

NEW YEAR'S EVE

http://www.eslHolidayLessons.com/12/new_years_eve.html

CONTENTS:

The Reading / Tapescript	2
Phrase Match	3
Listening Gap Fill	4
Listening / Reading Gap Fill	5
Choose the Correct Word	6
Multiple Choice	7
Spelling	8
Put the Text Back Together	9
Scrambled Sentences	10
Discussion	11
Student Survey	12
Writing	13
Homework	14

ALL ANSWERS ARE IN THE TEXT ON PAGE 2.

THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

New Year's Eve is the last day of the year. It is always an exciting time because people look forward to welcoming a new year. It is also a good time to think back and say goodbye to the old year. New Year's Eve is a national holiday for many people around the world. In a lot of countries, people go back to their hometown for the New Year, so the roads, trains and buses are packed. In England, there is always a New Year's Eve party you can go to. The party is usually in someone's home and the host invites friends, families and neighbours. The living room becomes a mini disco as everyone dances to loud music. Everyone then waits until midnight to hear Big Ben chime twelve times. That's the signal a new year has arrived.

I have lots of good memories of New Year's Eve. When I was very young, my parents let me stay up until midnight. This was very exciting and a special treat. When I became a teenager, I really looked forward to going to parties. I spent one freezing New Year's Eve in Trafalgar Square in the centre of London. There were no trains to go home so I waited until morning outside the train station. It snowed. It was really cold. I also spent many wonderful New Year's Eves in Japan. There, it is traditional to visit a shrine and pray for good things to happen. I think wherever you are, New Year's Eve is always fun. Maybe the best way to welcome the New Year is by watching one of the many amazing fireworks displays in the world's capital cities.

PHRASE MATCH

Match the following phrases from the article.

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. people look forward to | a. think back |
| 2. It is also a good time to | b. new year has arrived |
| 3. the roads, trains and buses | c. to hear Big Ben |
| 4. there is always a New Year's Eve | d. welcoming a new year |
| 5. Everyone then waits until midnight | e. are packed |
| 6. That's the signal a | f. party you can go to |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. I have lots of good | a. to going to parties |
| 2. my parents let me stay | b. shrine and pray |
| 3. I really looked forward | c. memories of New Year's Eve |
| 4. I waited until morning | d. up until midnight |
| 5. it is traditional to visit a | e. displays |
| 6. one of the many amazing fireworks | f. outside the train station |

LISTENING GAP FILL

New Year's Eve is _____ the year. It is always an exciting time because people look forward to welcoming a new year. It is also a good time _____ say goodbye to the old year. New Year's Eve is a national holiday for many people around the world. In a lot of countries, people go back to their hometown for the New Year, so the roads, trains and _____. In England, there is always a New Year's Eve party you can go to. The party is usually in someone's home _____ friends, families and neighbours. The living room becomes a mini disco as everyone dances to loud music. Everyone then waits until midnight to hear Big Ben chime twelve times. That's _____ year has arrived.

I _____ memories of New Year's Eve. When I was very young, my parents let me stay up until midnight. This was very exciting and _____. When I became a teenager, I really looked forward to going to parties. I _____ New Year's Eve in Trafalgar Square in the centre of London. There were no trains to go home so I waited until morning outside the train station. It snowed. It was really cold. I also spent many wonderful New Year's Eves in Japan. There, it is traditional _____ and pray for good things to happen. I think wherever you are, New Year's Eve is always fun. Maybe the best way to welcome the New Year is by watching _____ amazing fireworks displays in the world's capital cities.

WHILE READING / LISTENING GAP FILL

Put the words into the gaps in the text.

New Year's Eve is the last day of the year. It is _____ an exciting time because people look _____ to welcoming a new year. It is also a good time to think _____ and say goodbye to the old year. New Year's Eve is a national holiday for many people around the world. In a lot of countries, people go back to their hometown _____ the New Year, so the roads, trains and buses are packed. In England, there is always a New Year's Eve _____ you can go to. The party is usually in someone's home and the host _____ friends, families and neighbours. The living room becomes a mini disco as everyone _____ to loud music. Everyone then waits until midnight to hear Big Ben _____ twelve times. That's the signal a new year has arrived.

*invites**back**party**forward**chime**always**dances**for*

I have lots of good _____ of New Year's Eve. When I was very young, my parents let me _____ up until midnight. This was very exciting and a special treat. When I _____ a teenager, I really looked forward to going to parties. I _____ one freezing New Year's Eve in Trafalgar Square in the centre of London. There were no trains to go home so I _____ until morning outside the train station. It snowed. It was really cold. I also spent many wonderful New Year's Eves in Japan. There, it is traditional to _____ a shrine and pray for good things to happen. I think wherever you are, New Year's Eve is always _____. Maybe the best way to welcome the New Year is by watching one of the many amazing fireworks _____ in the world's capital cities.

*waited**stay**displays**spent**memories**fun**visit**became*

CHOOSE THE CORRECT WORD

Delete the wrong word in each of the pairs of *italics*.

New Year's Eve is the *lasted* / *last* day of the year. It is always an exciting time because people look *backward* / *forward* to welcoming a new year. It is also a good time to think back and *say* / *said* goodbye to the old year. New Year's Eve is a national holiday for many people around the world. In a lot of countries, people go back to their hometown *by* / *for* the New Year, so the roads, trains and buses are *unpacked* / *packed*. In England, there is always a New Year's Eve party you can go to. The party is *usually* / *usual* in someone's home and the host invites friends, families and neighbours. The *living* / *life* room becomes a mini disco as everyone dances to loud music. Everyone then waits until midnight to hear Big Ben chime twelve times. That's the signal a new year has *arriving* / *arrived*.

I have lots of good *memory* / *memories* of New Year's Eve. When I was very young, my parents let me stay *down* / *up* until midnight. This was very exciting and a special treat. When I became a teenager, I really looked forward to going to *party* / *parties*. I spent one freezing New Year's Eve in Trafalgar Square in the centre of London. There were no trains to go home so I waited *before* / *until* morning outside the train station. It snowed. It was really cold. I also spent many *wonderful* / *wonderfully* New Year's Eves in Japan. There, it is traditional *to* / *for* visit a shrine and pray for good things to happen. I think wherever you are, New Year's Eve is always fun. Maybe the best *way* / *ways* to welcome the New Year is by watching one of the many amazing fireworks *display* / *displays* in the world's capital cities.

MULTIPLE CHOICE

New Year's Eve is the last day of the year. It is always an (1) _____ time because people look forward to welcoming a new year. It is also a good time to think (2) _____ and say goodbye to the old year. New Year's Eve is a national holiday for many people around the world. In a (3) _____ of countries, people go back to their hometown for the New Year, so the roads, trains and buses are (4) _____. In England, there is always a New Year's Eve party you can go to. The party is usually in someone's home and the host invites friends, families and neighbours. The (5) _____ room becomes a mini disco as everyone dances to loud music. Everyone then waits until midnight to hear Big Ben chime twelve times. That's the signal a new year (6) _____ arrived.

I have lots of good (7) _____ of New Year's Eve. When I was very young, my parents let me stay up until midnight. This was very exciting and a special (8) _____. When I became a teenager, I really looked forward to going to parties. I spent one (9) _____ New Year's Eve in Trafalgar Square in the centre of London. There were no trains to go home so I waited until morning outside the train station. It snowed. It was really cold. I also spent many wonderful New Year's Eves in Japan. There, it is traditional (10) _____ visit a shrine and pray for good things to happen. I think wherever you are, New Year's Eve is always fun. Maybe the best (11) _____ to welcome the New Year is by watching one of the many amazing fireworks (12) _____ in the world's capital cities.

Put the correct words from this table into the article.

- | | | | | |
|-----|---------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|
| 1. | (a) exciting | (b) excitement | (c) excites | (d) excite |
| 2. | (a) backwards | (b) backing | (c) back | (d) backed |
| 3. | (a) lot | (b) lots | (c) loads | (d) many |
| 4. | (a) pack | (b) packed | (c) packing | (d) packs |
| 5. | (a) life | (b) lived | (c) live | (d) living |
| 6. | (a) having | (b) have to | (c) has | (d) have |
| 7. | (a) memory | (b) memories | (c) memorial | (d) memorize |
| 8. | (a) treat | (b) treating | (c) treatment | (d) treated |
| 9. | (a) freezer | (b) freezes | (c) freezing | (d) froze |
| 10. | (a) at | (b) for | (c) of | (d) to |
| 11. | (a) ways | (b) way | (c) weigh | (d) way of |
| 12. | (a) display | (b) displayed | (c) displaying | (d) displays |

SPELLING

Spell the jumbled words (from the text) correctly.

Paragraph 1

1. It is always an ntgxeici time
2. people look orfdraw to welcoming a new year
3. people go back to their hetwonom for the New Year
4. the host jevnsti friends, families and neighbours
5. everyone nsecad to loud music
6. That's the langis a new year has arrived

Paragraph 2

7. I have lots of good msomieer of New Year's Eve
8. I really looked forward to going to iarpest
9. in the tenrec of London
10. it is linrtaditao to visit a shrine and pray
11. pray for good things to eaphnp
12. many amazing fireworks pldiasys

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () many wonderful New Year's Eves in Japan. There, it is traditional to visit a shrine and pray for good things
- () their hometown for the New Year, so the roads, trains and buses are
- () trains to go home so I waited until morning outside the train station. It snowed. It was really cold. I also spent
- () host invites friends, families and neighbours. The living room becomes a mini disco as everyone dances to
- () loud music. Everyone then waits until midnight to hear Big Ben chime twelve times. That's the signal a new year has arrived.
- () year. New Year's Eve is a national holiday for many people around the world. In a lot of countries, people go back to
- () I have lots of good memories of New Year's Eve. When I was very young, my parents let me stay up
- () to going to parties. I spent one freezing New Year's Eve in Trafalgar Square in the centre of London. There were no
- () until midnight. This was very exciting and a special treat. When I became a teenager, I really looked forward
- (**1**) New Year's Eve is the last day of the year. It is always an exciting time because people look
- () to happen. I think wherever you are, New Year's Eve is always fun. Maybe the best way to welcome the New Year is
- () packed. In England, there is always a New Year's Eve party you can go to. The party is usually in someone's home and the
- () by watching one of the many amazing fireworks displays in the world's capital cities.
- () forward to welcoming a new year. It is also a good time to think back and say goodbye to the old

SCRAMBLED SENTENCES

With a partner, put the words back into the correct order.

1. New is day year Eve last the Year's the of

2. a welcoming to forward look people year new

3. their to back go people , countries of lot a In hometown

4. in home party usually someone's The is

5. new a signal the That's arrived has year

6. good New I of of Eve lots memories Year's have

7. stay me let parents my midnight until up

8. were trains go There no to home

9. and shrine a visit things good for pray

10. cities capital world's the in displays fireworks amazing

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

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DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

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THE NEW YEAR'S EVE SURVEY

Write five questions about New Year's Eve 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.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

Return to your original partner(s) and share and talk about what you found out. Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

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 New Year's Eve. Talk about what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. MAGAZINE ARTICLE: Write a magazine article about New Year's Eve. 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 New Year's Eve. Write about 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.