Thanksgiving – Glossary

**accompaniment** noun [countable]
something that you provide as a good addition, especially to a particular meal

**anniversary** noun [countable]
a date when you celebrate something that happened in a previous year that is important to you

**celebration** noun [countable]
a party or special event at which you celebrate something such as a birthday or a religious holiday

**ceremony** noun [countable]
a formal public event with special traditions, actions, or words

**Congress** proper noun
the group of people in the USA who are elected to make laws. It consists of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

**cranberry** noun [countable]
a small sour red fruit that grows on a bush

**day off** noun [countable]
a day when you are not at school or work, for example because you are not well or because it is not a normal working day

We’re planning a trip to the zoo on my day off.

**dessert** noun [countable/uncountable]
sweet food that you eat after the main part of a meal

**feast** noun [countable]
a large meal for a lot of people, usually in order to celebrate something

**hunger** noun [uncountable]
a lack of food that can cause illness or death, especially among large numbers of people

**look forward to** phrasal verb [transitive]
to feel happy and excited about something that is going to happen

He had worked hard and was looking forward to his retirement.

**maize** noun [uncountable]
a tall plant that produces yellow seeds that are called sweetcorn when cooked and eaten. The American word is corn.

**mashed potato** noun [uncountable]
potatoes boiled in water, crushed, and then mixed with milk and butter until they are smooth

**Native American** noun [countable]
(or American Indian) someone who belongs to one of the tribes (groups of people) who lived in North and South America before Europeans arrived

**pardon** verb [transitive]
to officially forgive someone for committing a crime and free them from prison

**peculiar** adjective
strange, often in an unpleasant way

**pie** noun [countable/uncountable]
a food that consists of meat, vegetables, or fruit cooked inside a case of pastry or below a layer of it

**pumpkin** noun [countable/uncountable]
a large round vegetable with a thick orange skin and large seeds

**roast** adjective [only before noun]
cooked in an oven or over a fire

**sauce** noun [countable/uncountable]
a liquid food that you put on other foods to give them a particular flavour

**settler** noun [countable]
someone who goes to live in a place where not many people live, and starts to make it into a community

**survival** noun [uncountable]
the fact or state of continuing to live or exist, especially in difficult conditions

**surviving** adjective
still alive or remaining after others are dead or destroyed

**take off** phrasal verb [transitive]
to have a particular amount of time away from work

I’m taking Monday off to go to London.

**turkey** noun [countable]
a large bird similar to a chicken that has no feathers on its head and is often eaten at Christmas and Thanksgiving