

Super English



Level 5/6
St. Patrick's Day



The Story Behind St. Patrick's Day

Read the text and discuss the words in bold.

Saint Patrick is one of the most famous figures in Irish history. Surprisingly, he was not born in Ireland but in Roman Britain around the year 400. When he was a teenager, pirates **kidnapped** him and brought him to Ireland. He worked there as a **shepherd** for several years before escaping. Later in life, he returned to Ireland as a **missionary**.



1. Why do you think the pirates kidnapped him?
2. If you were Patrick, would you go back to Ireland?
3. What would be the hardest part about living in a foreign country for you?



The Legend of the Snakes

Read the text and discuss the words in bold.



A famous **legend** says Saint Patrick drove all the snakes out of Ireland. According to the story, he chased them into the sea and protected the island. However, **historians** believe this story is **symbolic**. Ireland probably never had snakes because it became separated from mainland Europe after the **Ice Age**.



1. Do you like to read about legends even though they aren't true? Why or why not?
2. How do you think this legend got started?
3. Are there any famous legends in your country?

Vocabulary

Match the vocabulary words to their definitions.

- kidnap
- missionary
- symbolic
- grant
- trickster
- saint

1. To take someone away by force and hold them against their will.
2. A person who travels to teach people about a religion.
3. Someone who likes to play tricks or fool others.
4. Something that represents or stands for another idea.
5. A person who is recognized as very holy or good in a religion.
6. To officially give or allow someone to have something.



Dialogue 1: The Pot of Gold Plan



Practice the dialogue and answer the question.

Liam: So if we find a pot of gold today... how do we split it?

Emma: Easy. I take 90%, you take the memories.

Liam: Wow, that's rude. I at least deserve snack money.

Emma: Fine. You can buy one bag of chips.

Liam: With gold? That's gonna be the fanciest chips ever.

Emma: Imagine paying with a giant gold coin.

Liam: The cashier would probably faint.

Emma: Yeah... then we take the snacks and run.

Question: What would you do if you found a pot of gold?



Dialogue 2: Chasing the Rainbow



Practice the dialogue and answer the question.

Noah: Dude, there's a rainbow outside!

Mia: Quick! Let's find the end before someone else does.

Noah: What if a leprechaun is already there?

Mia: Then we challenge him to rock-paper-scissors.

Noah: What if he cheats with magic?

Mia: Then we run away with the gold.

Noah: That sounds like a terrible plan.

Mia: It's still better than doing homework.

Question: Would you actually try to follow a rainbow? Why or why not?

Would You Rather?

Tell your teacher what you'd rather do and why.



Would you rather watch a big St. Patrick's Day parade **OR** dance at an Irish festival?



Would you rather be extremely lucky for one day **OR** find a small pot of gold?



Would you rather visit Ireland on St. Patrick's Day **OR** celebrate the holiday with your best friends at home?



See you next time!

