

CHINESE NEW YEAR

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ALL ANSWERS ARE IN THE TEXT ON PAGE 2.

THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

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 |
| 2. the first day of | b. Chinese zodiac |
| 3. another time to celebrate and | c. of three possibilities |
| 4. ... changes every year because of the | d. of the Chinese holidays |
| 5. The exact day depends on if it is the | e. the first lunar month |
| 6. This year is one | f. year of the dragon, rat... |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| 1. Chinese people welcome the different | a. will bring them a long life |
| 2. There are many superstitions | b. lanterns from their houses |
| 3. people believe that not eating meat | c. gods to their homes |
| 4. it is bad luck to light fires so many | d. firecrackers and fireworks |
| 5. People hang red | e. on this day |
| 6. 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.

WHILE READING / LISTENING GAP FILL

Put the words into the gaps in the text.

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.

some
ends
most
every
three
have
if
all

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.

day
their
them
from
when
most
very
this

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) thingamy |
| 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 tvsideaF
4. the Chinese caoidz
5. The ceatx day depends
6. The Chinese are not in emngaeert which year it is

Paragraph 2

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

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

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
- () The first day of the Chinese New Year is when Chinese people welcome the different gods to their
- () New Year. People celebrate this holiday all across the world. Chinese New Year's Day begins on the first
- () relatives. It is a very festive time. People hang red lanterns from their houses and cook all kinds of traditional
- () year it is. This year is one of three possibilities – depending on which scholar you believe.
- () thing to do on this day is to visit your family. Children like this day because they get money from their older
- () food. It is also very noisy as people let off firecrackers and fireworks in the street to celebrate.
- () life. Others believe it is bad luck to light fires so many people cook the day before. Other bad
- () time between January the 21st and February the 20th. The Chinese are not in agreement which
- () Festival and is another time to celebrate and have a party. Chinese New Year's Day changes every year because
- () homes. There are many superstitions on this day. Many people believe that not eating meat will bring them a long
- () 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
- (**1**) Chinese New Year is the most important of the Chinese holidays. Many people who live outside China call it the Lunar
- () luck things to do on New Year's Day is getting a haircut, sweeping the floor and buying books. The most important

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. _____

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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 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.

	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 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 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.