

Chinese NEW YEAR

READING COMPREHENSION



CHINESE NEW YEAR

Chinese New Year is one of the most important festivals in China. It is celebrated by Chinese people all around the world at the beginning of the lunar new year, usually in late January or early February. It is also known as the Spring Festival. People celebrate it with lots of fun, fireworks, and traditional customs.



Legend has it that a monster called Nian would come out on the eve of the new year to terrorize villages. But the villagers discovered that Nian was afraid of loud noise, bright lights, and the color red. So, they started to use firecrackers, lanterns, and red decorations to scare the monster away. Today, people still use these things to celebrate Chinese New Year.



PREPARING FOR THE NEW YEAR

Before Chinese New Year begins, families clean their homes from top to bottom. This tradition is called "sweeping away the old year" and it symbolizes getting rid of bad luck to make way for good luck in the new year. People also buy new clothes, decorate their houses with red lanterns and couplets, and prepare delicious food to share with family and friends.

REUNION DINNER

On the eve of Chinese New Year, families come together for a reunion dinner. This is a time for family members to spend time with each other's company. The dinner usually includes special dishes, such as fish for abundance, dumplings for wealth, and longevity.

FIREWORKS AND FIRECRACKERS

As the clock strikes midnight on Chinese New Year's Eve, the sky lights up with fireworks and loud firecrackers. These noisy festivities are believed to scare away bad luck for the coming year. Families gather together to watch the fireworks.

REDA ENVELOPES

On Chinese New Year, adults give red envelopes filled with money to children and relatives. These lucky envelopes, called "hongbao" in Chinese, symbolize good fortune and prosperity. Children eagerly collect them to see how much money they have received.

Another tradition of Chinese New Year celebrations is the lion dance. Dancers in lion costumes parade through the streets, playing drums and cymbals. These energetic performances are believed to bring good luck and chase away negative energy.

TRADITIONS

During Chinese New Year, families visit relatives and friends to share their happiness. People travel near and far to be with their loved ones and to enjoy and spreading happiness wherever they go.

Chinese New Year is a time of family, tradition, and togetherness. It's a time to look forward to the future with hope and optimism. Whether it's through fireworks light up the sky, or sharing a meal, Chinese New Year brings people closer together.

CHINESE NEW YEAR

CHOOSE THE CORRECT ANSWER.

1. What is another name for Chinese New Year?

- a) Spring Festival
- b) Lunar New Year
- c) Chinese Festival
- d) Spring Festival

2. How do people clean their homes before Chinese New Year?

- a) They sweep away bad luck.
- b) They burn away bad luck.
- c) They burn away bad luck.
- d) They burn away bad luck.

3. What is the special dinner called?

Chinese New Year?

a) Reunion Dinner

b) Family Dinner

c) Reunion Dinner

d) Family Dinner

e) Reunion Dinner

f) Family Dinner

g) Reunion Dinner

h) Family Dinner

i) Reunion Dinner

j) Family Dinner

k) Reunion Dinner

l) Family Dinner

m) Reunion Dinner

n) Family Dinner

o) Reunion Dinner

p) Family Dinner

q) Reunion Dinner

r) Family Dinner

s) Reunion Dinner

t) Family Dinner

u) Reunion Dinner

v) Family Dinner

w) Reunion Dinner

x) Family Dinner

y) Reunion Dinner

z) Family Dinner

NO-PREP & EDITABLE

**READING COMPREHENSION
MCQ'S
QUESTIONS
ANSWER KEY**

READING PASSAGES WITH TEXT DEPENDENT QUESTIONS

CHINESE NEW YEAR

Chinese New Year is one of the most important festivals celebrated by Chinese people all around the world. It marks the beginning of the lunar new year and is also known as the Spring Festival. People celebrate this special occasion with lots of fun, family gatherings, and traditional customs.



THE LEGEND OF NIAN

Long ago, there was a scary monster called Nian that would come out on the last night of the lunar year to terrorize villages. But the villagers discovered that Nian was afraid of loud noises, bright lights, and the color red. So, they started to use firecrackers, lanterns, and red decorations to scare the monster away. This is why we still use these things to celebrate Chinese New Year today!



PREPARING FOR THE NEW YEAR

Before Chinese New Year begins, families clean their homes from top to bottom. This tradition is called "sweeping away the old year" and it symbolizes getting rid of bad luck to make way for good luck in the new year. People also buy new clothes, decorate their houses with red

paper cutouts and couplets, and prepare delicious food to enjoy with their loved ones.

REUNION DINNER

On the eve of Chinese New Year, families come together to share a special meal known as the reunion dinner. This is a time for relatives to catch up, laugh, and enjoy each other's company. The dinner usually includes dishes with symbolic meanings, such as fish for abundance, dumplings for wealth, and noodles for longevity.

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FIREWORKS AND FIRECRACKERS

As the clock strikes midnight on Chinese New Year's Eve, the sky lights up with colorful fireworks and loud firecrackers. These noisy festivities are believed to scare away evil spirits and bring good luck for the coming year. Families gather outside to watch the dazzling display and cheer together.



GIVING RED ENVELOPES

During Chinese New Year, adults give red envelopes filled with money to children and unmarried relatives. These lucky envelopes, called "hongbao" in Chinese, symbolize good fortune and prosperity. Children eagerly collect as many red envelopes as they can, excited to see how much money they receive.

DRAGON AND LION DANCES

One of the most exciting parts of Chinese New Year celebrations is the dragon and lion dances. Colorful dragon and lion costumes parade through the streets, accompanied by the beat of drums and cymbals. These energetic performances are believed to bring blessings and chase away negative energy.

VISITING RELATIVES AND FRIENDS

Throughout the Chinese New Year holiday, families visit relatives and friends to exchange well wishes and blessings for the new year. People travel near and far to reunite with loved ones, sharing joy and spreading happiness wherever they go.

CONCLUSION

Chinese New Year is a time of joy, tradition, and togetherness. It's a time to celebrate the past and welcome the future with hope and optimism. Whether it's enjoying delicious food, watching fireworks light up the sky, or sharing laughter with family and friends, Chinese New Year brings people closer together in a spirit of love and happiness.

READING COMPREHENSION

COLORED & B/W
VERSIONS INCLUDED

Name _____

Date _____

CHINESE NEW YEAR

DIRECTIONS CHOOSE THE CORRECT ANSWER.

1. What is another name for Chinese New Year?

- a) Lunar Festival
- b) Harvest Festival
- c) Mid-Autumn Festival
- d) Dragon Boat Festival

2. Why do people clean their homes before Chinese New Year?

- a) To scare away monsters
- b) To get rid of bad luck
- c) To prepare for a big party
- d) To welcome good luck

3. What is the name of the special dinner families have on the eve of Chinese New Year?

- a) Celebration Feast
- b) Spring Dinner
- c) Reunion Dinner
- d) Lucky Banquet

4. What symbolic food is often eaten during the reunion dinner?

- a) Rice
- b) Dumplings
- c) Pizza
- d) Salad

5. What do people believe fireworks and firecrackers do during Chinese New Year?

- a) Bring rain for the crops
- b) Scare away evil spirits
- c) Attract good luck
- d) Signal the start of spring

6. What are red envelopes filled with for Chinese New Year?

- a) Candy
- b) Money
- c) Toys
- d) Stickers

7. What is the purpose of dragon and lion dances during Chinese New Year?

- a) To entertain children
- b) To showcase traditional costumes
- c) To bring blessings and chase away negative energy
- d) To practice for the Olympics

8. What do families do during Chinese New Year to exchange well wishes?

- a) Send emails
- b) Visit relatives and friends
- c) Call each other on the phone
- d) Post on social media

9. What do people celebrate during Chinese New Year?

- a) The end of winter
- b) The beginning of the lunar new year
- c) The start of summer vacation
- d) A famous battle

10. What is the main theme of Chinese New Year celebrations?

- a) Sadness
- b) Fear
- c) Prosperity and joy
- d) Grief

SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS

1. What is the significance of the color red for Chinese New Year?
2. What is the legend behind the tradition of setting off firecrackers during the festival?
3. What symbolic meaning do dumplings have during the reunion dinner?
4. How do families exchange blessings during Chinese New Year?
5. What is the purpose of dragon and lion dances during Chinese New Year celebrations?

ANSWER KEY

MCQS

1. a) Lunar Festival
2. b) To get rid of bad luck
3. c) Reunion Dinner
4. b) Dumplings
5. b) Scare away evil spirits
6. b) Money
7. c) To bring blessings and chase away negative energy
8. b) Visit relatives and friends
9. b) The beginning of the lunar new year
10. c) Togetherness and joy

SHORT-ANSWER QUESTION

1. The color red symbolizes good luck and is used in decorations to scare away the monster Nian.
2. Firecrackers are used to scare away the monster Nian, as it was afraid of loud noises.
3. Dumplings symbolize wealth and are traditionally eaten during the reunion dinner.
4. Families exchange blessings by visiting relatives and friends during Chinese New Year.
5. Dragon and lion dances are performed to bring blessings and chase away negative energy during the celebrations.

10 - MCQ'S & 5 QUESTIONS

ANSWER KEY INCLUDED