

The Lion Dance

Exercise 1 Comprehension

Choose the best answer to each question.

- 1 How did the Lion Dance first start?
 - a When the Kung-Fu fighter killed the lion.
 - b When the king had a dream.
 - c No one knows for sure.
- 2 Why did the Kung-Fu fighter go to the village?
 - a He wanted to get some gold.
 - b He wanted to teach Kung-Fu to the people in the village.
 - c He wanted to kill the lion.
- 3 How did the people in the village celebrate the killing of the lion?
 - a They taught Kung-Fu to everyone in the village.
 - b They followed the steps of the fighters every year.
 - c They gave ten pieces of gold to the Kung-Fu fighter every year.
- 4 What happened when the king saw the Lion Dance in his dream?
 - a He woke up quickly.
 - b The bad dream disappeared.
 - c His guards woke him up.
- 5 Why do people like to make a loud noise during the Lion Dance?
 - a It keeps evil spirits away.
 - b It brings good luck.
 - c Both these reasons.

Exercise 2 Short answers

Write a short answer to each question.

- 1 How much did the people in the village offer to anyone who could help them?

- 2 How many times did the Kung-Fu fighter fight the lion alone?

- 3 What did he do when he found out he couldn't kill the lion on his own?

- 4 How many people take part in the Lion Dance?

- 5 When do Lion Dances take place?

ANSWER KEY (*The Lion Dance*)

Exercise 1 Comprehension

- 1 c
- 2 a
- 3 b
- 4 b
- 5 c

Exercise 2 Short answers

- 1 *ten pieces of gold*
- 2 *three times*
- 3 *he taught Kung-Fu to some people in the village*
- 4 *two*
- 5 *during the first few days of the Chinese New Year*

The Moon Cake Festival

Exercise 1 Comprehension

Choose the best answer to each question:.

- 1 When does the Moon Cake Festival fall?
 - a the 8th day of the 15th lunar month
 - b the 15th day of the 8th lunar month
 - c August 8th every year
- 2 To Chinese people the round shape of the moon means
 - a time for making cakes
 - b time for going to other countries
 - c time for families to come together
- 3 Moon cakes are made of
 - a many tasty things
 - b eggs and nuts only
 - c only sugar, nuts and eggs
- 4 People start selling Moon Cakes...
 - a month before the start of the festival
 - b during the festival itself
 - c a month after the festival has finished
- 5 Who celebrates the Moon Cake Festival?
 - a Chinese people only
 - b People from other countries
 - c Both Chinese people and foreign visitors

Exercise 2 Short answers

Write a short answer to each question.

- 1 When does the Moon Cake Festival fall each year?

- 2 What are Moon Cakes made of?

- 3 What does the full, round moon mean for Chinese people?

- 4 Do all Moon Cakes look the same?

- 5 Can foreign visitors also enjoy this festival?

ANSWER KEY (The Moon Cake Festival)**Exercise 1 Comprehension**

- 1 b
- 2 c
- 3 a
- 4 a
- 5 c

Exercise 2 Short answers

- 1 *15th day of the 8th lunar month*
- 2 *sugar, nuts, eggs and some other delicious things*
- 3 *a time for families to get together and celebrate*
- 4 *No, some moon cakes have very pretty design*
- 5 *Yes, Chinese people are happy to share the experience*

Some Special Colours

Exercise 1 Comprehension

Choose the correct answer to each question.

- 1 What does the color 'red' **NOT** mean?
 - a Anger
 - b Danger
 - c Sadness
- 2 What does 'envy' mean?
 - a Jealousy
 - b Anger
 - c Sadness
- 3 Blues music is usually...
 - a sad music.
 - b angry music.
 - c both the above.
- 4 If someone is afraid, what could we call them?
 - a Yellow
 - b Chicken
 - c Both the above
- 5 Why does the woman getting married wear white?
 - a To show she is a good woman
 - b Because the man wears black
 - c To show the man is a bad person

Exercise 2 Short answers

Write a short answer to each question.

- 1 Give examples of different 'feelings' from the passage.

- 2 What color are most signs showing danger?

- 3 Which color shows sadness?

- 4 Which color means 'evil'?

- 5 Why does the man getting married wear black?

ANSWER KEY (Some special colours)

Exercise 1 Comprehension

- 1 c
- 2 a
- 3 a
- 4 c
- 5 a

Exercise 2 Short answers

Write a short answer to each question

- 1 *fear, anger, sadness and jealousy or envy*
- 2 *red*
- 3 *blue*
- 4 *black*
- 5 *We don't know from the passage.*

Some Strange Superstitions

Exercise 1 Comprehension

Choose the best answer to each question.

- 1 If you break your mirror,
 - a bad things will happen for the next seven years.
 - b a car might hit you on the road.
 - c It's because it's Friday the thirteenth day of the month.
- 2 Which of these is **NOT** a superstition?
 - a Dropping salt is unlucky.
 - b Walking on the road can cause an accident.
 - c Walking under a ladder might bring bad luck.
- 3 Which of these is **NOT TRUE**?
 - a Most superstitions are silly.
 - b Most superstitions started a long time ago.
 - c Most superstitions are easy to understand.
- 4 What must you **NOT** do with an umbrella?
 - a Take it out if it's raining.
 - b Open it inside the house.
 - c Use it to hit a black cat.
- 5 Why do you think people 'cross their fingers'?
 - a To stop bad things happening.
 - b To make black cats disappear.
 - c To stop believing in superstitions.

Exercise 2 Short answers

Write a short answer for each question.

- 1 What should you **NOT** do with the salt?

- 2 Which is the most unlucky day of the month?

- 3 Which day is often considered unlucky?

- 4 Why could it be dangerous to walk under a ladder?

- 5 Is a black cat a sign of good or bad luck?

ANSWER KEY (*Some Strange Superstitions*)

Exercise 1 Comprehension

- 1 a
- 2 b
- 3 c
- 4 b
- 5 a

Exercise 2 Short answer

- 1 *drop it*
- 2 *the thirteenth*
- 3 *Friday*
- 4 *The person working at the top of the ladder could drop something on you*
- 5 *bad luck*

East Meets West in the Bathroom.**Exercise 1 Comprehension**

Choose the best answer to each question.

- 1 What do we know about the *sen*to and the *onsen* baths?
 - a Many people take a bath together here.
 - b They are baths in a Japanese home.
 - c They are no longer popular with Japanese people.
- 2 In a Western bath,
 - a You clean away the dirt before you get into the bath.
 - b You wash yourself inside the bath.
 - c You wash yourself when you get out of the bath.
- 3 Why is it important to keep the water clean in a Japanese bath?
 - a Because lots of people may use the same water.
 - b Because you need to warm your body.
 - c Because there is no more water in the house.
- 4 Why do some Western people like to take a shower in place of a bath?
 - a A shower makes them cleaner.
 - b They don't want to wash themselves in dirty water.
 - c It saves time and water.
- 5 Why do most Western people take a bath?
 - a To warm the body
 - b To forget their problems
 - c To get clean

Exercise 2 Short answers

Write a short answer to each question.

- 1 When were Japanese people able to have a bath in their own homes?

- 2 How long does a Western-style bath take

- 3 Why have a lot of Western people stopped having a bath and started taking showers?

- 4 In a Japanese bath, what should you do before you get into the bath?

- 5 What is a Japanese bath for?

ANSWER KEY (*East meets West in the bathroom*)

Exercise 1 Comprehension

- 1 a
- 2 b
- 3 a
- 4 c
- 5 c

Exercise 2 Short answers

- 1 *in the middle of the twentieth century, when water was piped into their homes*
- 2 *around fifteen to twenty minutes*
- 3 *it's quicker and uses less water*
- 4 *wash the dirty parts of your body*
- 5 *warming the body, forgetting all your troubles*

The Hungry Ghosts Festival

Exercise 1 Comprehension

Choose the best answer to each question.

1. Why do the ghosts come back to earth?
 - a They want some food.
 - b They want to visit their family.
 - c They are unfriendly.
2. Why are some ghosts unfriendly?
 - a They don't have any clothes.
 - b They don't have any relatives of their own.
 - c They don't like the food which people cook for them.
3. Which of these gifts are not made of paper?
 - a Food
 - b Clothes
 - c Cars
4. Who eats the food?
 - a The friendly ghosts
 - b The unfriendly ghosts
 - c The family
5. Why is it dangerous for children to stay out late at this time?
 - a They might meet some friendly ghosts.
 - b They might not be able to eat the food.
 - c They might meet some unfriendly ghosts.

Exercise 2 Short answers

Write a short answer to each question.

- 1 When is the Hungry Ghosts Festival?

- 2 What kind of gifts do people give the ghosts?

- 3 What happens to the gifts?

- 4 Why do people put the food outside the house?

- 5 What do the ghosts eat?

ANSWER KEY (*The Hungry Ghost Festival*)

Exercise 1 Comprehension

- 1 b
- 2 b
- 3 a
- 4 c
- 5 c

Exercise 2

- 1 *during the seventh lunar month*
- 2 *money, clothes, televisions and cars*
- 3 *The ghosts burn them*
- 4 *To stop the ghosts from coming inside the house*
- 5 *The 'spirit' of the food*

Girl Power

Exercise 1 Comprehension

Choose the best answer to each question.

- 1 In which of these are men **NOT** stronger than women?
 - a Sports
 - b Work
 - c Real life
- 2 What do we know about Japan?
 - a Men live longer than women.
 - b Women live longer than men.
 - c Men can expect to live till they are eighty-five.
- 3 Why do more men than women die as a result of crimes?
 - a Because men are stronger than women.
 - b Because women are stronger than men.
 - c The passage doesn't tell us why.
- 4 Which of these is **TRUE**?
 - a Men drive faster than women.
 - b Women drink more alcohol than men.
 - c Men visit the doctor more often than women.
- 5 'Life-style' means ...
 - a the kind of things we eat and drink.
 - b the things we do to our bodies.
 - c both the above.

Exercise 2 Short answers

Write a short answer to each question.

- 1 How long can a Japanese woman expect to live?

- 2 How long can a Japanese man expect to live?

- 3 Do we know for sure why women live longer than men?

- 4 Name *TWO* drinks with alcohol in the passage.

- 5 Give *TWO* examples of how women take better care of themselves than men.

Exercise 3 Vocabulary

<i>alcohol</i>	<i>male</i>	<i>female</i>	<i>life-style</i>	<i>exercise</i>
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- 1 _____ is another word for 'boys and men'.
- 2 The _____ turtle lays her eggs on the beach and covers them with sand.
- 3 You need to do some _____ like swimming or jogging so that you don't get fat.
- 4 People who have been drinking _____ should not drive a car.
- 5 If you have an unhealthy _____ you are likely to get sick quite often.

ANSWER KEY (Girl Power)**Exercise 1 Comprehension**

- 1 c
- 2 b
- 3 c
- 4 a
- 5 c

Exercise 2 Short answers

- 1 *eighty-five years*
- 2 *seventy-nine years*
- 3 *No, but doctors believe it has something to do with life-style.*
- 4 *beer and whisky*
- 5 *They visit the doctor more often / they do more exercise / they drink less alcohol; / they smoke fewer cigarettes / they don't drive so fast*

Exercise 3 Vocabulary

Male is another word for 'boys and men'.

The **female** turtle lays her eggs on the beach and covers them with sand.

You need to do some **exercise**, like swimming or jogging so that you don't get fat.

People who have been drinking **alcohol** should not drive a car.

If you have an unhealthy **life-style**, you are likely to get sick quite often.