

Superstitions around the world *

Different countries have different superstitions. For example, in Britain and Japan if a black cat _____ (walk) in front of you, you _____ (have) good luck. But in the USA and many other countries it's the opposite: if a black cat _____ (cross) your path, it _____ (bring) you bad luck. However, many superstitions are almost the same the world over. For example, if you _____ (break) a mirror, you _____ (be) unlucky for 7 years, but if you _____ (touch) wood, it _____ (prevent) bad luck.

There are also superstitions about numbers. If you _____ (look) at the seats on some airplanes, you _____ (not find) the number 13. In Japan, the number 4 is unlucky because it is pronounced the same as the word for "death". However, dates where the numbers are the same (for example 12/12/12) are very lucky. If a Japanese couple _____ (decide) to get married, they _____ (try) to have the wedding on such a date.

***Adapted from: Solutions Pre-intermediate 2nd edition- page 67**