# END-OF-YEAR EXAM

(English File Pre-Intermediate 4th edition)

READING /15

**1. Read the article and choose A, B, or C.**

## New year, old customs

**by travel editor, Lauren Briard**

Have you ever made a New Year's resolution? Perhaps you have decided to learn a new language, or take up more exercise? You are not alone. In many cultures, people choose to change something about their life at the beginning of the year. And all over the world, people celebrate the new year with interesting customs.

My favourite traditions come from Mexico and other Latin American countries. For example, at midnight on New Year's Eve in many Spanish-speaking cultures, everyone eats twelve grapes – one grape for each month of the year. People say that eating the grapes brings good fortune for the new year. And don't be surprised if your friend from Peru wants to walk around the outside of his or her house with heavy luggage. Traditionally, if you complete this challenge you will be a successful traveller in the new year. Would you like to go on a dream holiday next year? Then try it!

Cleaning the house is perhaps the most common new year tradition. From Mexico to Japan people sweep their homes from top to bottom. Some people believe this removes bad luck and allows good luck to enter the house. In other countries, such as Britain and Iran, the cleaning happens later in the year, so it's called 'spring cleaning'. In Iran, just before the March spring festival, people empty their houses of all their furniture. They clean the house from top to bottom, mend broken furniture or replace old items. People bring flowers and herbs indoors too so their homes smell fresh and clean.

New Year is often celebrated with friends, so my final story is from Denmark. If you are in Denmark at New Year, you will probably see piles of broken plates outside front doors. What's going on? Well, traditionally, people take their old or broken plates and smash them on their friend's front door. It brings good luck to your friend. It's great fun, too! So, a big pile of broken plates means you are a popular person.

Enjoy the new year festival, wherever you are in the world. I hope you are ready with your grapes, luggage and plates!

Example: New Year is a special day all over the world.

A True ✓ B False ☐ C Doesn't say ☐

1 One of the writer's favourite New Year traditions comes from Latin America.

A True B False C Doesn't say

2 At midnight, there is a tradition of eating one grape.

A True B False C Doesn't say

3 The person who eats the fastest wins a prize.

A True B False C Doesn't say

4 In Peru, there is a New Year tradition that includes suitcases.

A True B False C Doesn't say

5 The tradition from Peru will give you good dreams in the new year.

A True B False C Doesn't say

6 House cleaning is a very popular new year tradition.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

A True B False C Doesn't say

7 In Britain, people clean their homes at New Year.

A True B False C Doesn't say

8 In Iran, the first month of the calendar is March.

A True B False C Doesn't say

9 In Denmark, there is a special tradition between friends.

A True B False C Doesn't say

10 The most popular people have the most broken plates.

A True B False C Doesn't say

## VOCABULARY /10

### 1. Drag & drop the words from the box to complete the sentences: /5

| looking | next-day | harbour | luggage | ironing | failed | polluted |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ~~camping~~ | bridge | name | basket | | |

Example: I went *camping* with my cousins. We slept in a tent for three nights.

1 I don't need a trolley. A _____ is big enough for my shopping today.

2 'Did you pass your maths exam?' 'No, I _____.'

3 Then we will cross the _____ to reach the historic centre of the town.

4 We need to get our _____ now. Which way is baggage reclaim?

5 It will arrive tomorrow because I paid for _____ delivery.

6 'Can I help you, sir?' 'No, I'm just _____, thank you.

7 They're your shirts so you can do the _____.

8 The town is quite _____ so they clean the dirt off the historic buildings every year.

9 It's a pretty town with colourful fishing boats in the _____.

10 I'm so sorry. I've forgotten your _____.

### 2. Complete the sentences with the correct word. /5

**Example:** Mill Street Café only sells *healthy* salads.

medical nutritionist healthy

1 Phoebe has _____ hair.

medium tall curly

2 Javier often stays in bed all morning. He's a bit _____.

lazy hard-working relaxed

3 I don't like people who tell _____ . We need to be honest with each other.

stories lies the truth

4 We don't laugh much in English class. It's quite a _____ place.

friendly funny serious

5 There are several _____ people in this class, but everyone's opinion is important.

talkative generous mean

LIVEWORKSHEETS

6 People often say that yoga is _____, but I find it stressful!
positive interested relaxing

7 We _____ a boat and went around the lake.
sold hired came

8 Are they _____ in coming with us to the café?
exciting interested hopeful

9 The hotel was _____ and uncomfortable. What a disaster!
a bit clean dirty

10 On Saturdays, the shopping centre is too _____ .
crowded very noisy many people

## GRAMMAR /40

### 1. Choose the correct form. /10

Example: Kim **broke** / **has broken** her arm while she was on holiday.

1 Lianne **has been** / **has gone** to Moscow more than once.
2 I **every day exercise** / **exercise every day**.
3 When you called I **ate** / **was eating** my lunch.
4 Ali **is cycling** / **cycles** to work every day.
5 What **are you doing** / **do you do** this weekend?
6 This song isn't **too good as** / **as good as** his last one.
7 **They're meeting** / **They meet** Jan at the cinema tonight.
8 My little brother is tired and **he's needing** / **he needs** a rest.
9 Look at the traffic. We're **being** / **going to be** late.
10 Vikram **does** / **is doing** an engineering course.

### 2. Complete the sentences with one word. /10

Example: The job was difficult, *but* Conchita worked hard and soon made a good impression.

1 Mikhail and Sonya are going to the park and _____ that they're going for a meal.
2 _____ Bryony was frightened, she walked into the dark room.
3 Is there _____ to leave our coats?
4 Is that the hotel _____ your parents stayed?
5 My lunch wasn't big _____. I'm still hungry.
6 I've eaten too _____ chocolate.
7 The problem started _____ I was downloading some new software.
8 There's _____ on TV tonight that I want to watch and I'm a bit bored. Shall we go to the cinema?
9 That was the loudest concert I've _____ been to.
10 A department store is a place _____ sells different types of product.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

**3. Complete the sentences. Use the correct form of the verb in brackets.** /10

Example: Shhh. The film *has* just *started* (start).

1 '_____ you _____ (wash) the car yet?' 'No, I haven't.'
2 I _____ (like) vegetarian food.
3 Kate often _____ (go out) with Dinis, but they aren't a couple.
4 Laila and Jumaid _____ (watch) TV at 10 o'clock last night.
5 I _____ (call) you in five minutes. Is that OK?
6 'What _____ you _____ (do)?' 'I'm a shop assistant.'
7 'I promise I _____ (make) the bed', said Ricardo.
8 It _____ (rain) when Rachael arrived at her new office.
9 Faisal is over there. He _____ (stand) next to the tall man in the black hat.
10 Good news! Agnieska and Theo _____ (sold) their house.

**4. Write sentences using the words in brackets.** /10

Ejemplo (EVERY DAY) I go to the club every day.

1. (OFTEN) _____.
2. (GOING TO) _____.
3. (LAST WEEK) _____.
4. (JUST) _____.
5. (TOMORROW) _____.

WRITING /20

**Complete the informal email to Tom by answering the questions. Write at least 20 words for each paragraph.**

1 Describe what you are wearing today.
2 Which housework job do you like best? Is there a housework job that you hate? Why?
3 What do you usually do when you are waiting at an airport or train station?

Hi Tom,

Thanks for your email.

Write soon. Best wishes,

LIVEWORKSHEETS

LISTENING /15

**1 Listen to a tour guide talking about a town. Choose A or B.**

1 Turlton is a small town.

A True B False

2 The church is famous because it is beautiful.

A True B False

3 The Old School has a café in the garden.

A True B False

4 You can visit a museum in the town hall.

A True B False

5 The tourists who want to visit the old bridge need boots.

A True B False

**2 Listen to five conversations. Where are the people? Match them with places A–E.**

Conversation 1

Conversation 2

Conversation 3

Conversation 4

Conversation 5

A in a clothes shop

B in a hotel

C in traffic

D in a doctor's waiting room

E in a cinema

LIVEWORKSHEETS