

Tradition and Change - how things changed over time



Name:

Date:

Read the tweets from different eras and take notes on the changes you notice



Megan O'Reilly @megan_oreilly

Just picked up a shamrock shake and it's bringing back childhood memories! Can't wait for the parade tomorrow. #StPatricksDay #Tradition



Connor Murphy @connor_murphy

My family and I have been baking green cupcakes all day. It's our little St. Patrick's Day tradition! #FamilyTime #IrishPride



Aisling Byrne @aisling_byrne

Seeing everyone in green at the office today was such a fun surprise. Love how St. Patrick's Day brings people together! #OfficeFun #GreenEverywhere



Liam Gallagher @liam_gallagher

Got my first taste of corned beef and cabbage today, and I have to say, it's a game changer. Why didn't I try this sooner? #StPatricksDay #Foodie



Siobhan Kelly @siobhan_kelly

Watching the St. Patrick's Day parade from Dublin online. Technology is amazing! Almost feels like I'm there. #StPatricksDay #VirtualCelebration



Sean O'Sullivan @sean_osullivan

My kids are so excited for St. Patrick's Day that they made a leprechaun trap! Fingers crossed we catch one. #StPatricksDay #FamilyFun



Bridget Flynn @bridget_flynn

Celebrating St. Patrick's Day with some traditional Irish music and dance. Nothing beats live performances! #StPatricksDay #IrishCulture

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Write your notes here

The tweet...

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Read the interview and use the information to complete the timeline

Interviewer: Today, we're diving into the rich history of St. Patrick's Day and how its celebrations have evolved over the centuries. Joining us is Dr. Fiona Murphy, a historian specializing in cultural festivities. Dr. Murphy, could you start by giving us a brief overview of the origins of St. Patrick's Day?

Dr. Murphy: Certainly. St. Patrick's Day, or the Feast of Saint Patrick, is observed on March 17th, marking the traditional death date of Saint Patrick, the foremost patron saint of Ireland. The day commemorates Saint Patrick and the arrival of Christianity in Ireland. It became an official Christian feast day in the early 17th century, observed by several denominations including the Catholic Church, the Anglican Communion, the Eastern Orthodox Church, and the Lutheran Church.

Interviewer: How did the early celebrations of St. Patrick's Day differ from what we see today?

Dr. Murphy: Early celebrations were primarily religious in nature. They included attending church services, and in Ireland, the Lenten restrictions on eating and drinking alcohol were lifted for the day. This aspect contributed to the day's association with the consumption of alcohol. It wasn't until the late 20th century that the celebrations began to include parades and public festivals, influenced largely by the Irish diaspora, particularly in North America.

Interviewer: Speaking of the Irish diaspora, how did their influence shape the modern celebrations of St. Patrick's Day?

Dr. Murphy: The Irish diaspora in North America played a significant role in transforming St. Patrick's Day into the global festival it is today. The first recorded St. Patrick's Day parade was held in New York City in 1762 by Irish soldiers serving in the British army. Over the years, these parades grew in size and popularity, incorporating elements of Irish culture such as music, dance, and the wearing of green attire. By the 20th century, these parades had spread back to Ireland, where they became an integral part of the celebrations.

Interviewer: What are some specific examples of how modern St. Patrick's Day celebrations differ from those in the past?

Dr. Murphy: Modern celebrations have become highly commercialized and often include large-scale parades, public festivals, and the "greening" of landmarks. For instance, since 2010, famous landmarks worldwide, such as the Sydney Opera House and the Empire State Building, have been illuminated in green as part of Tourism Ireland's "Global Greening Initiative." In contrast, early celebrations were more subdued and focused on religious observance and community gatherings.

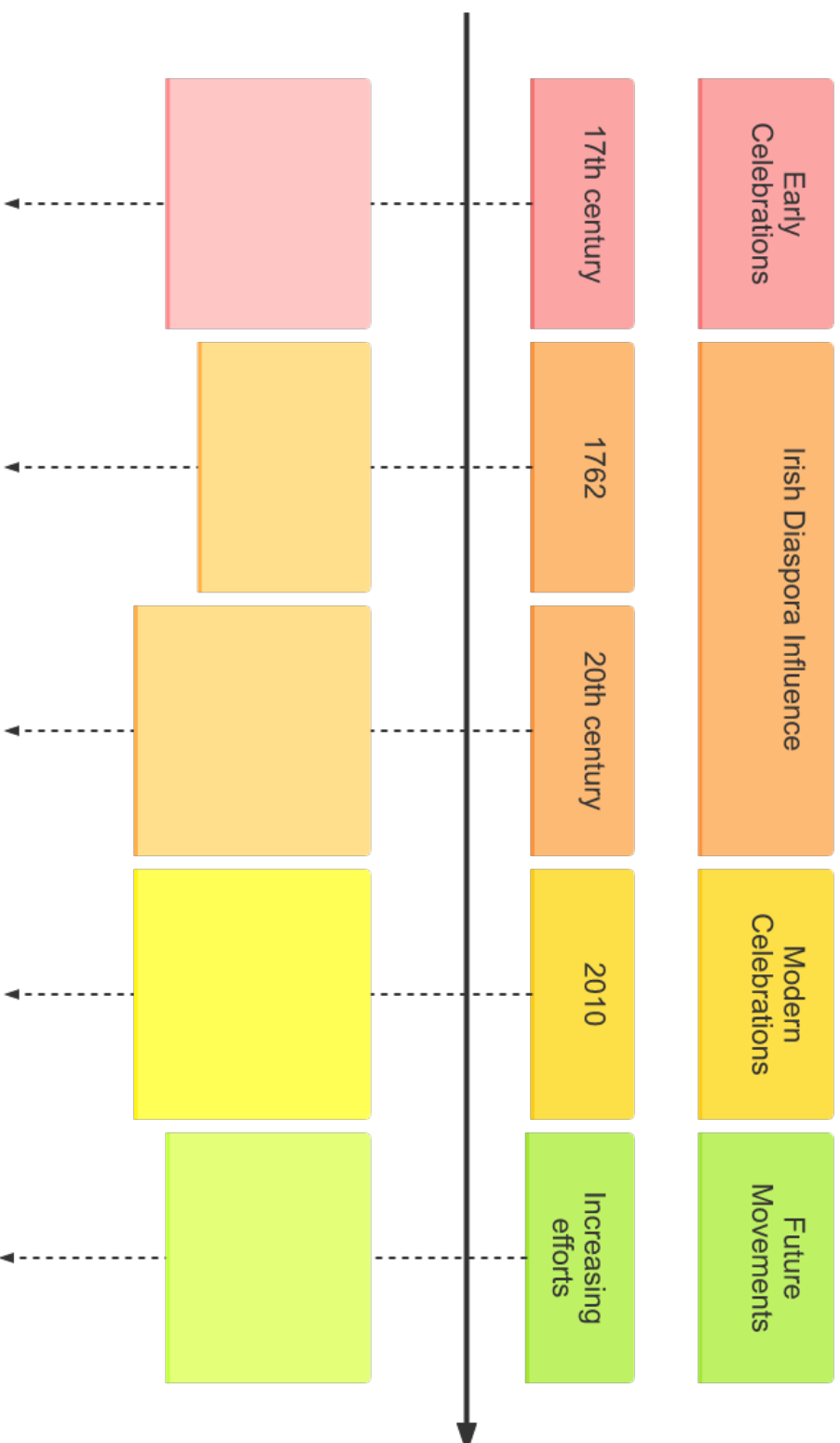
Interviewer: Have there been any criticisms regarding the modern celebrations of St. Patrick's Day?

Dr. Murphy: Yes, there have been criticisms, particularly regarding the commercialization and the promotion of negative stereotypes about the Irish. The emphasis on alcohol consumption has also been a point of contention. Some argue that the festivities have strayed from their original purpose of honoring Saint Patrick and celebrating Irish heritage. Additionally, the portrayal of the Irish in commercial merchandise, such as leprechaun outfits, has been criticized for perpetuating derogatory stereotypes.

Interviewer: Finally, how do you see the future of St. Patrick's Day celebrations?

Dr. Murphy: While commercialization is likely to continue, there is also a growing movement to reclaim the day as a celebration of authentic Irish culture and heritage. Efforts to promote the use of the Irish language and traditional Irish arts during the festivities are increasing. Balancing the fun and the cultural aspects of the day will be crucial in preserving the essence of St. Patrick's Day for future generations.

Interviewer: Thank you, Dr. Murphy, for this insightful discussion on the evolution of St. Patrick's Day.



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Interpret the role of cultural festivals like St. Patrick's Day in preserving national identity within a globalized world.

Analyze how commercialization affects the authenticity of cultural celebrations and whether it is beneficial or detrimental.

Discuss the importance of balancing modern elements and traditional practices in cultural celebrations to maintain their significance.

Evaluate the impact of the diaspora on the evolution of cultural celebrations in their home countries, using St. Patrick's Day as an example.
