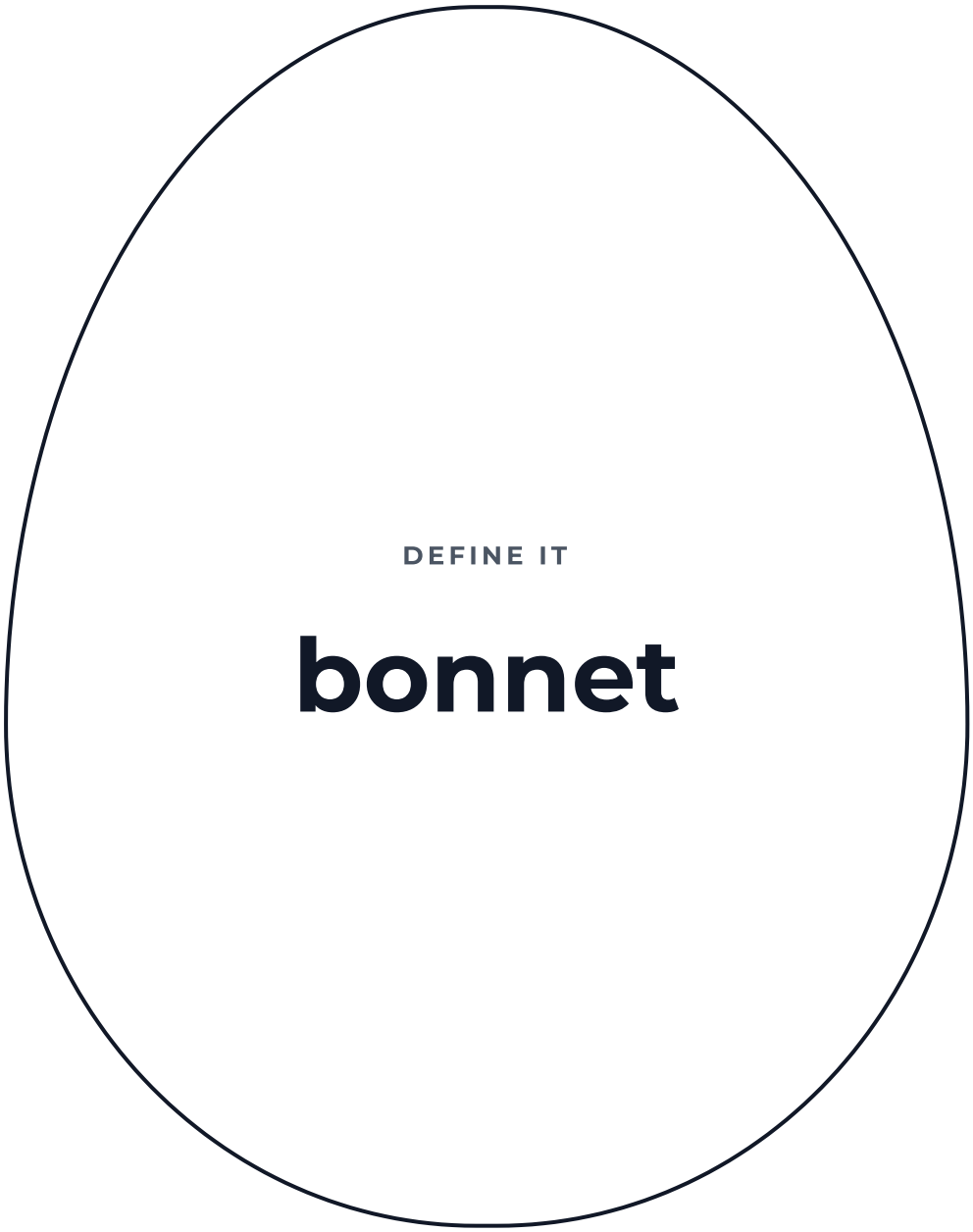


Finish the sentence about your own life.

← Back to the board

ACTIVITY 3 · ON SCREEN

Egg 13

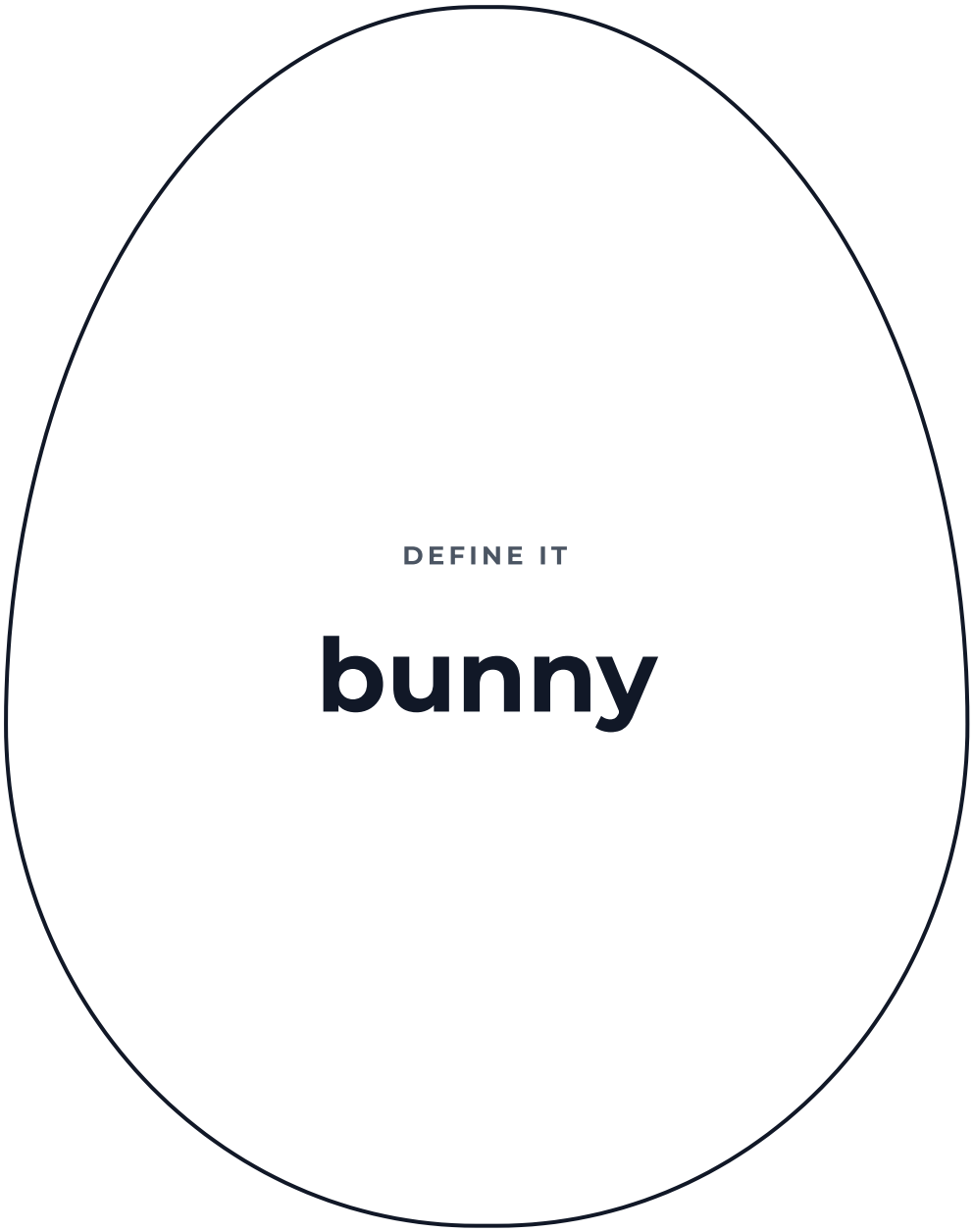


Explain this word in English. Don't translate it.

← Back to the board

ACTIVITY 3 · ON SCREEN

Egg 14

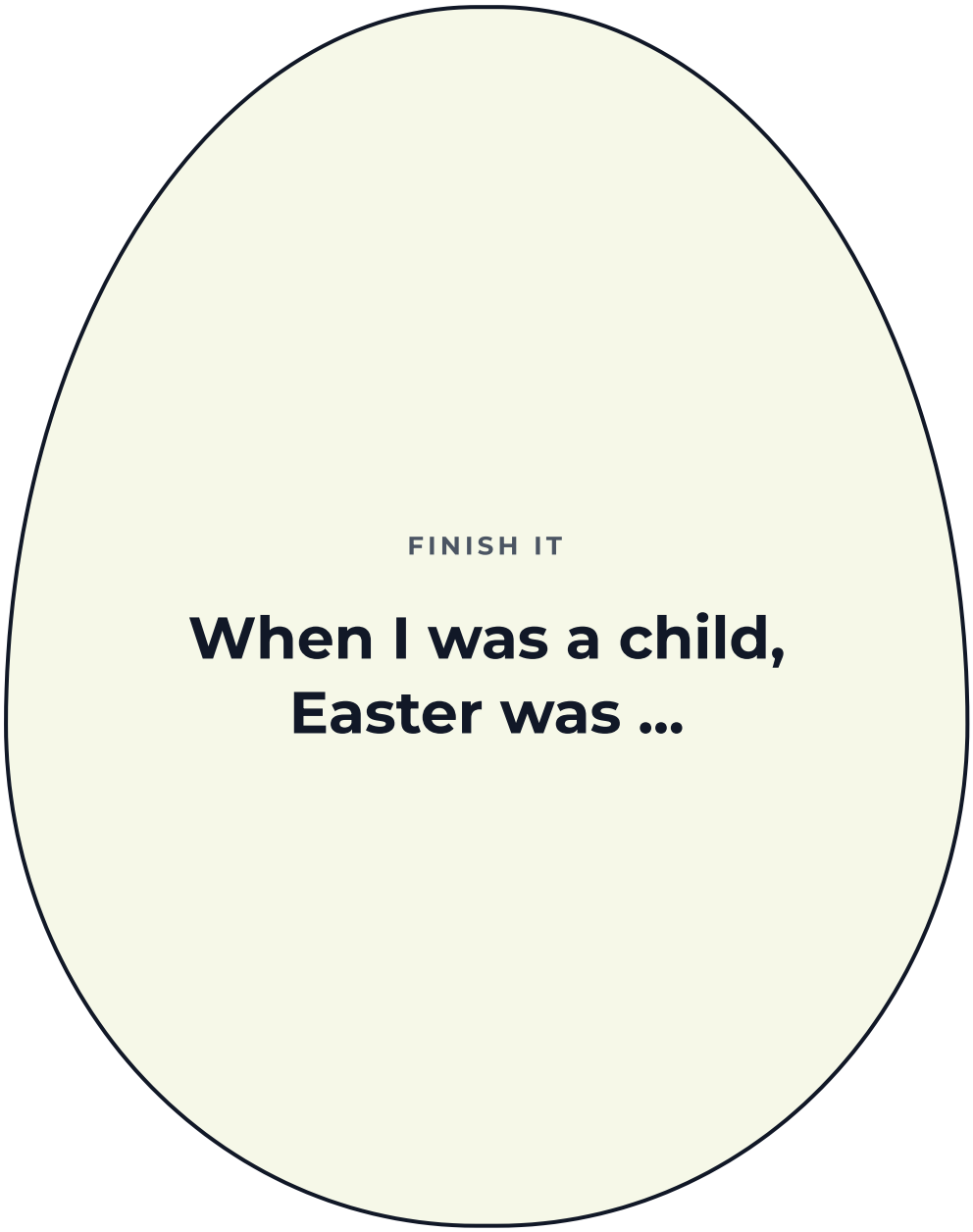


Explain this word in English. Don't translate it.

← Back to the board

ACTIVITY 3 · ON SCREEN

Egg 15



Finish the sentence about your own life.

← Back to the board

ACTIVITY 3 · ON SCREEN

Egg 16

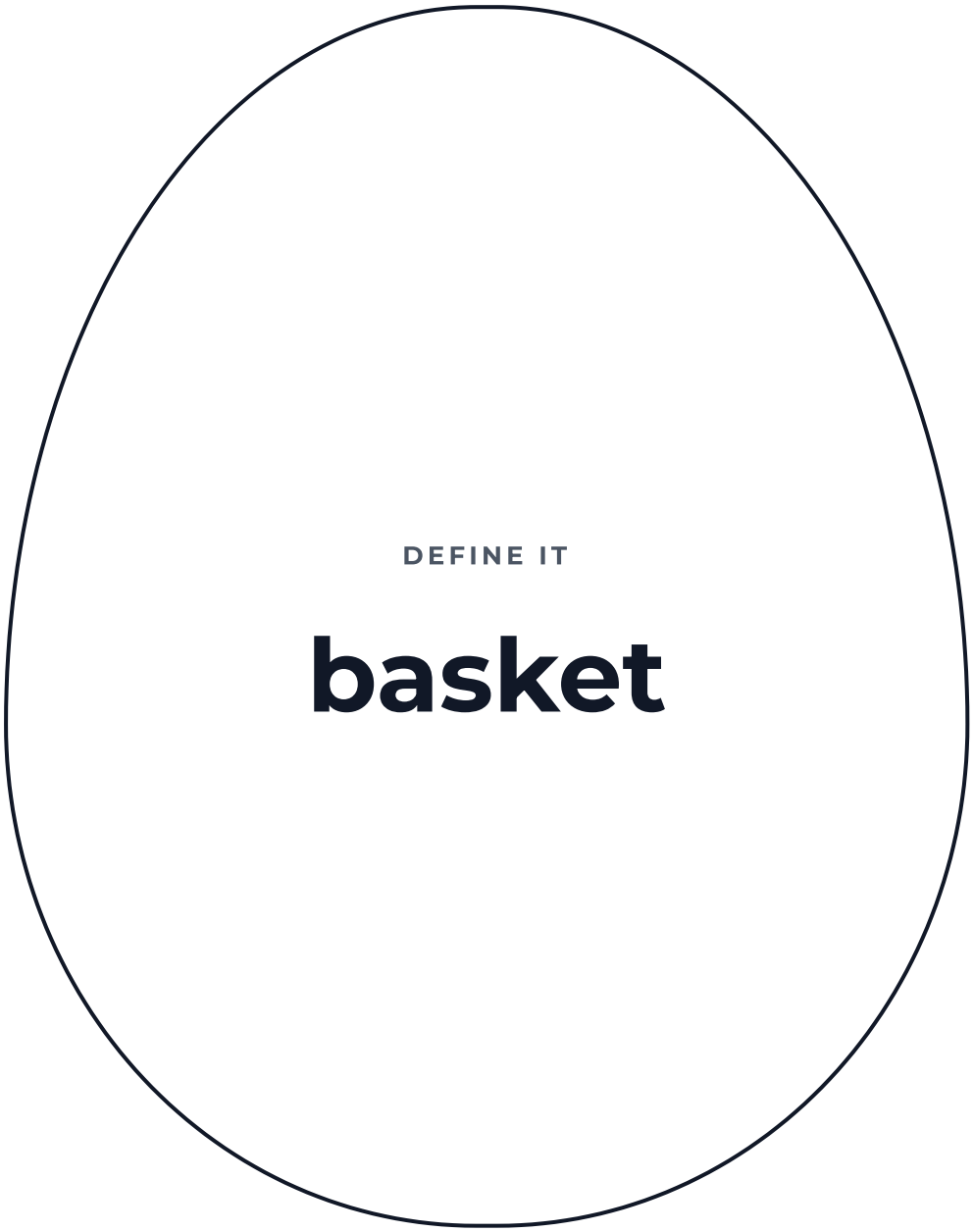


Answer the question and give one example.

← Back to the board

ACTIVITY 3 · ON SCREEN

Egg 17

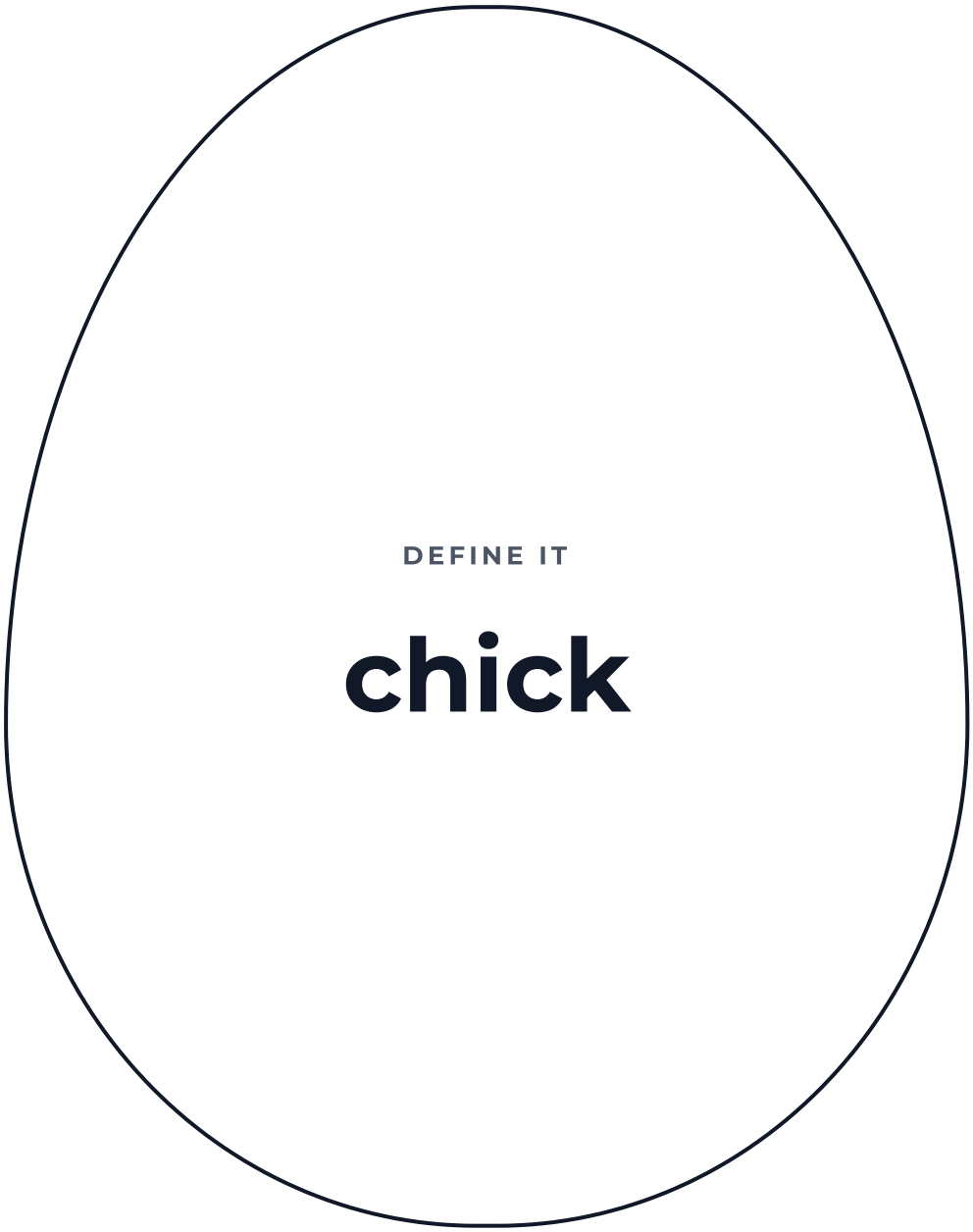


Explain this word in English. Don't translate it.

← Back to the board

ACTIVITY 3 · ON SCREEN

Egg 18



Explain this word in English. Don't translate it.

← Back to the board

ACTIVITY 3 · ON SCREEN

Egg 19



Finish the sentence about your own life.

← Back to the board

ACTIVITY 3 · ON SCREEN

Egg 20



Finish the sentence about your own life.

← Back to the board

ACTIVITY 3 · ON SCREEN

Egg 21



Answer the question and give one example.

← Back to the board

ACTIVITY 3 · ON SCREEN

Egg 22



Finish the sentence about your own life.

← Back to the board

ACTIVITY 3 · ON SCREEN

Egg 23



Answer the question and give one example.

← Back to the board

ACTIVITY 3 · ON SCREEN

Egg 24



Answer the question and give one example.

← Back to the board