

1.

In Hungarian, a person's name is always said with their last name first. How would your name be said when visiting Transylvania?

2.

Transylvanian children are taught to memorize poems from a very early age. By the time they are 10, they can recite long poems. What is the longest poem you can recite?

3.

In Romania there are Hungarian-Romanians (people whose ancestors lived in Hungary before 1919 and who speak Hungarian) and Romanian-Romanians: their families have always been Romanian and they speak Romanian only. What is your family's ancestry?

4.

Most Unitarians in Romania are Hungarian-Romanians. They speak Hungarian but must also learn Romanian, starting in grade 2. Can you speak any language other than your native language?

5.

Classes are taught in either Romanian or Hungarian depending on how many children speak Hungarian. The rule is: if 10 or more children speak Hungarian, a Hungarian speaking teacher will be hired. What languages do the children in your school speak?

6.

Gypsies live in Romania, too. Their tradition is to wander from place to place, trading, buying and selling, instead of settling down in a home and working at a job or farm. Because of this people sometimes call them names or don't treat them fairly. Do any groups of people in your country get treated this way?

7.

The name "Transylvania" means "beyond the forest region" of Hungary. It is a land of rolling hills and valleys, dotted with small villages. Does the name of the town or state where you live have a special meaning?

8.

Each region of Transylvania and Hungary has its own handmade folk costume. Costumes are passed down from parents to children and everyone loves to wear them for special occasions. Do you have any clothes that your parents or grandparents wore when they were your age?



9.

In each region of Transylvania there are dances that children do. The girls usually dance in a circle while singing. The boys' dances have lots of jumping and slapping their boots. A few dances are done by boys and girls together. Have you ever danced ethnic or folk dances?

11.

Weddings and Christenings are big celebrations, with cooking and preparation for the feast starting at least a month ahead; the party goes on all night till mid-morning. When your family has a special celebration, what foods are prepared?

13.

The tulip is the national flower of Hungary and tulip designs are common in Transylvanian folk art. What is your state or regional flower?

15.

There is a holiday in spring when the boys leave a bouquet of flowers in front of the home of the girl they have chosen as the "maid of spring." Do you do something special to celebrate the coming of spring?

10.

When the Communists were in power, some songs and dances were forbidden. Unitarian parents thought it was important for their children to know these songs so they taught them in secret and children never sang them aloud in public. Have you ever been forbidden to read a book, sing a song, or do a dance? What do you think that would be like?

12.

Hungarian folk art is popular in Transylvania. The women stitch colorful embroideries to decorate their homes and churches. The men make decorations of carved wood. Do you have anything decorating your home or church that was made by hand?

14.

Horse and buggy are still the most common form of transportation in many Transylvanian villages. Many people ride bikes or walk. But not many people have cars. Could you get to school or to church without a car?

16.

Here's a special Easter tradition: Girls dye eggs red, boiling them in red onion skins. Boys come to the house and recite a poem like: "I was walking in the green wood. I saw a blue flower. But it was shriveled. Please, can I water it?" And if the girls say "Yes," the boys sprinkle them with perfumed water, and the girls give them eggs. Do you have a special Easter tradition?



17.

Mothers come to school on Mothers Day in May. The children recite poems, sing songs and give their mothers flowers. How do you celebrate Mother's Day?

18.

On December 6th Transylvanian Unitarians decorate their Christmas tree and St. Nicholas comes to a party at the church and brings presents for each child.

19.

On December 24th Christmas angels visit each house, delivering presents through the window to all children who have been good and written letters to the angels. What do you think a Christmas angel looks like?

20.

In Transylvanian villages, church bells ring every morning when it's time to wake up, at lunchtime, and in the evening when it's time for the farmers and animals to come in from the fields. The bells are also rung in special patterns for weddings and funerals and to call everyone to come to church services. Does your church have bells? When do they ring?

21.

Sometimes partner churches arrange to ring their bells at exactly the same time and have a partner church worship service in the same moments. Do you have a partner church? What time is it right now in your partner church?

22.

Many Transylvanian Unitarian boys are very good at catching fish. Some can even catch them with their hands! Have you ever gone fishing?

23.

Teenage boys learn to use a scythe to cut the long grass. Scythes are dangerous to use and it's an important responsibility to teach the boys to do this without hurting themselves. Have you learned any dangerous skills?

24.

Many houses are heated with wood. Regular jobs for the boys are splitting the wood and keeping the woodbox filled. The girls cook and sew and beat the rugs. What are some of your regular jobs at home?



25.

In Hungary and Romania people celebrate their Name Day (the saint's day for their name) in a much bigger way than their actual birth day. For instance, all the people named Janos have a party on the same day. Were you named after someone special? Who?

