

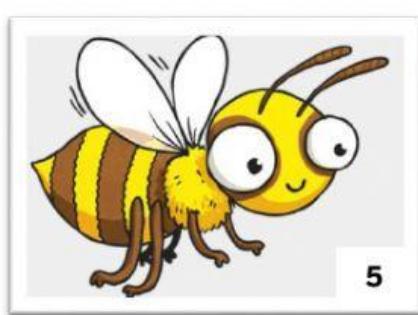
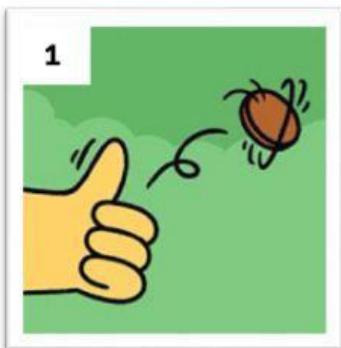
SUPERSTITION



- What comes to your mind when you hear the word **superstition**?
- What superstitions do you know?
- Which ones do you believe in?

TRADITIONS & SUPERSTITIONS – First Conditional

1. Read and match the texts to the pictures A-G.
2. Complete the texts with the correct form of the verbs in brackets.



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1 The tooth fairy.

If a child _____ (put) a lost tooth under the pillow at night, the tooth fairy _____ (come) during the night and leave behind some money.

2 Good Luck

If the first butterfly you _____ (see) in the year is white, you _____ (have) good luck all year.

3 Ladders

If you _____ (walk) under a ladder, you _____ (have) bad luck for one year.

4 Throwing a coin in a fountain

If you _____ (throw) a coin into a well or fountain, and _____ (make) a wish, the wish _____ (come) true.

5 Gold at the end of the rainbow

If you _____ (dig) at the end of a rainbow, you _____ (find) gold.

6 Mirrors

If you _____ (break) a mirror, you _____ (have) seven years of bad luck.

7 Bees

If a bee _____ (fly) into your home, soon you _____ (have) a visitor. If you _____ (kill) the bee, you _____ (have) bad luck, or the visitor _____ (be) someone you don't like.



VOCABULARY

1. These are words connected with superstitions. Complete the definitions with the correct word or phrase from the box.

JINX OMEN LUCKY CHARM
BELIEF CURSE FOLKLORE

- a. _____ : an object or person that is thought to bring good luck.
- b. _____ : the traditional stories and culture of a group of people.
- c. _____ : the feeling of being certain that something is true.

d. _____ : something that is considered to be a sign of how a future event will take place.

e. _____ : to say magic words that are intended to bring bad luck to someone.

f. _____ : bad luck, or a person or thing that is believed to bring bad luck.

SPEAKING

- Do you have any lucky charms?
- Are you interested in Northern Argentina folklore and traditions?
- Do you consider yourself lucky?

READING

New Year's Good Luck Traditions

UNITED STATES



People kiss at midnight because they believe this brings purity to the new year. They also believe that making a loud noise scares evil spirits.

ENGLAND

The first guest to arrive at the house holds good fortune. They believe it should be a person carrying gifts, such as coal for the fire or a loaf of bread for the table. The guest will enter through the front door and exit through the back door. Any guest who shows up empty-handed can't enter the home first.





SPAIN AND PERU

These countries have similar traditions, in that they eat 12 grapes to bring good luck in the 12 months ahead. However, in Peru they eat a 13th grape to make sure they will be lucky.

JAPAN

In Japan, people decorate their homes for the New Year with pine branches symbolizing longevity, a bamboo stalk symbolizing prosperity, and a plum blossom showing nobility.



SICILY

People serve lasagna on New Year's Day, because any other noodle is believed to bring bad luck. Every town organizes free public parties in the main squares and town centres with music, fireworks and dance, often until the rising of the sun.

CHINA

As most people already know, the Chinese New Year is not on January 1, but they still celebrate old traditions. The Chinese paint every front door with red paint, symbolizing good luck and happiness. Also, families prepare big meals without using knives. All knives are put away for 24 hours to keep anyone from cutting, because this is thought to cut the families' good luck for the year.



INDIA

The Indian New Year starts with a festival of lights called Diwali. People exchange cards, gifts and they hurry to finish any incomplete work because they think that if you have unfinished business, you will have bad luck during the new year.

VENEZUELA, ARGENTINA, BOLIVIA AND MEXICO

Those with hopes of traveling in the new year carry a suitcase around the house at midnight. Some people even carry it around the block to make sure they will travel long distances.



1. Read the text and write the name of the country according to the traditions.

- a. People kiss at midnight. _____
- b. People mark their doors with paint. _____
- c. People exchange cards or gifts. _____
- d. People make noises to start the New Year. _____
- e. If you want to travel, carry a suitcase. _____
- f. People eat a special kind of pasta. _____
- g. If you don't bring something, you won't enter. _____
- h. You eat fruit to be lucky. _____

2. Do you have any New Year traditions? What about in your family?

3. Complete the beginnings and endings with the correct form of the verb and then match.

- a. If you _____ (dream) about a lizard... _____
- b. If you _____ (drop) a spoon... _____
- c. If a black cat _____ (walk) away from you... _____
- d. You _____ (go) on a trip... _____
- e. That person _____ never _____ (marry) you... _____
- f. You _____ (receive) money.... _____
- g. If a cat _____ (sneeze) three times indoors... _____
- h. If a girl _____ (drink) salty water and _____ (go) to sleep... _____

- 1) It _____ (take) your good luck away from you.
- 2) She _____ (see) her future in her dreams.
- 3) you _____ (have) a lot of enemies.
- 4) If your right foot _____ (itch).
- 5) a woman _____ (come) to visit you.
- 6) It _____ (rain) in 24 hours.
- 7) If your left hand _____ (itch).
- 8) If you _____ (step) on someone's foot.

4. Finish the sentences with your own ideas.

- a. If you dream about trees,
- b. If you dream about green elephant's, your mother
- c. If you bite your tongue,
- d. If you put sugar before you pour the tea,
- e. If you fall off your bike at a roundabout,

