

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Sequencing Historical Events

**Instructions:** Read the passage about the history of Boxing Day. Then review the list of six historical events below the text. Number the events **1–6** in the correct order in which they occurred, with **1 being the earliest** and **6 being the most recent**.

Boxing Day, now widely known as a shopping holiday, has its roots in 19th-century Britain. The tradition began when wealthy families gave their household staff the day after Christmas off, often sending them home with gift boxes. These "Christmas boxes" sometimes included leftover food, small gifts, and coins.

At the same time, churches across the country used donation boxes to collect alms during Advent. On December 26th, the church would open these boxes and distribute the donations to the poor, giving the day an added spirit of charity.

By the mid-20th century, as working patterns changed, fewer people worked as live-in servants. Boxing Day remained a public holiday but shifted focus — first toward family gatherings and relaxation, and eventually toward entertainment and sports, especially football and horse racing.

In the 1980s and 1990s, retailers saw an opportunity to turn the day into a shopping event. Massive post-Christmas sales drew crowds to department stores and malls. In more recent years, online shopping has become increasingly dominant, transforming how many people spend the day.

**Timeline Builder: Number the events in order (1 = earliest, 6 = most recent)**

- A. \_\_ Boxing Day becomes associated with online shopping and digital deals.
- B. \_\_ Churches begin collecting and distributing alms on December 26th.
- C. \_\_ Wealthy families give gift boxes to servants the day after Christmas.
- D. \_\_ Retailers in the late 20th century launch major post-holiday sales.
- E. \_\_ Sports and family relaxation become common ways to celebrate.
- F. \_\_ Live-in servants become less common as society changes.

