

# A Sweet and Simple Thanksgiving Game

by Maja Apolonia Rodé

## Instructions

**Take turns around the table.** One at a time, have each person pick a number between 1 and 21 (choosing a number that hasn't been picked yet). Read the corresponding quote and question. Have that person answer the question, then move to the next person.

**For a smaller group** — say 6 or fewer: Take turns around the table. One at a time, have each person pick a number between 1 and 21 (choosing a number that hasn't been picked yet). Read the corresponding quote and question. Have that person answer the question. Then invite each person at the table to answer that same question. Then have the next person pick the number.

**To end the game** — think of a way to end the game that feels right for your group. Suggestion: propose a toast such as, "Here's to all the things we are grateful for!" Or come up with your own.

## Quotes & Questions

1

*When I started counting my blessings, my whole life turned around.*

~ Willie Nelson

**Describe a song, instrument, or other musical experience that you are grateful for.**

2

*Enjoy the little things, for one day you may look back and realize they were the big things.*

~ Robert Brault

**What are you grateful for that brings beauty to your daily life?**

3

*Gratitude turns what we have into enough.*

~ Melody Beattie

**What are you grateful to have enough of, and why is it important to you?**

4

*Some people are always finding fault with nature for putting thorns on roses; I always thank her for having put roses on thorns.*

~ Alphonse Karr

**Think of a specific tree (or another member of the plant kingdom) that you have enjoyed or appreciated, past or present. Say a little something about it.**

**5**

*Gratitude enables me to fall in love with my life every day.*

~ Marcia Martin

**Talk about an animal you loved, or an encounter with an animal that you appreciated experiencing.**

**6**

*Most human beings have an almost infinite capacity for taking things for granted.*

~ Aldous Huxley

**Name something you used to take for granted and appreciate now.**

**7**

*Do not spoil what you have by desiring what you have not; remember, what you now have was once among the things you only hoped for.*

~ Epicurus

**Name a physical object you own that you are grateful for. What do you appreciate about it?**

**8**

*Gratitude, like faith, is a muscle. The more you use it, the stronger it grows.*

~ Alan Cohen

**What sport or physical activity are you grateful to participate in and why?**

**9**

*Feeling gratitude and not expressing it is like wrapping a present and not giving it.*

~ William Arthur Ward

**What word in English or another language do you appreciate being able to use, and why?**

**10**

*"Gratitude bestows reverence... changing forever how we experience life and the world."*

~ John Milton

**Name three things you appreciate about the land you live on or a nearby natural area.**

**11**

*When eating bamboo sprouts, remember the man who planted them.*

~ Chinese Proverb

**Name a local store, restaurant, or other business are you grateful for and why.**

**12**

*The hardest arithmetic to master is that which enables us to count our blessings.*

~ Eric Hoffer

**Talk briefly about a class you took that has made a difference in your life.**

**13**

*Appreciation is a wonderful thing: It makes what is excellent in others belong to us as well.*

~ Voltaire

**Name someone you are thankful to have worked with. What did you learn from them?**

**14**

*This is a wonderful day.*

*I haven't seen this one before.*

~ Maya Angelou

**If you could invent a holiday in honor of something, what would it celebrate and what would you call it?**

## 15

*"Enough" is a feast. ~ Buddhist Proverb*

**Think of a specific meal you were particularly grateful for. Why did you appreciate it so much?**

## 16

*Let us be grateful to the people who make us happy; they are the charming gardeners who make our souls blossom.*

~ Marcel Proust

**Talk about a moment when someone made you happy.**

## 17

*If the only prayer you ever say in your entire life is thank you, it will be enough.*

~ Meister Eckhart

**Name a seemingly insignificant thing that you appreciate in your life?**

## 18

*Showing gratitude is one of the simplest yet most powerful things humans can do for each other.*

~ Randy Pausch

**How do you feel when someone expresses gratitude to you?**

## 19

*We should certainly count our blessings, but we should also make our blessings count.*

~ Neal A. Maxwell

**Name a talent or skill you appreciate having, and describe a time you exercised it well.**

## 20

*The invariable mark of wisdom is to see the miraculous in the common.*

~ Ralph Waldo Emerson

**Name an object you use or see every day. What is amazing about it?**

## 21

*We often take for granted the very things that most deserve our gratitude.*

~ Cynthia Ozick

**What healthy food are you grateful for and why?**

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