



GRADUATE IN SECONDARY EDUCATION

OPEN TEST

COMMUNICATION SKILLS: ENGLISH

2023

SURNAMES AND NAME: _____

SIGNATURE:

CHINESE NEW YEAR



Chinese New Year (or generally referred to as Lunar New Year globally) is the Chinese festival that celebrates the beginning of a new year on the traditional Chinese calendar. The festival is usually referred to as the Spring Festival in mainland China, and is one of several Lunar New Years in Asia.

Celebrations traditionally take place from the evening preceding the first day of the year to the Lantern Festival, held on the 15th day of the year. The first day of Chinese New Year begins on the new moon that appears between 21 January and 20 February. In 2019, the first day of the Chinese New Year was on Tuesday, 5 February, initiating the Year of the Pig.

Chinese New Year is a major holiday in Greater China and has strongly influenced lunar new year celebrations of China's neighbouring cultures, including the Korean New Year (seol), the Tết of Vietnam, and the Losar of Tibet. It is also celebrated worldwide in regions and countries with significant Overseas Chinese populations, including Singapore, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Thailand, Cambodia, the Philippines, and Mauritius, as well as many in North America and Europe.

Chinese New Year is associated with several myths and customs. The festival was traditionally a time to honour divinities as well as ancestors. Within China, regional customs and traditions concerning the celebration of the New Year vary widely, and the evening preceding Chinese New Year's Day is frequently regarded as an occasion for Chinese families to gather for the annual reunion dinner. It is also traditional for every family to thoroughly clean their house, in order to sweep away any ill-fortune and to make way for incoming good luck. Another custom is the decoration of windows and doors with red paper-cuts and two-line poems. Popular themes among these paper-cuts and two-line poems include that of good fortune or happiness, wealth, and longevity. Other activities include lighting firecrackers and giving money in red paper envelopes. For the northern regions of China, dumplings are featured prominently in meals celebrating the festival. It often serves as the first meal of the year.

Reading Comprehension (7 points)

1. Choose the correct answer (2 points)

a) The people in China call Chinese New Year...

- a. Chinese New Year
- b. Spring Festival
- c. Lantern Festival
- d. Greater China

b) The New Year in China begins...

- a. In January
- b. Before January
- c. In January or February
- d. In February

c) The text talks about traditions in the northern regions of China related to...

- a. happiness
- b. music
- c. parties
- d. food

d) Chinese New Year...

- a. was celebrated with music in the past.
- b. is a very religious celebration nowadays.
- c. is celebrated in different ways depending on the region
- d. is not associated with myths and customs

2. Are these statements TRUE or FALSE? Justify your answers based on information from the text, rewriting the original sentences in your own words or quoting properly (2 marks)

a) In the past, it was a celebration to praise gods and predecessors
.....
.....

b) There is no money involved in any of the activities
.....
.....

3. Answer the following questions according to the information given in the text.

Write complete sentences using your own words. Do not copy from the text (2 marks)

a) Why do Chinese clean the house?

.....
.....

b) What traditions are similar to Chinese New Year?

.....
.....

4. - Vocabulary. Find words in the text meaning the following: (1 point)

- start
- main
- traditions
- yearly
- areas

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4.- Writing: (3 points)

Write an answer to one of the questions below (80-100 words).



1. In your English class you have been talking about travelling to China. This country is known because it has awesome and monumental ancient treasures and they are bigger than those in all other countries for size and number — from ancient palaces to the Great Wall, city walls, buried armies, canals, temples, giant Buddhas...

Would you like to travel there? Why or why not? How would you feel in a place like that for your holidays? What are the advantages and disadvantages?

Write your opinion essay.

2. The magazine of the school needs articles about local traditions:

Articles wanted
Your local tradition

Tell us about a tradition of your village/city

What is it like?

How do you celebrate?

What is the typical food?

.....

Write an article answering these questions. We will publish the best articles on our website.



Write your article.

