# Friggatriskaidekaphobia!*

Read each source below. Then complete the activities on pages 47–48.

## Source 1

*You're Invited!*

Our little Eve is officially becoming a teenager!

Date: Friday, March 13, 2026

Time: 7:00

Place: Eve's house

RSVP: to Eve by March 10th
Phone: 552-2052
E-mail: eve31313@evemail.com

One More Thing:
It's Eve's golden birthday, so please wear gold for her special day!

## Source 2

### Friday

1. the day between Thursday and Saturday

2. the last day of the workweek and first day of the weekend

3. the day named after Frigg, a Norse goddess

## Source 3

What a disaster! My birthday was on Friday, and for the occasion, my parents had planned an extravagant party at our house. Mom bought me a beautiful gold dress to wear. We sent out shiny, golden invitations. Mom and Sis hung gold streamers and other decorations around our house. And then Friday came, and no one showed up.

First, Aunt Ana and Uncle Bob RSVP'd with a "no." Then Cousin Otto said he couldn't come. Next, it was Grandma Hannah who wrote, "I'm so sorry, Eve. I'll stop by on Saturday to see you." The worst was when my best friend, Elle, said her parents wouldn't let her go. She begged and pleaded, but they offered up some weak excuse like, "not on that day."

When I told Dad that, he figured it out. He said that all those people must be afraid to leave their houses on a Friday the 13th. He said some people have a phobia about that day. "Really?" I thought, "How silly!" I know that a phobia is an irrational fear, but I just don't understand it. The number "13" has always been one of my favorites, but maybe that's because of the year I was born in. As for Friday, isn't it just another day of the week?

## Source 4

### Glossary

**golden birthday** — when a person turns the age of his or her birth day (for example, when a person turns 10 years old on the 10th day of a month)

**palindrome** — a word, number, or phrase that reads the same backward as forward

* This word is pronounced *fri-guh-tris-kī-deck-uh-foe-bee-uh.*

Name: _____

**Part 1:** Read each idea. Which source gives you this information? Fill in the correct bubble for each source. (Note: More than one bubble may be filled in for each idea.)

| Information | Sources ➡ | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. *Friday* is named after a Norse goddess. | | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| 2. Eve has a cousin named Otto. | | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| 3. There is such a thing as a golden birthday. | | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| 4. The birthday party is at Eve's house. | | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |

**Part 2:** Fill in the bubble next to the best answer to each question.

5. How many syllables are in the word *friggatriskaidekaphobia?*

    Ⓐ 7                Ⓒ 9

    Ⓑ 8                Ⓓ 10

6. What do all of the people's names in Source 3 have in common?

    Ⓐ They are all palindromes.        Ⓒ They all begin with a vowel.

    Ⓑ They all contain one syllable.      Ⓓ They all name members of Eve's family.

7. What is the main purpose of the asterisk at the end of the title "Friggatriskaidekaphobia!"?

    Ⓐ to show strong emotion

    Ⓑ to show that more information is to follow

    Ⓒ to show that this word will be defined below

    Ⓓ to show that it is the longest word in the English language

8. Many of the people in Eve's life seem to suffer from friggatriskaidekaphobia. What would be the most accurate definition of this word?

    Ⓐ a dislike of the number 13        Ⓒ an irrational fear of the number 13

    Ⓑ a dislike of Friday the 13th       Ⓓ an irrational fear of Friday the 13th

**Part 3:** Search "Friggatriskaidekaphobia!" to find one example of each of the following. Then write the number of the source in which you located this information.

9. number that is a palindrome _____ Source #: _____

10. abbreviation used as a verb _____ Source #: _____

Name: _____

**Part 4:** Refer back to the sources, and use complete sentences to answer these questions.

**11.** On what date was Eve born?  Write it here: _____

On the lines below, cite as much evidence as you can to show how you came to this conclusion.

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

**12.** Using what you know about the number of days in a month, what is the oldest possible age at which a person could have their golden birthday?  Explain how you arrived at this answer.

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

**13.** Have you already had your golden birthday?  Circle one:     **Yes     No**

• If so, how old were you, and what was the exact date on which it happened?

_____

_____

_____

• If not, how old will you be, and what is the exact date on which it will happen?

_____

_____

_____