



Learning Focus

- Reading** Working out the meaning of unfamiliar words by using pictorial cues and contextual clues
- Grammar** Passive Voice – Simple Present Tense + Adjectives / Adverbs
- Writing** Connecting ideas using cohesive devices
- Listening** Understanding the speaker's attitudes and feelings



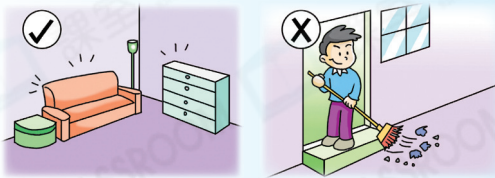
Reading

- A** Paul is reading a brochure about Chinese New Year in Hong Kong. Read the brochure. For Questions 1-3, choose the best answers. Then fill in the blanks for Questions 4-6 and answer Questions 7-8 in complete sentences.

Dos and Don'ts at Chinese New Year

Although many Chinese people in Hong Kong may not follow these dos and don'ts now, some still practise them. 5
It is because they want to keep this festival special and traditional. Read on to find out more!

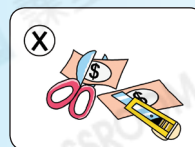
Always:



- Clean the entire house before New Year's Day. 10
- Avoid sweeping the dust out of the house from the front door or you will have your good luck swept away!
- Open the door and windows to let the old year go out. 15

Never Ever:

- Use scissors or other sharp tools as they are believed to 'cut' off good fortune. 20
- Wash your hair or your good luck will flow down the drain with the water.
- Borrow money from others. You should settle all your debts before New Year's Day. 25
- Say the number 'four' in Chinese as it sounds like the Chinese word for 'death'.
- Talk about ghost stories as they are taboos and believed to bring you 30 misfortune!



Kung Hei Fat Choi!

1. Read lines 6-7: It is because they want to keep this festival special and traditional.

The word 'they' refers to the Chinese people in Hong Kong who _____.

- A. travel abroad during Chinese New Year
 B. ignore Chinese New Year practices
 C. follow Chinese New Year practices
 D. have old-fashioned ideas



Read the sentences before and after this sentence for the answer.

2. Read lines 19-20: ...they are believed to 'cut' off good fortune.

'Fortune' means _____.

- A. health
 B. luck
 C. memory
 D. success



Look at the related picture to get some hints.

3. Read lines 29-30: Talk about ghost stories as they are taboos and...

The word 'taboos' means actions or words that are _____.

- A. scary at a particular festival
 B. harmful in a particular season
 C. not common to do or say in a society
 D. not allowed to do or say in a culture



Read the words after the word 'taboos' to work out the meaning of the word.

4. Why shouldn't people sweep the dust out of the house from the front door?

It is because dust symbolises _____. If people do this, they will sweep it away.

5. The word '_____ ' in the brochure means 'sums of money that are owed'.

6. Which number should people avoid saying at Chinese New Year? Why?

People should avoid saying the number (a) _____ at Chinese New Year because it (b) _____.

7. Should we cut an apple into pieces on New Year's Day? Why or why not?

8. If Paul strictly follows the Chinese New Year practices mentioned in the brochure, will he use shampoo while taking a bath on New Year's Day? Why or why not?

- B** Paul is reading a pamphlet to know more about Chinese festivals. Read the pamphlet. For Questions 1-3, choose the best answers.

Special Birthdays in Hong Kong

There are many festivals in Hong Kong. Do you know that almost half of the Chinese festivals are birthday celebrations like Christmas?



- The second day of Chinese New Year is the birthday of Che Kung. Che Kung is considered the 'God of Protection' as people believe he can stop illnesses from torturing people. People who are out of luck also visit Che Kung Temple to spin the wheel of fortune, hoping that they may be given good luck. 5
- The 23rd day of the 3rd month of the lunar calendar is the birthday of the Goddess of the Sea, Tin Hau. It is an important day for fishermen because they believe Tin Hau has the power to keep them safe when they are out on the ocean, and give them fine weather and good catches. 10
- The 8th day of the 4th month in the lunar calendar is the birthday of Buddha. Buddha, who was born a prince, gave up all he had and founded an important religion, Buddhism. His birthday is now a public holiday in Hong Kong and some people visit temples and have vegetarian meals to celebrate. 15

1. Read lines 6-7: ...can stop illnesses from torturing people.

'Torturing' means _____.

- A. giving protection to B. bringing excitement to
 C. causing suffering to D. offering benefits to

2. Read line 11: ...to keep them safe when they are out on the ocean...

'Keep' means _____.

- A. to have or own something
 B. to make something stay in a condition
 C. to continue doing something
 D. to protect



Try to apply each of the meanings to the sentence to see which one fits the most.

3. According to the text, which of the following is TRUE?

- A. The birthday of Tin Hau is a public holiday in Hong Kong.
 B. Christmas is a birthday celebration.
 C. Fishermen visit Che Kung Temple every year to pray for good catches.
 D. Hong Kong people do not eat meat on Buddha's birthday.

C Rachel wrote an e-mail to her classmate about her stay in Hong Kong. Read the e-mail. For Questions 1-3, choose the best answers. Then fill in the blanks for Question 4.

From: rachelharris@coolmail.com
 To: sharonclarke@yoho.com.uk
 Subject: An interesting festival in Hong Kong

Dear Sharon,

How are you? I have come to Hong Kong to visit my cousin Cathy since two 5
 weeks ago. I am having a great time here. Cathy told me that there are lots
 of traditional Chinese festivals in Hong Kong and luckily I could experience
 one yesterday.

Early yesterday morning, Cathy's family took me to a hill. We brought a 10
 broom, some BBQ pork and a lot of fruit with us. At first, I thought we
 were going to have a picnic but later they said it was a Chinese festival
 in spring. On this day, people climb hills and sweep the graves of their
 ancestors. The hilltop was packed so I could feel how important this
 festival is to the Chinese.

I am coming home next week. See you at school then! 15

Best,
 Rachel

- How long is Rachel's whole stay in Hong Kong?
 A. two weeks B. three weeks C. one month D. two months
- Which Chinese festival did Rachel talk about?
 A. Mid-Autumn Festival B. Chung Yeung Festival
 C. Chinese New Year D. Ching Ming Festival
- Read line 13: The hilltop was packed so...
 'Packed' means _____.
 A. empty B. crowded C. closed D. hot
- Fill in each blank with one word from the text.

Cathy's family brought some food and a (a) _____ to the hill to clean up the
 area around the (b) _____ of their family members who lived a long time ago.

A Paul's teacher, Miss Williams, is talking about Halloween celebrations in Hong Kong. Circle the correct answers.

Hong Kong is a multicultural city. Besides Chinese festivals, people in Hong Kong also 1. **celebrate / are celebrated** western festivals such as Halloween, which falls on 31 October every year. Many shopping malls and restaurants 2. **decorate / are decorated** beautifully to create a festive atmosphere. The most popular decoration 3. **makes / is made** with a pumpkin, which is called a jack-o'-lantern. People 4. **cut / are cut** a face into the pumpkin, and a candle 5. **puts / is put** inside to light up the pumpkin lantern. In Central, people 6. **participate / are participated** in various Halloween parties. Different spooky costumes, like ghosts, vampires and zombies, 7. **wear / are worn**.



B Cathy's Scottish friend, Eddie, told Cathy how his family celebrate one of their traditional festivals in Hong Kong. Cathy is writing about it in her scrapbook. Complete her writing with the correct form of the given words.

25 January is a very special day for the Scottish. On that day, the life of Robert Burns 1. _____ (celebrate). He 2. _____ (know) as the 'greatest Scottish poet' of all time. Every year, Eddie and his family 3. _____ (dine) at a Scottish restaurant in Hong Kong to celebrate it. They 4. _____ (call) the meal 'Burns Supper'. The Scottish traditional dish Haggis 5. _____ (serve). The ingredients 6. _____ (include) sheep's heart, liver and lungs. They 7. _____ (chop) into small pieces, and 8. _____ (put) into a sheep's stomach. During the dinner, poems by Robert Burns 9. _____ (read) aloud.





Paul is writing a blog entry about a Japanese restaurant he visited today. Complete the blog entry with the correct form of the given words.

A Highly Recommended Japanese Restaurant

Today my sister and I went to the 1. _____ (famous) Japanese restaurant Shogun in Wan Chai. It is very 2. _____ (popular) among youngsters. We queued for almost 45 minutes to get in. The restaurant has many 3. _____ (traditional) decorations and the chairs we sat on are 4. _____ (comfortable).

Both of us were very 5. _____ (hungry) so we ordered different dishes 6. _____ (immediate) after we sat down. While we were waiting for the food, we saw a chef slicing different kinds of fish fillets 7. _____ (graceful). He then used his hands to put the fish slices 8. _____ (neat) on the top of the sushi rice 9. _____ (skilful).

All the waiters were 10. _____ (polite). They also served our food quite 11. _____ (fast). Within ten minutes, our food was all on our table. The sushi tasted so good! We were impressed by the freshness of the salmon. We were satisfied with everything in this restaurant. The service and environment are excellent. The food is 12. _____ (delicious) and 13. _____ (reasonable) priced too. Shogun is the best restaurant I've dined at so far! We will 14. _____ (definite) come here again!

Posted at 10:36 pm



We use adjectives to describe people or things and adverbs to describe actions.

- ✓ Sally walked up the stairs quietly because her parents were asleep.
- ✓ Marco was anxious while he was waiting for his exam results.

D Underline the mistakes in the numbered lines and write the correct answers on the lines.



Rachel

Typing...



1

Merry Xmas! I am very exciting about Xmas!

1. _____

Merry Xmas! What are you doing now?

2

Tsim Sha Tsui is very crowdedly. I'm walking

2. _____

3

in a relaxing mood around the streets here.

3. _____

Wow! Do HK people like celebrating Xmas outside?

4

Yes! Almost all the party rooms are book for gatherings.

4. _____

5

I see. I celebrate Xmas at home. Mum cooked us a big meal

5. _____

6

every year. After that, we sit in front of the beautifully

6. _____

7

Xmas tree in our living room to exchange gifts joyful.

7. _____

8

And every year, I'm giving a doll by Aunt Marie...

8. _____



9

It looked so cute! Don't you like it?

9. _____

Well, I'm already eleven this year. I'd rather

10

get something more usefulness.

10. _____

11

Oh... By the way, I give my friends gifts which is made by myself.

11. _____

12

Really? You are so nicely!

12. _____

13

Do you want one? I can make you a photo frame and sent it to you by air mail.

13. _____

Thanks, my dear!



SEND

Writing

A Paul is writing about Chinese New Year. Help him complete his writing with the help of the notes.

Two days before Chinese New Year:

- * the spring cleaning
- * clean the house
- * decorate / red couplets

On Chinese New Year's Eve:

- * every family member / has dinner together
- * prepare / many special dishes
- * after dinner / choose flowers
- * symbolise / peonies / prosperity

On Chinese New Year's Day:

- * put on new clothes
- * wish our parents good health
- * get red packets / happy

On the second day of Chinese New Year:

- * go to the temple / wishes for the new year
- * visit relatives / friends

Get Ready for Chinese New Year

Two days before Chinese New Year is the spring cleaning. People clean the house to prepare for the new year. Many Chinese homes 1. _____ with red couplets. On Chinese New Year's Eve, every family member has dinner together. Many special dishes 2. _____. 3. _____, people go to the flower market 4. _____ for their homes during the festival. Peach blossoms 5. _____ for good luck. 6. _____, people buy peonies because 7. _____ _____. On Chinese New Year's Day, new clothes 8. _____. _____ 9. _____, we can get red packets from them 10. _____. 11. _____, we go to the temple to make wishes for the new year. 12. _____, we visit 13. _____ on that day. I love Chinese New Year very much! It is such a great festival that cheerful laughter is heard every day and night.

B Cathy is writing about Christmas. Help her complete her writing with the help of the pictures and the given words.



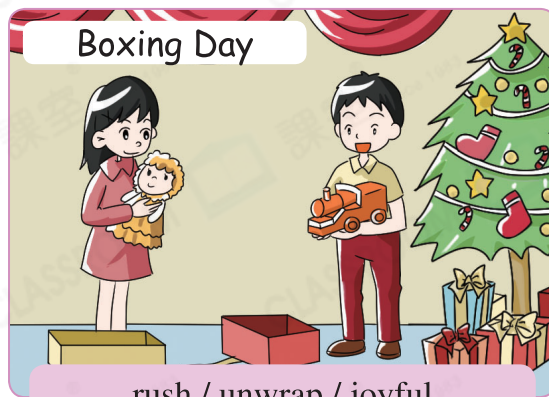
Christmas cards / receive / on time



Christmas lights / festive / mood shopping / Tsim Sha Tsui /



Christmas party / turkey / share



rush / unwrap / joyful



Linking up our ideas using cohesive devices, such as connectives and prepositions, can make our writing more coherent.

Merry Christmas

Early in November every year, I 1. _____
 _____ . In mid-December, I go
 2. _____ .
 We always buy a lot of things. 3. _____ outside the buildings
 are 4. _____. They 5. _____
 _____. On Christmas Day, 6. _____
 _____. I exchange presents with my family and friends
 and we have a feast together. A big turkey is 7. _____
 _____. On the night of Boxing Day, 8. _____

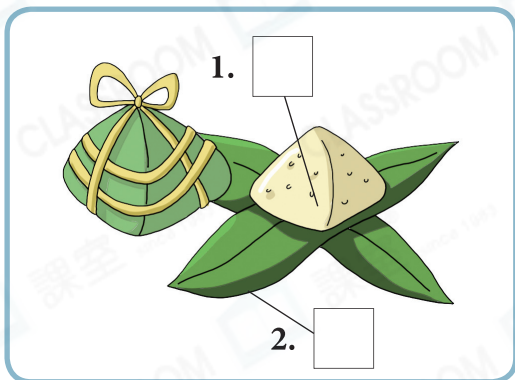
Listening

Listen now!

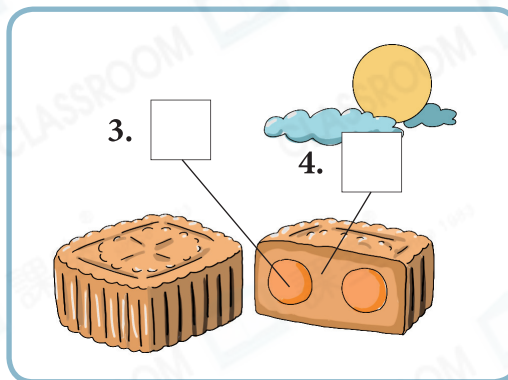


A What are these foods made with? Put the letters in the correct boxes. Then write down the names of the festivals when we eat them.

- a. bamboo leaf
- b. egg yolk
- c. lotus paste
- d. sticky rice



5. _____



6. _____

B Rachel lives in London. She visits Cathy in Hong Kong. They are talking about a kind of food. Fill in the blanks as you listen. For Questions 4 and 5, choose the best answers.

Rachel is making a festive food for the 1. _____ time. People in Hong Kong eat this festive food at a particular festival. Cathy thinks the food is 2. _____. The food is made with 3. (a) _____ and 3. (b) _____.

4. What else do Cathy and Rachel need to make this food?

- A. red beans and tofu
- B. vegetables and pineapples
- C. meat and sticky rice
- D. fish and pepper

5. Which festival in Hong Kong are Cathy and Rachel talking about?

- A. Dragon Boat Festival
- B. Ching Ming Festival
- C. Mid-Autumn Festival
- D. Chinese New Year



Try to guess this food from its colour after answering Questions 1-3.

C Cathy is inviting Paul to celebrate the Dragon Boat Festival together. Listen to what they say. Choose the best answers.

1. According to Paul, making rice dumplings is _____.

- A. not enjoyable
- B. a lot of fun
- C. not meaningful
- D. very easy



Pay attention to the question that Paul asks Cathy. What is his tone like when he asks that question?

2. Which of the following is NOT true?

- A. There will be dragon boat races in Sha Tin.
- B. Paul does not have to go to school at Dragon Boat Festival.
- C. Paul does not like doing outdoor activities.
- D. Paul does not like Dragon Boat Festival.

3. Cathy thinks Paul is _____.

- A. greedy
- B. boring
- C. lazy
- D. rational



Pay attention to Cathy's reaction after she knows about Paul's plan for Dragon Boat Festival.

D Cathy and Rachel are talking about how people celebrate a festival in London and Hong Kong. Listen to what they say. Choose the best answers.

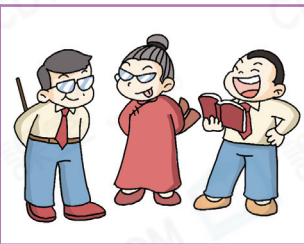
1. Which of the following pictures best describes what Rachel means?



A.



B.



C.



D.

2. What do the children Cathy talks about dress up as?

- A. clowns
- B. vampires
- C. witches
- D. ghosts

3. According to Rachel, the masks worn by children in London are _____.

- A. interesting
- B. expensive
- C. cute
- D. frightening

4. What presents do children in London usually get?

- A. books
- B. sweets
- C. dolls
- D. toy trains