4 MORE NEW YEAR'S TRADITIONS

Task 1: Match a country to a description of their New Year's traditions.

Vietnam	Brazil	Spain	Mexico

In _____, New Year's Eve, known as "Nochevieja," is a big celebration. Many people gather in the main squares of cities to eat 12 grapes at the stroke of midnight. Each grape represents good luck for one month of the coming year. Afterward, there are fireworks and parties that continue until the early hours of the morning.

In _____, the New Year's celebrations are famous for their colourful and energetic atmosphere. People often dress in white, believing it brings good luck. On the beaches, like Copacabana in Rio de Janeiro, massive crowds gather to watch fireworks and enjoy live music concerts. Many also throw flowers into the ocean as an offering to Yemanjá, the goddess of the sea, for blessings in the new year.

_____ has its own vibrant traditions for New Year's, with families and friends coming together for a festive meal. It is common to eat 12 grapes too, and make a wish for each one. They also use colourful decorations, like piñatas, and set off fireworks to welcome the new year with joy and excitement.

In _____, the Lunar New Year is the most important celebration. It is usually later than the international New Year, but the festive spirit is just as strong. Families clean their homes to sweep away bad luck and make traditional foods like "banh chung" (sticky rice cake). The highlight is the midnight moment when fireworks light up the sky, and people exchange good wishes and give "li xi" (lucky money) to children for good fortune.

Task 2: Answer the following questions as class.

1. Why do people in Spain and Mexico eat grapes at the stroke of midnight?
2. Why do people in Brazil throw flowers into the ocean?
3. Why do people in Vietnam clean their homes on New Year's Day?
4. Are there any New Year's superstitions in your country?
5. Are fireworks common in your country on New Year's Eve?
6. Which countries' traditions do you like the most?
7. Are there any traditions mentioned in the text that you don't like?
8. Describe the common New Year's traditions in your country.

LIVEWORKSHEETS