

Read the text below. Match choices (A–H) to (27–32). There are two choices you do not need to use.

NEW YEAR'S TRADITIONS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

27. _____

Lunar New Year (LNY) is a time to head home – here's to hoping you still fit in a twin bed. So get ready to have your cheeks pinched, your plate filled and your life choices questioned.



28. _____

Known as mén shén and dating back to the Tang Dynasty, the Door Gods are the guardians of an entrance and were some of the most popular gods for ancient Chinese people. They come in pairs, always facing each other, and are thought to protect homes from evil spirits. During Chinese New Year, people add pictures of the gods to their doors to bring good fortune to the household and to protect the family in the coming year.

29. _____

It's easy to see when the Lunar New Year is around the corner – festive scarlet décor adorns every street, storefront and home. Being associated with wealth and good fortune, red decorations are hung to ward off Nian – a lion-like monster that is afraid of the colour red, according to LNY mythology.

30. _____

The colour red brings literal wealth in the form of red lai see packets gifted to children and unmarried adults during the holiday. These red packets are cash gifts that can range from a few dollars to quite hefty amounts, depending on the relationship to the recipient. Employers are also expected to gift red packets to unmarried employees as a sign of gratitude.

31. _____

Perhaps not the most hangover-friendly of traditions, LNY wouldn't be complete without pyrotechnics. In China, New Year's firecrackers are made from strings of rolled red paper containing gunpowder that, when set off, leave shreds of scarlet paper in their wake.

The belief is that the loud noise of the firecrackers serves to scare Nian, the lion-like monster who legend says rose from the sea for a feast of human flesh on the new year.

32. _____

In the days leading up to LNY, windows are scrubbed, floors swept and furniture dusted to wash away the bad luck of the past year. In China, the word "dust" is a homophone for "old", so cleaning the house is required to drive away any bad luck of the previous year and prepare for a new start.

Make sure you've finished wiping by midnight though: cleaning on the first day of the new year is forbidden in case you wash away any of the new good luck.

Which paragraph tells us the following?

- A** *Chow down on festive treats*
- B** *Hang door gods pictures*
- C** *Clear out last year's clutter*
- D** *Brighten up with some colour*
- E** *Visit a LNY market*
- F** *Share the wealth with loved ones*
- G** *Watch a traditional fireworks show*
- H** *Catch up with family and friends*