# CHINESE NEW YEAR


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ALL ANSWERS ARE IN THE TEXT ON PAGE 2.
Chinese New Year is the most important of the Chinese holidays. Many people who live outside China call it the Lunar New Year. People celebrate this holiday all across the world. Chinese New Year’s Day begins on the first day of the first lunar month in the Chinese calendar. It ends on the 15th day. This day is called the Lantern Festival and is another time to celebrate and have a party. Chinese New Year’s Day changes every year because of the Chinese zodiac. The exact day depends on if it is the year of the dragon, rat, horse, dog, etc. It is always some time between January the 21st and February the 20th. The Chinese are not in agreement which year it is. This year is one of three possibilities – depending on which scholar you believe.

The first day of the Chinese New Year is when Chinese people welcome the different gods to their homes. There are many superstitions on this day. Many people believe that not eating meat will bring them a long life. Others believe it is bad luck to light fires so many people cook the day before. Other bad luck things to do on New Year’s Day is getting a haircut, sweeping the floor and buying books. The most important thing to do on this day is to visit your family. Children like this day because they get money from their older relatives. It is a very festive time. People hang red lanterns from their houses and cook all kinds of traditional food. It is also very noisy as people let off firecrackers and fireworks in the street to celebrate.
PHRASE MATCH

Match the following phrases from the article.

Paragraph 1

1. Chinese New Year is the most important a. have a party
   the first day of

2. another time to celebrate and b. Chinese zodiac
   ... changes every year because of the

3. The exact day depends on if it is the c. of three possibilities
   This year is one d. of the Chinese holidays
   e. the first lunar month f. year of the dragon, rat...

Paragraph 2

1. Chinese people welcome the different a. will bring them a long life
   There are many superstitions b. lanterns from their houses

2. people believe that not eating meat c. gods to their homes
   it is bad luck to light fires so many d. firecrackers and fireworks

3. People hang red e. on this day
   It is also very noisy as people let off f. people cook the day before
LISTENING GAP FILL

Chinese New Year is the most _______________ Chinese holidays. Many people who live outside China call it the Lunar New Year. People celebrate this _______________ the world. Chinese New Year’s Day begins on the first day of the first lunar month in the Chinese calendar. _______________ 15th day. This day is called the Lantern Festival and is another time to celebrate and have a party. Chinese New Year’s Day changes every year because of _______________. The exact day _______________ the year of the dragon, rat, horse, dog, etc. It is always some time between January the 21st and February the 20th. The Chinese are not in agreement which year it is. This year is one of three possibilities – depending on which scholar you believe.

The _______________ Chinese New Year is when Chinese people welcome the different gods to their homes. There are many superstitions on this day. Many people believe _______________ meat will bring them a long life. Others believe _______________ light fires so many people cook the day before. Other bad luck things to do on New Year’s Day is getting a haircut, _______________ and buying books. The most important thing to do on this day is to visit your family. Children like this day because they _______________ their older relatives. It is a very festive time. People hang red lanterns from their houses and cook all kinds of traditional food. It is also very _______________ off firecrackers and fireworks in the street to celebrate.
Chinese New Year is the ________ important of the Chinese holidays. Many people who live outside China call it the Lunar New Year. People celebrate this holiday ________ across the world. Chinese New Year’s Day begins on the first day of the first lunar month in the Chinese calendar. It ________ on the 15th day. This day is called the Lantern Festival and is another time to celebrate and ________ a party. Chinese New Year’s Day changes ________ year because of the Chinese zodiac. The exact day depends on ________ it is the year of the dragon, rat, horse, dog, etc. It is always ________ time between January the 21st and February the 20th. The Chinese are not in agreement which year it is. This year is one of ________ possibilities – depending on which scholar you believe.

The first day of the Chinese New Year is ________ Chinese people welcome the different gods to their homes. There are many superstitions on ________ day. Many people believe that not eating meat will bring ________ a long life. Others believe it is bad luck to light fires so many people cook the ________ before. Other bad luck things to do on New Year’s Day is getting a haircut, sweeping the floor and buying books. The ________ important thing to do on this day is to visit your family. Children like this day because they get money ________ their older relatives. It is a very festive time. People hang red lanterns from ________ houses and cook all kinds of traditional food. It is also ________ noisy as people let off firecrackers and fireworks in the street to celebrate.
CHOOSE THE CORRECT WORD
Delete the wrong word in each of the pairs of *italics*.

Chinese New Year is the *most / mostly* important of the Chinese holidays. Many people who live outside China *calling / call* it the Lunar New Year. People celebrate this holiday all across the world. Chinese New Year’s Day begins on the *first / firsts* day of the first lunar month in the Chinese calendar. It ends on the 15th day. This day is *call / called* the Lantern Festival and is another time to celebrate and *had / have* a party. Chinese New Year’s Day changes every year because of the Chinese zodiac. The exact day depends on if it is the year of the dragon, rat, horse, *dogs / dog*, etc. It is always *some time / sometimes* between January the 21st and February the 20th. The Chinese are not in *agreement / argument* which year it is. This year is one of three possibilities – depending on which scholar you believe.

The first day *of / for* the Chinese New Year is when Chinese people welcome the different *goods / gods* to their homes. There are many *superstitions / superstitious* on this day. Many people *belief / believe* that not eating meat will bring them a long life. Others believe it is bad luck to light fires so many people cook the day before. Other *badly / bad* luck things to do on New Year’s Day is getting a haircut, sweeping the floor and buying books. The most important thing to do on this day is to *visit / visiting* your family. Children like this day because they get money from their older relatives. It is a very *festival / festive* time. People hang red lanterns from their houses and cook all kinds of traditional food. It is also very noisy as people let *on / off* firecrackers and fireworks in the street to celebrate.
MULTIPLE CHOICE

Chinese New Year is the most (1) ____ of the Chinese holidays. Many people who live outside China call it the (2) ____ New Year. People celebrate this holiday all across the world. Chinese New Year’s Day begins on the first day of the first lunar (3) ____ in the Chinese calendar. It ends on the 15th day. This day is called the Lantern Festival and is another time to (4) ____ and have a party. Chinese New Year’s Day changes every year because of the Chinese zodiac. The (5) ____ day depends on if it is the year of the dragon, rat, horse, dog, etc. It is always some time between January the 21st and February the 20th. The Chinese are not in (6) ____ which year it is. This year is one of three possibilities – depending on which scholar you believe.

The first (7) ____ of the Chinese New Year is when Chinese people welcome the different gods to their homes. There are many superstitions on this day. Many people (8) ____ that not eating meat will bring them a long life. Others believe it is bad luck to (9) ____ fires so many people cook the day before. Other bad luck things to do on New Year’s Day is getting a haircut, sweeping the floor and buying books. The most important (10) ____ to do on this day is to visit your family. Children like this day because they get money from their older relatives. It is a very festive time. People hang red lanterns from their houses and cook (11) ____ kinds of traditional food. It is also very noisy as people let (12) ____ firecrackers and fireworks in the street to celebrate.

Put the correct words from this table into the article.

1. (a) importance (b) importantly (c) important (d) imports
2. (a) Lunar (b) Lunatic (c) Loony (d) Lunacy
3. (a) ending (b) ends (c) ended (d) end of
4. (a) celebration (b) celebrate (c) celebrates (d) celebratory
5. (a) exacted (b) exactly (c) exacts (d) exact
6. (a) agree (b) agreeable (c) agreement (d) agrees
7. (a) day (b) daily (c) days (d) daytime
8. (a) belief (b) believer (c) believing (d) believe
9. (a) lit (b) lighter (c) light (d) lights
10. (a) thingy (b) thing (c) things (d) thingamay
11. (a) all (b) all of (c) entirely (d) everything
12. (a) on (b) up (c) down (d) off
SPELLING

Spell the **jumbled** words (from the text) correctly.

**Paragraph 1**

1. the most **ntaiortmp** of the Chinese holidays
2. People **tcarelebe** this holiday all across the world
3. This day is called the Lantern **tvisleaF**
4. the Chinese **caoidz**
5. The **ceatx** day depends
6. The Chinese are not in **emngaeeert** which year it is

**Paragraph 2**

7. Chinese people **oewmelc** the different gods to their homes
8. Others **ebileve** it is bad luck
9. **itisv** your family
10. they get money from their older **iaelsvtre**
11. It is also very **oysni**
12. people let off firecrackers and **rsiwkreof**
Number these lines in the correct order.

( ) day of the first lunar month in the Chinese calendar. It ends on the 15th day. This day is called the Lantern Festival and is another time to celebrate and have a party. Chinese New Year’s Day changes every year because

( ) The first day of the Chinese New Year is when Chinese people welcome the different gods to their homes. There are many superstitions on this day. Many people believe that not eating meat will bring them a long life. Others believe it is bad luck to light fires so many people cook the day before. Other bad things to do on this day is to visit your family. Children like this day because they get money from their older relatives. It is a very festive time. People hang red lanterns from their houses and cook all kinds of traditional food. It is also very noisy as people let off firecrackers and fireworks in the street to celebrate.

( ) New Year. People celebrate this holiday all across the world. Chinese New Year’s Day begins on the first time between January the 21st and February the 20th. The Chinese are not in agreement which

( ) Chinese New Year is the most important of the Chinese holidays. Many people who live outside China call it the Lunar New Year. People celebrate this holiday all across the world. Chinese New Year’s Day begins on the first

( ) thing to do on this day is to visit your family. Children like this day because they get money from their older relatives. It is a very festive time. People hang red lanterns from their houses and cook all kinds of traditional food. It is also very noisy as people let off firecrackers and fireworks in the street to celebrate.

( ) New Year. People celebrate this holiday all across the world. Chinese New Year’s Day begins on the first day of the first lunar month in the Chinese calendar. It ends on the 15th day. This day is called the Lantern Festival and is another time to celebrate and have a party. Chinese New Year’s Day changes every year because

( ) of the Chinese zodiac. The exact day depends on if it is the year of the dragon, rat, horse, dog, etc. It is always some
SCRAMBLED SENTENCES
With a partner, put the words back into the correct order.

1. holidays most of Chinese the important the

2. this celebrate People world the across all holiday

3. another party a have and celebrate to time

4. exact The depends day

5. agreement in not are Chinese The

6. homes their to gods different the welcome people

7. superstitions this There many on day are

8. is fires bad Others luck believe to it light

9. get from older they money their relatives

10. firecrackers also as off is noisy let It very people
DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)
STUDENT A’s QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. ___________________________________________________________________

2. ___________________________________________________________________

3. ___________________________________________________________________

4. ___________________________________________________________________

5. ___________________________________________________________________

6. ___________________________________________________________________

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)
STUDENT B’s QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. ___________________________________________________________________

2. ___________________________________________________________________

3. ___________________________________________________________________

4. ___________________________________________________________________

5. ___________________________________________________________________

6. ___________________________________________________________________
THE CHINESE NEW YEAR SURVEY

Write five questions about Chinese New Year in the table. Do this in pairs/groups. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper.

Without your partner, interview other students. Write down their answers.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Q.1.</th>
<th>STUDENT 1</th>
<th>STUDENT 2</th>
<th>STUDENT 3</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Q.2.</th>
<th>STUDENT 1</th>
<th>STUDENT 2</th>
<th>STUDENT 3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Q.3.</th>
<th>STUDENT 1</th>
<th>STUDENT 2</th>
<th>STUDENT 3</th>
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</table>

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Q.4.</th>
<th>STUDENT 1</th>
<th>STUDENT 2</th>
<th>STUDENT 3</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Q.5.</th>
<th>STUDENT 1</th>
<th>STUDENT 2</th>
<th>STUDENT 3</th>
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Return to your original partner(s) and share and talk about what you found out.
Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.
WRITING

Write about Chinese New Year for 10 minutes. Show your partner your paper. Correct each other’s work.

______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
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______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
HOMEWORK

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google’s search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. INTERNET: Search the Internet and find more information about Chinese New Year. Talk about what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. MAGAZINE ARTICLE: Write a magazine article about Chinese New Year. Write about what happens around the world. Include two imaginary interviews with people who did something on this day.

   Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

4. POSTER: Make your own poster about Chinese New Year. Write about what will happen on this day around the world.

   Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.