

The Lion Dance

Exercise 1 Comprehension

Choose the best answer for 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 short answers for 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 for 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 short answers for 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 enjoy this festival, too?

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 for 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 short answers for each question:

1. Give examples of different 'feelings' from the passage.
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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 short answers for 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 for 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 short answers 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 luck or bad?

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 for each question:

1. What do we know about the *sento* 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 short answers for each question:

1. When were Japanese people able to have a bath in their own homes?
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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?
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4. In a Japanese bath, what should you do before you get into the bath?
-

5. What is a Japanese bath for?
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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 Ghost Festival

Exercise 1 Comprehension

Choose the best answer for 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 short answers for 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 for each question:

1. In which of these are men **NOT** stronger than women?
 - a. Sport
 - 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 short answers for 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. (beer and whisky)

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.