



# ENGLISH

## Chapter 12 Session B

**4th**  
SECONDARY

**Skills expansion(Part II)**



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# Reading

**Skill: Previewing**

## Skills tip

Before you read, look quickly at the title, headings, and any pictures – they can give you useful clues about the content of a text.



# 1 Quickly read the article and answer these questions.

- 1 ☐ What's the topic of this article? **a** religious beliefs **b** national customs **c** superstitions
- 2 ☐ Where might you read it? **a** a website **b** a newspaper **c** a magazine
- 3 ☐ Where are the contributors from? **a** different European countries **b** all over the world **c** mostly the U.S.



## YOU DON'T BELIEVE THAT, DO YOU?

*You'll never guess what some people believe! Take a look at these superstitions from around the world and find out.*

People here think that if you sneeze while you're leaving your house, you should go back inside and wait for a few hours – or you'll have bad luck!

*Rahul, India*

In Italy we believe that if you throw a coin over your shoulder into a fountain, your wish will come true.

*Marianna, Italy*

The number four is an unlucky number in Japan because the word for "four" sounds like "death." That's why if you come to Japan, you won't see the number four very often.

*Michiko, Japan*

If you find a four-leaf clover, you'll be very lucky.

*Vicky, Ireland*

Some people here think that if you put sugar in the coffee cup before the coffee, you'll become rich!

*Hugo, Brazil*

I know that in other countries it's different, but we think that if you see a black cat, you'll be lucky.

*Jason, England*

In Thailand we believe that it's bad luck to give a handkerchief as a gift because it means separation.

*Mei-Li, Thailand*

I always say "White rabbit" on the first day of the month because I believe it will bring me good luck.

*Dan, Canada*

A lot of people think that if you walk under a ladder, you'll have bad luck.

*Tina, U.S.*



We believe that if you break a mirror, you'll have seven years' bad luck.

*Lianne, Scotland*

My mother says that if you put your bag on the floor all your money will run out.

*Daniela, Mexico*

When I have an important exam, I never wash my hair that morning. I think that if you wash your hair, you won't be able to remember anything you studied.

*Joy, Korea*

**2**

**51** Read the article. Check (✓) the superstitions that are the same in your country.

**3****Answer the questions.**

- 1 How many superstitions involve animals?
- 2 Why shouldn't you give a handkerchief as a gift in Thailand?
- 3 Where is the number four unlucky?
- 4 Who says sneezing can sometimes bring back luck?
- 5 When and where should you say "White rabbit"?
- 6 What might give you seven years' back luck?



## Challenge!

Are you a superstitious person?

Make a group and discuss your opinions.



# Writing

**1**

**Write about some superstitions in your country. Look at the Study guide to help you.**

*In my country, a lot of people believe that if ....*





Study

guide



## Writing about superstitions in your country

- 1 Think of some popular superstitions in your country.

*open an umbrella indoors / drop your chopsticks – bad luck*

- 2 Choose *if* or a future time clause.

*if / unless / when / until*

- 3 Choose a modal verb.

*will / should / might*

- 4 Write a sentence.

*If you open an umbrella indoors, you will have bad luck.*





WORKBOOK AUDIO TRACK 11



WORKBOOK AUDIO TRACK 12

