

# Burns Night

Burns Night is celebrated around the world every year. It is a time when people remember a famous Scottish poet called Robert Burns.



## Robert Burns

Robert Burns was born on 25<sup>th</sup> January 1759.

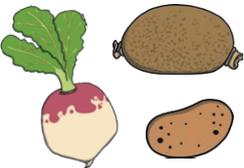
He wrote many famous poems and songs.

He is also called Rabbie Burns or 'The Bard' in Scotland.

## Burns Night



Burns Night is celebrated on or around the 25<sup>th</sup> January.



People eat haggis, neeps and tatties. Haggis is a type of sausage held inside a sheep's stomach. Neeps are turnips and tatties are potatoes.



Many of Robert Burns's poems are read during the evening.

# Questions

1. Who was Robert Burns? Tick one.

- a famous chef
- a famous poet
- a famous actor

2. When was Robert Burns born? Tick one.

- 25<sup>th</sup> January 1759
- 25<sup>st</sup> June 1759
- 25<sup>st</sup> July 1759

3. What other name is Robert Burns known by? Tick one.

- Robbie Burns
- Richard Burns
- Rabbie Burns

4. When is Burns Night celebrated? Tick one.

- 25<sup>th</sup> July
- 25<sup>th</sup> June
- 25<sup>th</sup> January

5. What are 'neeps'? Tick one.

- turnips
- potatoes
- carrots

# Answers

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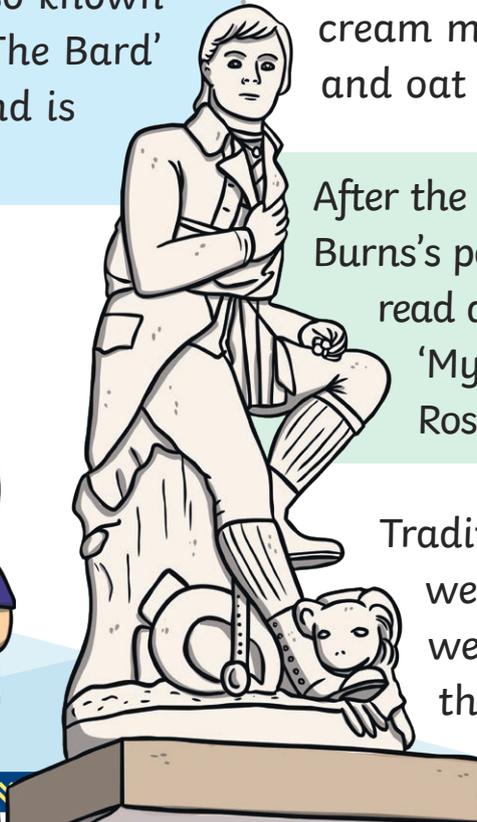


## Robert Burns

Robert Burns was born on 25<sup>th</sup> January 1759 in Alloway, Scotland. He wrote many famous poems about issues that were important to him.

He wrote the famous song 'Auld Lang Syne' which is sung on New Year's Eve.

In Scotland, he is also known as Rabbie Burns or 'The Bard' which means poet and is a Scottish icon.



## Burns Night

Burns Night is celebrated on or around the 25<sup>th</sup> January. People gather together to eat haggis, neeps and tatties. Haggis is a type of sausage stored inside a sheep's stomach, neeps are turnips and tatties are potatoes.

Dessert is usually a dish called cranachan which is whipped cream mixed with raspberries and oat cakes.

After the meal, many of Robert Burns's poems and songs are read and performed, such as 'My Love is like a Red, Red Rose' and 'Tam o'Shanter.'

Traditionally, male guests wear kilts and women wear dresses or skirts in their family tartan.

# Questions

1. Where was Robert Burns from? Tick one.

- Wales  
 Scotland  
 England

2. Find and copy a word that shows that Robert Burns is well known.

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3. When is 'Auld Lang Syne' sung? Tick one.

- Christmas Day  
 Boxing Day  
 New Year's Eve

4. What do men wear on Burns Night?

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5. Draw **three** lines to match each food with its Scottish name.

haggis

tatties

cranachan

potatoes

a type of sausage in a sheep's stomach

cream, raspberries and oatcakes

# Answers

1. Where was Robert Burns from? Tick one.

- Wales  
 **Scotland**  
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2. Find and copy a word that shows that Robert Burns is well known.

**famous**

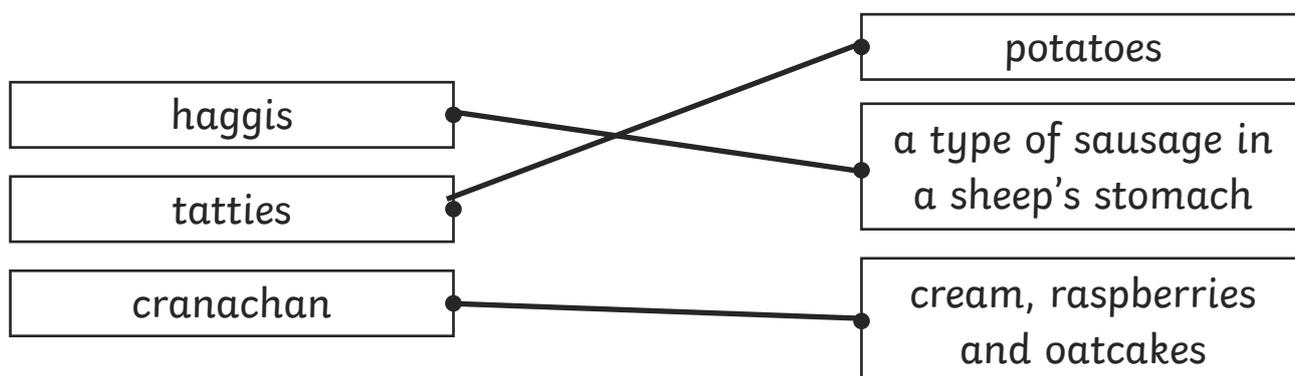
3. When is 'Auld Lang Syne' sung? Tick one.

- Christmas Day  
 Boxing Day  
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4. What do men wear on Burns Night?

**kilts**

5. Draw **three** lines to match each food with its Scottish name.



# Burns Night

Burns Night is celebrated around the world every year. It is a time when people remember a famous Scottish poet called Robert Burns.

## Burns Night

Many people hold a Burns supper on or around his birthday. It may be a large, organised event or a small gathering of family and friends. The menu consists of haggis, neeps and tatties.

Haggis, which is presented to the guests on a silver platter, is a type of sausage stored inside a sheep's stomach. Neeps are turnips or a swede which is cooked and mashed and tatties are potatoes.

After the meal, guests are entertained by singers or musicians who perform some of Robert Burns's poems and songs, such as 'My Love is Like a Red, Red Rose' and 'Tam o'Shanter.' Traditionally, male guests wear kilts and women wear dresses or skirts in their family tartan.

## Did You Know...?

Tartan is a heavy woollen cloth woven to make different patterns. The patterns and colours of the tartan represent different areas of Scotland or families.



## Robert Burns

Robert Burns, the eldest of seven children, was born on 25<sup>th</sup> January 1759 in Alloway, Scotland.

He wrote many famous poems about political issues that were very important to him.

His most famous song is '**Auld Lang Syne**' which is sung across the world at midnight on New Year's Eve in order to welcome in the new year.

Robert Burns is an important historical figure in Scotland and is sometimes referred to as Rabbin Burns or '**The Bard**', which means poet in Scots.

# Questions

1. How many brothers and sisters did Robert Burns have? Tick one.

- six  
 two  
 five

2. What is the name of Burns's most famous song?

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3. What is the Scots word for 'poet'? Tick one.

- haggis  
 Rabbie  
 bard

4. Which part of the Burns supper would you most like to eat and why?

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5. Find and copy a word that shows that guests are amused after finishing their Burns supper.

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6. Fill in the missing words in this sentence.

Tartan is a heavy woollen cloth \_\_\_\_\_ to make different patterns.

# Answers

1. How many brothers and sisters did Robert Burns have? Tick one.

- six**  
 two  
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2. What is the name of Burns's most famous song?

**Auld Lang Syne**

3. What is the Scots word for 'poet'? Tick one.

- haggis  
 Rabbie  
 **bard**

4. Which part of the Burns supper would you most like to eat and why?

**Pupils' own responses, such as: I would most like to eat cranachan at a Burns supper because it says that it is whipped cream mixed with raspberries and oatcakes. I really like cream and raspberries and, even though I don't know what oatcakes taste like, it sounds like the nicest part of the supper.**

5. Find and copy a word that shows that guests are amused after finishing their Burns supper.

**entertained**

6. Fill in the missing words in this sentence.

Tartan is a heavy woollen cloth **woven** to make different patterns.