

Name _____

Shared Tradition Opinion Answer Key

Since this is an opinion piece, answers will vary based on student experience. A high quality response should include:

- **Clear Opinion:** A bold statement identifying a specific tradition (e.g., baking pies, watching a parade, or visiting family).
- **Organization:** At least three supporting details connected by transition words.
- **Conclusion:** A final thought that sums up the writer's feelings.
- **Conventions:** Correct use of capitalization, periods, and commas in a list.

Teacher Guide

Purpose: This worksheet guides Grade 3 and Grade 4 students through the process of opinion writing. It helps them move from a simple statement to a structured paragraph with logical supporting evidence.

Engagement Tips

- **The Great Debate:** Have students stand on different sides of the room based on their favorite tradition (e.g., Food vs. Football vs. Parades). Let each side "argue" their case for one minute before they begin writing.
- **Tradition Jar:** If a student is stuck, have a jar filled with slips of paper naming common traditions (breaking the wishbone, making hand-print turkeys, volunteering) to spark an idea.

Differentiation

- **For Struggling Writers:** Focus on the "OREO" method (Opinion, Reason, Example, Opinion). You may provide a word bank of transition words: "To start," "Another reason," "Also," and "Lastly."
- **For Advanced Learners:** Challenge students to include a **counter-argument**. For example: "Some people might think turkey is the best part, but I believe the pumpkin pie is much better because..."

Extension Ideas

- **Class Anthology:** Collect the paragraphs to create a "Book of Traditions" that students can read during independent reading time.