

Name _____

Historical Truth Hunt Answer Key

1. **M** (Buckles were expensive and not in style yet; they used leather laces.)
2. **F** (The Wampanoag are indigenous to the region with a very long history.)
3. **M** (They lacked the butter, wheat flour, and sugar needed for crusts and sweets.)
4. **F** (Forks were not commonly used in England or America until much later.)
5. **F** (The treaty was signed in 1621 between Massasoit and Governor Carver.)
6. **M** (It was a three day event, and the date was likely in late September or October.)
7. **F** (The Wampanoag brought the venison, which was a significant portion of the food.)
8. **M** (The alliance was mostly for **political and military protection** for both groups.)
9. **F** (Historical letters mention wild turkey, but ducks, geese, and eels were more common.)
10. **M** (Thanksgiving did not become a regular national holiday until the **Civil War** era.)

Teacher Guide

Purpose: This worksheet challenges Grade 4 and Grade 5 students to think critically about historical narratives. It encourages them to distinguish between **cultural folklore** and **primary source evidence**.

Engagement Tips

- **The "Wait, Really?" Moment:** Start the lesson by wearing a paper hat with a large buckle. Ask the class if it looks "historical." Then, reveal the truth about 17th-century fashion to grab their attention.
- **Source Check:** If students disagree with an answer, provide them with short snippets of primary sources (like the letter from Edward Winslow in 1621) to find the "proof" themselves.

Extension Ideas

- **Sarah Josepha Hale Research:** Have students look up the woman who spent 36 years writing letters to presidents to make Thanksgiving a holiday. This explains why #10 is a myth.
- **Menu Comparison:** Create a T-chart comparing the 1621 menu (eel, deer, corn porridge) to a modern 2025 menu.