

LIFT



Life, Information, Fun, Times

The first New Year's celebration dates back 4,000 years.

Julius Caesar, a Roman general and statesman, was the first to declare January 1st a national holiday. He named the month after Janus, the Roman god of doors and gates. Janus had two faces, one looking forward and one looking back.

Forty-five percent of Americans make New Year's resolutions.

The top resolutions are: lose weight, get organized, spend less and save more, stay fit and healthy, and quit smoking. While nearly half of all Americans make resolutions, 25 percent of them give up on their resolutions by the second week of January.

Auld Lang Syne

The song that's traditionally sung at midnight on New Year's Eve is called Auld Lang Syne. Its title means "times gone by." Why do Japanese supermarkets play it at closing time?



We hope that you and your family had a nice Holiday. We are very grateful to have you embark with us on yet another year of learning together! Here's to many more to come!



'Happy New Year!' In the languages of our teachers.

1. Blwyddyn Newydd Dda. - Welsh
2. ¡Feliz Año Nuevo! - Spanish
3. Un An Nou Fericit! - Romanian
4. Boldog Új Évet! - Hungarian
5. Yeni Yılın Kutlu Olsun - Turkish
6. Feliz Ano Novo! -Portuguese
7. Sanat Jadidat Saeida. - Arabic
8. Bonne Année! - French





New Year Vocabulary

1. Counting down to the New Year

The New Year's countdown is when people count backward from a number (usually 10) to mark the start of the new year. That being said, a countdown can be used to mark the beginning of any event.

To count down is a phrasal verb to signify the action of a **countdown**, which is a noun.

2. Out with the old, in with the new

“Out with the old, in with the new” is an expression that is commonly used around the time of the new year. It is a phrase that means that you should look towards the future, or what is new, and forget about the past, or what is old.

3. To turn over a new leaf

“To turn over a new leaf” is another English idiom that is very commonly used around the new year. It means to change your behavior, or the way that you do things, for the better. While it can be used at any time of the year, it is commonly heard around the new year, as this is when people are making their New Year's resolutions.

It is time to turn over a new leaf.

New Year's traditions: How do people celebrate the new year around the world?

Eating lentils



In Brazil, there is a tradition to eat lentils at New Year, as these represent money - meaning good fortune for the year ahead!

Eating grapes



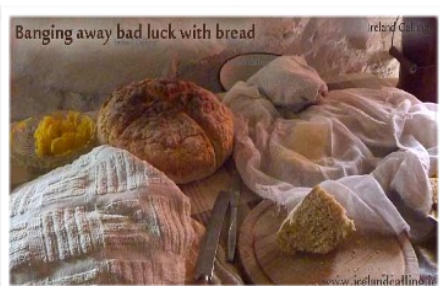
When the clocks hit midnight in Spain, you'll find people reaching for grapes. This is because there is a tradition to eat one grape each time the clock strikes at midnight.

Dressing up as bears



In Romania, there's a tradition for people to dress up as dancing bears to chase away any evil spirits.

Banging on walls



The Irish have a tradition of banging bread against the walls of their house on New Year's Eve. The idea is that bad luck and evil spirits are chased away and good luck is invited in. It's also done to ensure that the coming year is filled with an abundance of bread and other food.

New Year Celebrations from Around the World

Sydney



London



New York



Vancouver



February 1st

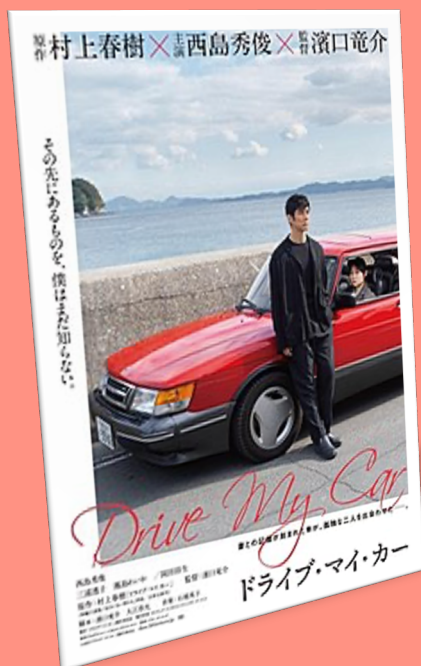
YEAR OF THE TIGER

Chinese New Year 2022

The Year of the Black-Male-Water-Tiger. What can we expect?

2022 will be the year of the water tiger; water moves and flows quickly so be ready for quick and unexpected change. Tiger years can also bring unexpected good news and turn crazy dreams into glorious reality. The God of Wealth is said to ride a black tiger so, this year we can expect to see prosperity.

New Year Movie



Drive My Car

I'm really looking forward to seeing this movie for two reasons: I really like the actor Hidetoshi Nishijima, whom I've seen in other great roles before and, also, part of the movie was filmed in Hiroshima so it will be nice to see some of the familiar grounds. The picture has won many awards all over the world at major film festivals.

If you have seen it already, please let us know what you thought of it.

It's currently showing at Wald and Hatchoza movie theaters, should the mood strike you.

Let Us Know

We are committed to helping you progress on your English language journey.

If you have any questions or want some advice about how to improve your English, we would be happy to set up a time for a chat.

Please take advantage of our Book Club and Writing Club.

For more information, please ask the office.

Study Tips

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/learningenglish/>

This website is completely free and is full of helpful activities to do.

6 Minute English - short interesting articles you can listen to.

The English We Speak - here you can catch up on the latest English words and phrases.

There is also a pronunciation workshop.

English in the News has news topics with vocabulary to help with comprehension.