ESL LAB

Easter Conversation Cards

Forty Easter questions on cut-out cards, one page per level, plus three worksheets that turn the talk into grammar practice. The numbers match the questions and activities in the blog post on esllaboratory.com.

LEVEL	STUDENTS	GROUPING	TIME
A2 to C1	Adults and older teens	Groups, pairs, 1-to-1	10 to 30 minutes each

What's inside, in the order of the blog post

1	**Easter table talk**	40 question cards, one page per level, A2 to C1	**Pages 2-5**
2	**Then and now**	An interview about Easter as a child and today, with used to	**Page 6**
3	**Have you ever...?**	Ten Easter experiences to ask about, with a detail for each	**Page 7**
4	**Opinion line**	Eight statements to place from Absolutely to No way	**Page 8**
	Activity 1 on screen	A numbered board of all 40 cards, one click per card	**Pages 9-49**

How to play Easter table talk

Groups of three or four sit around a table with the cards face down in the middle. That pile is the dish. A student takes a card and answers in at least three sentences. Then they **pass the dish**: they ask the student on their left one follow-up question about the answer, and that student takes the next card. In pairs, take turns. One-to-one, you and your student both answer every card. Online, share page 9 and let your student pick a number.

For the teacher

> Questions 1, 3, 12, 15 and 36 ask about the student's own family. Let any student answer about a friend, or take another card without saying why. In 2027, Western Easter falls on March 28 and Orthodox Easter on May 2, so a mixed class can play twice.

Language for the table

PASSING THE DISH

What was that like?
Who taught you that?
Do you still do it?

EXPLAINING A CUSTOM

It's a kind of ...
We do it to ...
It's supposed to bring ...

KEEPING IT PRIVATE

I'd rather not say, but ...
Can I answer about a friend?
Let's take another card.

ACTIVITY 1

Easter table talk

A2 · Easter at home · questions 1 to 10

Answer in three sentences, then pass the dish: ask the next student one follow-up question. Use the two blank cards for your own questions.

A2 · 1

When does your family start getting ready for Easter?

A2 · 2

What do you eat for breakfast on Easter Sunday?

A2 · 3

Who usually comes to your home at Easter?

A2 · 4

Do you paint eggs at Easter? What colors do you use?

A2 · 5

Do you clean the house before Easter? Who does the most work?

A2 · 6

What do you buy in the shops the week before Easter?

A2 · 7

Do you work on Easter Monday?

A2 · 8

What do you wear on Easter Sunday?

A2 · 9

What did you do last Easter?

A2 · 10

What is your favorite part of the Easter weekend?

A2 · YOUR QUESTION

A2 · YOUR QUESTION

ACTIVITY 1

Easter table talk

B1 · Easter when you were a child, and now · questions 11 to 20

Answer in three sentences, then pass the dish: ask the next student one follow-up question. Use the two blank cards for your own questions.

B1 · 11

What was Easter morning like when you were a child?

B1 · 12

Who used to cook the Easter meal in your family? Who cooks it now?

B1 · 13

Did you use to play any games with eggs? How did they work?

B1 · 14

Which Easter dish did you hate as a child? Do you like it now?

B1 · 15

Is there an Easter recipe in your family that nobody has written down?

B1 · 16

Have you ever spent Easter in another city or country? What was different?

B1 · 17

Have you ever made an Easter dish on your own? How did it turn out?

B1 · 18

Have you ever been to an Easter service at night?

B1 · 19

Have you ever hidden eggs for a child, or looked for them yourself?

B1 · 20

Which Easter tradition from your childhood would you like to bring back?

B1 · YOUR QUESTION

B1 · YOUR QUESTION

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ACTIVITY 1

Easter table talk

B2 · Chocolate, money and the long weekend · questions 21 to 30

Answer in three sentences, then pass the dish: ask the next student one follow-up question. Use the two blank cards for your own questions.

B2 · 21

Chocolate has become more expensive in many countries. Is a chocolate egg still worth the money?

B2 · 22

Is a homemade Easter dish always better than a bought one?

B2 · 23

Do children get too many sweets at Easter these days?

B2 · 24

Has Easter become more about food than about anything else?

B2 · 25

How do you describe an Easter dish from your country to a person who has never tried it?

B2 · 26

Is it better to host the Easter meal or to be a guest? Why?

B2 · 27

Is a long Easter weekend better spent traveling or at home?

B2 · 28

What should a guest bring to an Easter lunch? Is it rude to bring nothing?

B2 · 29

Why do people post photos of their Easter tables and baskets online?

B2 · 30

Why do so many brands use spring colors and Easter images in their ads? Do they work on you?

B2 · YOUR QUESTION

B2 · YOUR QUESTION

ACTIVITY 1

Easter table talk

C1 · Tradition, faith and change · questions 31 to 40

Answer in three sentences, then pass the dish: ask the next student one follow-up question. Use the two blank cards for your own questions.

C1 · 31

Why do traditions like painting eggs survive in families that rarely go to church?

C1 · 32

Does a tradition lose its meaning if we keep the custom but forget the reason for it?

C1 · 33

Should families adapt old Easter traditions to modern life, or keep them exactly as they are?

C1 · 34

Some families celebrate Easter on two different dates. Is that a problem or a bonus?

C1 · 35

For most people you know, is Easter a religious holiday, a family holiday or a spring festival?

C1 · 36

What do the older people in your family worry the younger ones will forget about Easter?

C1 · 37

How much do brands shape our idea of what a real Easter looks like?

C1 · 38

Why do people who say they are not superstitious still follow Easter customs for luck?

C1 · 39

What would we lose if Easter became just another long weekend?

C1 · 40

Which Easter tradition from your country do you think will still exist in 50 years?

C1 · YOUR QUESTION

C1 · YOUR QUESTION

ACTIVITY 2

Then and now

B1 · Easter as a child and today, with used to

Alone: fill in the two columns about you. **In pairs:** then ask your partner *What did you use to do?* and write their answer in the last column.

EASTER	WHEN I WAS A CHILD	NOW	MY PARTNER, AS A CHILD
Easter bread EXAMPLE	We used to bake paska with my grandmother on Saturday.	Now I buy it from a bakery near my office.	
Easter breakfast What, where, with whom?			
Who came to visit Family, neighbors, friends?			
Eggs Painted, dyed, chocolate?			
Clothes Something new or special?			
Sweets and treats How many? Who gave them?			
Easter Sunday morning Church, a walk, sleeping late?			
Easter Monday Work, visits, games?			

used to + verb for habits and states in the past that are not true now: *We used to visit my aunt.*

didn't use to in negatives, no -d: *I didn't use to like lamb.* **Did you use to ...?** in questions.

Write three sentences: two about you, one about your partner.

ACTIVITY 3

Have you ever...?

A2-B1 · Easter experiences, with the present perfect and past simple

Alone: tick Yes or No for you, and add a detail for every Yes. **In pairs or as a class:** ask the questions. Write the name of every student who says yes, and ask the follow-up question.

HAVE YOU EVER ...?	ME	WHO SAID YES	ASK NEXT
Have you ever dyed eggs with onion skins?	☐ Yes ☐ No		When was the last time?
Have you ever decorated eggs with wax, like pysanky or pisanki?	☐ Yes ☐ No		Who showed you how?
Have you ever baked Easter bread at home?	☐ Yes ☐ No		What kind?
Have you ever taken a basket of food to church to be blessed?	☐ Yes ☐ No		What was in it?
Have you ever played an egg-tapping game?	☐ Yes ☐ No		Did you win?
Have you ever been splashed with water on Easter Monday?	☐ Yes ☐ No		Who did it?
Have you ever watched an Easter procession?	☐ Yes ☐ No		Where was it?
Have you ever gone away for the Easter weekend?	☐ Yes ☐ No		Where did you go?
Have you ever eaten so much at Easter that you felt ill?	☐ Yes ☐ No		What did you eat?
Have you ever forgotten that it was Easter weekend?	☐ Yes ☐ No		What happened?

> **Have you ever ...?** asks about experience at any time: *Yes, I have. / No, I haven't.* The detail is a finished time, so it takes the past simple: *Marta has made pysanky. She made them with her grandmother in 2019.*

Write two pairs of sentences like the example: one about you, one about a classmate or a family member.

ACTIVITY 4

Opinion line

B2-C1 · Eight statements, from Absolutely to No way

Alone: mark where you stand on each statement and finish the reason. **In pairs:** compare. Where you are far apart, try to move your partner one step toward you.

	Absolutely	Mostly	Not sure	Not really	No way
1	For most people, Easter is more about family than about religion.	○	○	○	○	○
	Because _____					
2	A homemade Easter meal means more than an expensive one.	○	○	○	○	○
	Because _____					
3	Children should learn the old Easter traditions, even if they find them boring.	○	○	○	○	○
	Because _____					
4	It's fine to skip the family Easter lunch if you have other plans.	○	○	○	○	○
	Because _____					
5	Easter is more beautiful in a village than in a city.	○	○	○	○	○
	Because _____					
6	A tradition only matters if you know why you follow it.	○	○	○	○	○
	Because _____					
7	Social media has made Easter more about how the table looks than how the food tastes.	○	○	○	○	○
	Because _____					
8	Easter chocolate is too expensive to be worth it.	○	○	○	○	○
	Because _____					

AGREEING

I couldn't agree more.
That's exactly how I see it.

UP TO A POINT

I'd go along with that, up to a point.
That's true in my family, but not in general.

DISAGREEING

I'm not convinced that ...
I see it differently.

ACTIVITY 1 · ON SCREEN

Easter table talk: pick a card

For online and one-to-one lessons. Share this page on screen. Your student picks a number, you click it, and the card opens on its own page. Click Back to the board for the next one.

1 A2	2 A2	3 A2	4 A2	5 A2
6 A2	7 A2	8 A2	9 A2	10 A2
11 B1	12 B1	13 B1	14 B1	15 B1
16 B1	17 B1	18 B1	19 B1	20 B1
21 B2	22 B2	23 B2	24 B2	25 B2
26 B2	27 B2	28 B2	29 B2	30 B2
31 C1	32 C1	33 C1	34 C1	35 C1
36 C1	37 C1	38 C1	39 C1	40 C1

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ACTIVITY 1 · ON SCREEN

Card 1

A2 · QUESTION 1

When does your family start getting ready for Easter?

PASS THE DISH: ASK ONE FOLLOW-UP QUESTION

What was that like? · Who taught you that? · Do you still do it? · Why do you think that is? · Can you give me an example?

← Back to the board

Next card →

ACTIVITY 1 · ON SCREEN

Card 2

A2 · QUESTION 2

What do you eat for breakfast on Easter Sunday?

PASS THE DISH: ASK ONE FOLLOW-UP QUESTION

What was that like? · Who taught you that? · Do you still do it? · Why do you think that is? · Can you give me an example?

← Back to the board

Next card →

ACTIVITY 1 · ON SCREEN

Card 3

A2 · QUESTION 3

Who usually comes to your home at Easter?

PASS THE DISH: ASK ONE FOLLOW-UP QUESTION

What was that like? · Who taught you that? · Do you still do it? · Why do you think that is? · Can you give me an example?

← Back to the board

Next card →

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ACTIVITY 1 · ON SCREEN

Card 4

A2 · QUESTION 4

Do you paint eggs at Easter? What colors do you use?

PASS THE DISH: ASK ONE FOLLOW-UP QUESTION

What was that like? · Who taught you that? · Do you still do it? · Why do you think that is? · Can you give me an example?

← Back to the board

Next card →

ACTIVITY 1 · ON SCREEN

Card 5

A2 · QUESTION 5

Do you clean the house before Easter? Who does the most work?

PASS THE DISH: ASK ONE FOLLOW-UP QUESTION

What was that like? · Who taught you that? · Do you still do it? · Why do you think that is? · Can you give me an example?

← Back to the board

Next card →

ACTIVITY 1 · ON SCREEN

Card 6

A2 · QUESTION 6

What do you buy in the shops the week before Easter?

PASS THE DISH: ASK ONE FOLLOW-UP QUESTION

What was that like? · Who taught you that? · Do you still do it? · Why do you think that is? · Can you give me an example?

← Back to the board

Next card →

ACTIVITY 1 · ON SCREEN

Card 7

A2 · QUESTION 7

Do you work on Easter Monday?

PASS THE DISH: ASK ONE FOLLOW-UP QUESTION

What was that like? · Who taught you that? · Do you still do it? · Why do you think that is? · Can you give me an example?

← Back to the board

Next card →

ACTIVITY 1 · ON SCREEN

Card 8

A2 · QUESTION 8

What do you wear on Easter Sunday?

PASS THE DISH: ASK ONE FOLLOW-UP QUESTION

What was that like? · Who taught you that? · Do you still do it? · Why do you think that is? · Can you give me an example?

← Back to the board

Next card →

ACTIVITY 1 · ON SCREEN

Card 9

A2 · QUESTION 9

What did you do last Easter?

PASS THE DISH: ASK ONE FOLLOW-UP QUESTION

What was that like? · Who taught you that? · Do you still do it? · Why do you think that is? · Can you give me an example?

← Back to the board

Next card →

ACTIVITY 1 · ON SCREEN

Card 10

A2 · QUESTION 10

What is your favorite part of the Easter weekend?

PASS THE DISH: ASK ONE FOLLOW-UP QUESTION

What was that like? · Who taught you that? · Do you still do it? · Why do you think that is? · Can you give me an example?

← Back to the board

Next card →

ACTIVITY 1 · ON SCREEN

Card 11

B1 · QUESTION 11

What was Easter morning like when you were a child?

PASS THE DISH: ASK ONE FOLLOW-UP QUESTION

What was that like? · Who taught you that? · Do you still do it? · Why do you think that is? · Can you give me an example?

← Back to the board

Next card →

ACTIVITY 1 · ON SCREEN

Card 12

B1 · QUESTION 12

Who used to cook the Easter meal in your family? Who cooks it now?

PASS THE DISH: ASK ONE FOLLOW-UP QUESTION

What was that like? · Who taught you that? · Do you still do it? · Why do you think that is? · Can you give me an example?

← Back to the board

Next card →

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ACTIVITY 1 · ON SCREEN

Card 13

B1 · QUESTION 13

Did you use to play any games with eggs? How did they work?

PASS THE DISH: ASK ONE FOLLOW-UP QUESTION

What was that like? · Who taught you that? · Do you still do it? · Why do you think that is? · Can you give me an example?

← Back to the board

Next card →

ACTIVITY 1 · ON SCREEN

Card 14

B1 · QUESTION 14

Which Easter dish did you hate as a child? Do you like it now?

PASS THE DISH: ASK ONE FOLLOW-UP QUESTION

What was that like? · Who taught you that? · Do you still do it? · Why do you think that is? · Can you give me an example?

← Back to the board

Next card →

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ACTIVITY 1 · ON SCREEN

Card 15

B1 · QUESTION 15

Is there an Easter recipe in your family that nobody has written down?

PASS THE DISH: ASK ONE FOLLOW-UP QUESTION

What was that like? · Who taught you that? · Do you still do it? · Why do you think that is? · Can you give me an example?

← Back to the board

Next card →

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ACTIVITY 1 · ON SCREEN

Card 16

B1 · QUESTION 16

Have you ever spent Easter in another city or country? What was different?

PASS THE DISH: ASK ONE FOLLOW-UP QUESTION

What was that like? · Who taught you that? · Do you still do it? · Why do you think that is? · Can you give me an example?

← Back to the board

Next card →

ACTIVITY 1 · ON SCREEN

Card 17

B1 · QUESTION 17

Have you ever made an Easter dish on your own? How did it turn out?

PASS THE DISH: ASK ONE FOLLOW-UP QUESTION

What was that like? · Who taught you that? · Do you still do it? · Why do you think that is? · Can you give me an example?

← Back to the board

Next card →

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ACTIVITY 1 · ON SCREEN

Card 18

B1 · QUESTION 18

Have you ever been to an Easter service at night?

PASS THE DISH: ASK ONE FOLLOW-UP QUESTION

What was that like? · Who taught you that? · Do you still do it? · Why do you think that is? · Can you give me an example?

← Back to the board

Next card →

ACTIVITY 1 · ON SCREEN

Card 19

B1 · QUESTION 19

Have you ever hidden eggs for a child, or looked for them yourself?

PASS THE DISH: ASK ONE FOLLOW-UP QUESTION

What was that like? · Who taught you that? · Do you still do it? · Why do you think that is? · Can you give me an example?

← Back to the board

Next card →

ACTIVITY 1 · ON SCREEN

Card 20

B1 · QUESTION 20

Which Easter tradition from your childhood would you like to bring back?

PASS THE DISH: ASK ONE FOLLOW-UP QUESTION

What was that like? · Who taught you that? · Do you still do it? · Why do you think that is? · Can you give me an example?

← Back to the board

Next card →

ACTIVITY 1 · ON SCREEN

Card 21

B2 · QUESTION 21

Chocolate has become more expensive in many countries. Is a chocolate egg still worth the money?

PASS THE DISH: ASK ONE FOLLOW-UP QUESTION

What was that like? · Who taught you that? · Do you still do it? · Why do you think that is? · Can you give me an example?

← Back to the board

Next card →

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ACTIVITY 1 · ON SCREEN

Card 22

B2 · QUESTION 22

Is a homemade Easter dish always better than a bought one?

PASS THE DISH: ASK ONE FOLLOW-UP QUESTION

What was that like? · Who taught you that? · Do you still do it? · Why do you think that is? · Can you give me an example?

← Back to the board

Next card →

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ACTIVITY 1 · ON SCREEN

Card 23

B2 · QUESTION 23

Do children get too many sweets at Easter these days?

PASS THE DISH: ASK ONE FOLLOW-UP QUESTION

What was that like? · Who taught you that? · Do you still do it? · Why do you think that is? · Can you give me an example?

← Back to the board

Next card →

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ACTIVITY 1 · ON SCREEN

Card 24

B2 · QUESTION 24

Has Easter become more about food than about anything else?

PASS THE DISH: ASK ONE FOLLOW-UP QUESTION

What was that like? · Who taught you that? · Do you still do it? · Why do you think that is? · Can you give me an example?

← Back to the board

Next card →

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ACTIVITY 1 · ON SCREEN

Card 25

B2 · QUESTION 25

How do you describe an Easter dish from your country to a person who has never tried it?

PASS THE DISH: ASK ONE FOLLOW-UP QUESTION

What was that like? · Who taught you that? · Do you still do it? · Why do you think that is? · Can you give me an example?

← Back to the board

Next card →

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ACTIVITY 1 · ON SCREEN

Card 26

B2 · QUESTION 26

Is it better to host the Easter meal or to be a guest? Why?

PASS THE DISH: ASK ONE FOLLOW-UP QUESTION

What was that like? · Who taught you that? · Do you still do it? · Why do you think that is? · Can you give me an example?

← Back to the board

Next card →

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ACTIVITY 1 · ON SCREEN

Card 27

B2 · QUESTION 27

Is a long Easter weekend better spent traveling or at home?

PASS THE DISH: ASK ONE FOLLOW-UP QUESTION

What was that like? · Who taught you that? · Do you still do it? · Why do you think that is? · Can you give me an example?

← Back to the board

Next card →

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ACTIVITY 1 · ON SCREEN

Card 28

B2 · QUESTION 28

What should a guest bring to an Easter lunch? Is it rude to bring nothing?

PASS THE DISH: ASK ONE FOLLOW-UP QUESTION

What was that like? · Who taught you that? · Do you still do it? · Why do you think that is? · Can you give me an example?

← Back to the board

Next card →

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ACTIVITY 1 · ON SCREEN

Card 29

B2 · QUESTION 29

Why do people post photos of their Easter tables and baskets online?

PASS THE DISH: ASK ONE FOLLOW-UP QUESTION

What was that like? · Who taught you that? · Do you still do it? · Why do you think that is? · Can you give me an example?

← Back to the board

Next card →

ACTIVITY 1 · ON SCREEN

Card 30

B2 · QUESTION 30

Why do so many brands use spring colors and Easter images in their ads? Do they work on you?

PASS THE DISH: ASK ONE FOLLOW-UP QUESTION

What was that like? · Who taught you that? · Do you still do it? · Why do you think that is? · Can you give me an example?

← Back to the board

Next card →

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ACTIVITY 1 · ON SCREEN

Card 31

C1 · QUESTION 31

Why do traditions like painting eggs survive in families that rarely go to church?

PASS THE DISH: ASK ONE FOLLOW-UP QUESTION

What was that like? · Who taught you that? · Do you still do it? · Why do you think that is? · Can you give me an example?

← Back to the board

Next card →

ACTIVITY 1 · ON SCREEN

Card 32

C1 · QUESTION 32

Does a tradition lose its meaning if we keep the custom but forget the reason for it?

PASS THE DISH: ASK ONE FOLLOW-UP QUESTION

What was that like? · Who taught you that? · Do you still do it? · Why do you think that is? · Can you give me an example?

← Back to the board

Next card →

ACTIVITY 1 · ON SCREEN

Card 33

C1 · QUESTION 33

Should families adapt old Easter traditions to modern life, or keep them exactly as they are?

PASS THE DISH: ASK ONE FOLLOW-UP QUESTION

What was that like? · Who taught you that? · Do you still do it? · Why do you think that is? · Can you give me an example?

← Back to the board

Next card →

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ACTIVITY 1 · ON SCREEN

Card 34

C1 · QUESTION 34

Some families celebrate Easter on two different dates. Is that a problem or a bonus?

PASS THE DISH: ASK ONE FOLLOW-UP QUESTION

What was that like? · Who taught you that? · Do you still do it? · Why do you think that is? · Can you give me an example?

← Back to the board

Next card →

ACTIVITY 1 · ON SCREEN

Card 35

C1 · QUESTION 35

For most people you know, is Easter a religious holiday, a family holiday or a spring festival?

PASS THE DISH: ASK ONE FOLLOW-UP QUESTION

What was that like? · Who taught you that? · Do you still do it? · Why do you think that is? · Can you give me an example?

← Back to the board

Next card →

ACTIVITY 1 · ON SCREEN

Card 36

C1 · QUESTION 36

What do the older people in your family worry the younger ones will forget about Easter?

PASS THE DISH: ASK ONE FOLLOW-UP QUESTION

What was that like? · Who taught you that? · Do you still do it? · Why do you think that is? · Can you give me an example?

← Back to the board

Next card →

ACTIVITY 1 · ON SCREEN

Card 37

C1 · QUESTION 37

How much do brands shape our idea of what a real Easter looks like?

PASS THE DISH: ASK ONE FOLLOW-UP QUESTION

What was that like? · Who taught you that? · Do you still do it? · Why do you think that is? · Can you give me an example?

← Back to the board

Next card →

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ACTIVITY 1 · ON SCREEN

Card 38

C1 · QUESTION 38

Why do people who say they are not superstitious still follow Easter customs for luck?

PASS THE DISH: ASK ONE FOLLOW-UP QUESTION

What was that like? · Who taught you that? · Do you still do it? · Why do you think that is? · Can you give me an example?

← Back to the board

Next card →

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ACTIVITY 1 · ON SCREEN

Card 39

C1 · QUESTION 39

What would we lose if Easter became just another long weekend?

PASS THE DISH: ASK ONE FOLLOW-UP QUESTION

What was that like? · Who taught you that? · Do you still do it? · Why do you think that is? · Can you give me an example?

← Back to the board

Next card →

ACTIVITY 1 · ON SCREEN

Card 40

C1 · QUESTION 40

Which Easter tradition from your country do you think will still exist in 50 years?

PASS THE DISH: ASK ONE FOLLOW-UP QUESTION

What was that like? · Who taught you that? · Do you still do it? · Why do you think that is? · Can you give me an example?

← Back to the board