**A** **Read the text below and decide which answer A, B, C or D best fits each space.**

# NEW YEAR



New Year celebrations date as far back as 2000 BC in Mesopotamia. Yet, the actual date has changed a number of times. There was always a problem because New Year was (1) _____ by the movements of the Sun and Moon which allowed room for error. To (2) _____ a long story short, it wasn't until 1582, when the calendar we use today was (3) _____ , that January 1st became New Year's Day in most cultures. Some cultures, however, celebrate the New Year at various times, according to their calendar and religious traditions. For example, the Chinese celebrate it between the 21st of January and the 19th of February. In (4) _____ with most of the world who celebrate at the beginning of the year, the Jewish people celebrate it in September or early October.

In any case, the New Year is a festive occasion. Some people celebrate at home with no (5) _____ of champagne, while others party on the streets, watching the fireworks that the city council (6) _____ have provided. Others prefer night clubs, joining the long (7) _____ of people waiting to get in and dance the night away. In China, there are parades with dancing dragons and hundreds of people turn (8) _____ to look on. It is also common to make New Year's Resolutions, the (9) _____ being that most people (10) _____ the New Year as a chance to (11) _____ bad habits.

(12) To sum _____ , New Year is a time of celebration that a large proportion of the people look forward to.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

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|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | A calculated | B assumed | C supposed | D considered |
| 2 | A break | B change | C cut | D turn |
| 3 | A realised | B recognised | C known | D introduced |
| 4 | A contrary | B opposite | C contrast | D difference |
| 5 | A shortage | B loss | C absence | D scarce |
| 6 | A likely | B should | C possibly | D may |
| 7 | A aisles | B queues | C rows | D corridors |
| 8 | A up | B on | C into | D out |
| 9 | A view | B point | C idea | D matter |
| 10 | A regard | B think | C believe | D realise |
| 11 | A cut | B break | C change | D split |
| 12 | A on | B for | C up | D in |

LIVEWORKSHEETS