EXERCISE 1: Read the text and think of the word which best fits each gap.

HOGMANAY



Hogmanay is the Scottish word **(1)** _____ New Year's Eve. In Scotland, Hogmanay is a bigger holiday **(2)** _____ Christmas. There **(3)** _____ big parties in the streets of cities **(4)** _____ towns. People sing songs **(5)** _____ 'Auld Lang Syne' and dance **(6)** _____ traditional music. In some places, people swing balls of fire around **(7)** _____ heads!

In Edinburgh, **(8)** _____ is a three-day festival for Hogmanay. The festival starts **(9)** _____ a torchlight parade through the city centre. **(10)** _____ New Year's Eve, there is **(11)** _____ big street party. Around 80,000 **(12)** _____ go to the party every year. **(13)** _____ finishes with fireworks **(14)** _____ midnight on 1st January.

People **(15)** _____ celebrate Hogmanay in their homes. **(16)** _____ before midnight, people sometimes open the back door to let **(17)** _____ the old year. Then, **(18)** _____ close the door to keep out the new year until it arrives! At the stroke of midnight, people sing 'Auld Lang Syne', **(19)** _____ is an old Scottish song. It is **(20)** _____ remembering old friends. **(21)** _____ that, people often have a drink called whisky or a Scottish beer called ale. They call this 'the water of life'.

Some people believe **(22)** _____ the first person who comes **(23)** _____ your house in the new year brings luck. This person **(24)** _____ called the 'first-footer'. A tall, dark-haired man is **(25)** _____ best kind of first-footer. He usually carries a piece **(26)** _____ coal, shortbread and whisky. These things bring good luck. Everyone in the house **(27)** _____ to eat some of the shortbread and drink **(28)** _____ of the whisky.

In Stonehaven, a small town **(29)** _____ north-east Scotland, they have a special tradition for Hogmanay. At midnight, men walk through the streets swinging balls of fire around their heads. This is the Fireball Festival. It is **(30)** _____ dangerous but very exciting. Thousands of people go to watch the festival every year.

EXERCISE 2: Find words in the text for the following definitions.

1. _____ : to move easily and without interruption backwards and forwards or from one side to the other, especially from a fixed point, or to cause something or someone to do this.
2. _____ : a large number of people walking or in vehicles, all going in the same direction, usually as part of a public celebration of something.
3. _____ : small containers filled with explosive chemicals that make a loud noise when they explode and sometimes produce bright, coloured patterns.
4. _____ : one of the sounds that some clocks make at particular times, especially by ringing a bell once for each number of the hour.
5. _____ : a type of beer, especially one that is darker and more bitter than other beers.
6. _____ : the force that causes things, especially good things, to happen to you by chance and not as a result of your own efforts or abilities.
7. _____ : a hard, black substance that is dug from the earth in pieces, and can be burned to produce heat or power.
8. _____ : a type of sweet biscuit that contains a lot of butter.
9. _____ : a custom or belief that has existed for a long time
10. _____ : causing great enthusiasm.

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