

## Articles

### Lunar New Year

#### Exercise 15

Choose the correct answer of the available possible options.

1. The lunar calendar is based on the cycles of the moon, so \_\_\_\_ date of Lunar New Year is different each year. However, it is usually in January or February.

A. a/an    B. the

2. As well as being celebrated in China, Lunar New Year is also \_\_\_\_ important festival in many other places, including Vietnam, Singapore and Korea.

A. a/an    B. the

3. Each year is named after one of 12 animals. A traditional story explains how this came to be. One day, the Emperor decided to have \_\_\_\_ race for all the animals in the country.

A. a/an    B. the

4. Unfortunately, only 12 animals actually managed to get to \_\_\_\_ race.

A. a/an    B. the

5. \_\_\_\_ Emperor rewarded them by naming the 12 years of the lunar calendar after them. The first to finish was the rat, so the first year is named after him. The other eleven, in order, were the ox, tiger, rabbit, dragon, snake, horse, goat, monkey, rooster, dog and pig.

A. a/an    B. the

6. Different places celebrate in slightly different ways, but Lunar New Year is very much \_\_\_\_ family celebration wherever it takes place. The younger generation greet their parents and grandparents with good wishes for the year ahead and show their respect for the older generation. In Korea this is called sebae. The young people kneel on the ground and bow deeply.

A. a/an    B. the

7. Traditional foods which are eaten at Lunar New Year often have another meaning. For example, in China, many people eat fish dishes because \_\_\_\_ Chinese word for 'fish' sounds similar to 'surplus', meaning you will have plenty.

A. a/an

B. the

8. In Korea, people serve \_\_\_\_ special soup. Thin pieces of rice cake are boiled in a clear soup with slices of beef and vegetables.

A. a/an

B. the

9. The rice cake pieces are round and may represent coins and money. It is said that eating this soup at New Year makes you one year older. People joke that if you have two bowls of soup, you'll be two years older! There are many other Lunar New Year traditions. For example, in Vietnam, people believe that \_\_\_\_ first person to enter their home in the New Year will decide their fortune for the year ahead. They are careful to invite someone who is kind, well behaved and successful.

A. a/an

B. the