

VO CAB-u-lous!

Build a Fabulous Vocab

December Holidays

Name _____

Date _____

“One kind word can warm three winter months.”

—*Japanese proverb*

The weather outside might be frightful, but December holidays close out the year with cheerful, comforting rituals. Use a word from the Word Bank to complete each sentence below. Of course you may use your dictionary.

Word Bank	asceticism	commemorates	crèche	diminutive	discipline
	gelt	misanthrope	myrrh	solstice	tenets

1. Small chocolate coins wrapped in gold foil are modern versions of a traditional Hanukkah gift called _____.
2. Some people believe displaying a _____ on public property is unconstitutional.
3. On each night of the holiday period, people discuss one of the seven _____ of Kwanzaa.
4. Chinese people observe Dong Zhì, the winter _____, on the longest night of the year.
5. _____ is burned as incense in religious ceremonies all over the world.
6. The name Scrooge, a hateful character in Charles Dickens's *A Christmas Carol*, has become a synonym for cheapskate and _____.
7. Eid al-Adha, or Feast of Sacrifice, is the most important feast of the Muslim year and _____ Ibraham's willingness to sacrifice his son Ishmael at Allah's command.
8. A _____ girl representing Mary rides a burro at the head of the Las Posadas procession.
9. Bodhi Day celebrates the enlightenment of the Buddha after years of arduous _____.
10. During the five days of Pancha Ganapati, a Hindu family focuses on a special *sadhana*, or spiritual _____.