

1 Read the texts and complete the gaps with words from the box.

- villagers • parade • May Queen • rings • bushes • luck • balloons
• picnic • funnel cakes • village • tradition • ribbons

May DAY traditions around the world

The UK



In the UK, the most common types of May Day celebration include dancing around a maypole with long, colourful **1)** _____ and watching a May

Day **2)** _____ with musicians, dancers and the **3)** _____ who wears a white dress and a crown of flowers on her head.

Finland



In Finland, people celebrate May Day by spending time outdoors with their friends and family. A lot of people buy colourful **7)** _____

with pictures on them. Then, for lunch, they have a **8)** _____ outside. They eat special fried cakes with sugar called **9)** _____.

One May Day

4) _____ in Ireland is the May Bush. People go out and decorate hawthorn **5)** _____ and trees with ribbons, strings and eggshells. Some people tie their clothes or personal items to the May Bush to bring them good **6)** _____.

Ireland



In Germany people raise the maypole on May Day. It is usually tall with green **10)** _____ around it. On the night before May Day, some **11)** _____ stay awake to guard the maypole because it is common for others to try to take it away and raise it in their own **12)** _____.

Germany



2 Use information from the text to find the answer to the clues.

A girl who wears a white dress and flowers: **1**

A place where people decorate plants: **4**

Something colourful people dance with in Britain: **2**

An item that lots of Finnish people buy: **5**

A sweet cake people in Finland eat: **3**

Something German people guard on 30th April: **6**

3 Use the highlighted letters from Ex. 2 to complete the sentence below!

In the UK and Ireland, they celebrate May Day on the first

_____ in May!