

Name _____ Date _____

Instructions: Read each question carefully and choose the best answer.

1. Which of the following is an opinion about New Year celebrations in Greece?
 - Ⓐ People bake a special cake with a coin hidden inside.
 - Ⓑ Each person gets a slice of the cake to eat on New Year's Eve.
 - Ⓒ The person who gets the slice should have good luck.
 - Ⓓ The cake is the most delicious cake for the whole year.
2. What do people think will happen after they throw water out of their window?
 - Ⓐ They will get rid of the bad luck from the previous year.
 - Ⓑ They will water the plants outside their houses.
 - Ⓒ They will wash their cars to start the New Year fresh.
 - Ⓓ They will share water with their neighbors.
3. How are the Chinese and Jewish New Year celebrations the same?
 - Ⓐ They include eating twelve pieces of fruit to bring good luck.
 - Ⓑ They include wearing brand-new yellow underwear to bring riches.
 - Ⓒ They are celebrated in late March or mid-April when it's hot outside.
 - Ⓓ They are based on the cycles of the moon and the 365-day calendar.
4. What is the main idea of this book?
 - Ⓐ January 1 is the first day of the New Year around the world.
 - Ⓑ Everyone around the world should celebrate the New Year.
 - Ⓒ There are many different ways to celebrate the New Year.
 - Ⓓ People should all celebrate the New Year in the same way.

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5. What is a **resolution**?

- Ⓐ set of events that keeps repeating
- Ⓑ belief or custom that is passed down
- Ⓒ decision or promise to do something
- Ⓓ organized series of cultural events

6. People in Denmark smash old and broken dishes on the doorsteps of family and friends. In which category would this belong?

- Ⓐ ways to get rid of bad luck from last year
- Ⓑ ways to bring good luck in the New Year
- Ⓒ ways to get rid of old dishes from last year
- Ⓓ ways to make your family and friends laugh in the New Year

7. Which of the following is a detail that supports the main idea of this book?

- Ⓐ People in Scotland carry torches and swing balls of fire on New Year's Eve.
- Ⓑ Buddha is the title given to the person who started the Buddhist religion.
- Ⓒ It is important to make resolutions at the beginning of each year.
- Ⓓ There are many parades in the United States that are not in Canada.

8. Which of the following is a similar tradition both in Central and South America and in the Philippines?

- Ⓐ make figures and set them on fire
- Ⓑ watch football games
- Ⓒ eat twelve pieces of fruit
- Ⓓ pour water on statues of Buddha

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9. Why do cities set off fireworks at night instead of during the day?

- Ⓐ They are too scary during the day.
- Ⓑ They are too bright during the day.
- Ⓒ They are too loud during the day.
- Ⓓ They are too hard to see during the day.

10. What is another word for **festivals**?

- Ⓐ figures
- Ⓑ celebrations
- Ⓒ traditions
- Ⓓ customs

11. **Extended Response:** What is a common theme among all of the New Year celebrations discussed in the book?

Quick Check Answer Sheet

New Year Celebrations

Main Comprehension Skill: Compare and Contrast

1. Ⓓ *Fact or Opinion*
2. Ⓐ *Cause and Effect*
3. Ⓓ *Compare and Contrast*
4. Ⓒ *Main Idea and Details*
5. Ⓒ *Vocabulary*
6. Ⓑ *Classify Information*
7. Ⓐ *Main Idea and Details*
8. Ⓒ *Compare and Contrast*
9. Ⓓ *Make Inferences / Draw Conclusions*
10. Ⓑ *Vocabulary*
11. Answers will vary, but should include that all of the celebrations are about saying goodbye to the past and starting the New Year fresh with hope and happiness.