

Activity Type

Vocabulary and Speaking Game: impromptu speech, multiple-choice questions, guessing, freer practice (group work)

Focus

New Year's Eve

Aim

To practice New Year's Eve vocabulary and talking about New Year's Eve.

Preparation

Make one copy of the game board and cards for each group of three or four. Cut the cards out as indicated.

You will also need a dice and counters for each group.

Level

Upper-intermediate (B2)

Time

25 minutes

Introduction

In this New Year's Eve board game, students practice vocabulary related to New Year's Eve and talk in response to topic-related prompts.

Procedure

Divide the students into groups of three or four.

Give each group a copy of the game board, a set of cards, a dice, and counters.

Select one student in each group to keep the time.

Ask the students to shuffle the cards and place them face-down in a pile on the table.

Players begin by placing their counters on the start square.

Players then take turns rolling the dice and moving their counter along the board.

If a player lands on a 'Talk about' square, they talk in response to the New Year's Eve prompt for 30 seconds without stopping.

If a player can't think of anything to say or stops talking before the 30 seconds are up, they go back two squares.

If a player lands on a blank square, another student picks up a card from the top of the pile and reads out the question on the card, followed by three possible multiple-choice answers.

The player then has ten seconds to answer.

If the player answers correctly, they remain on the square. If not, they move their counter back two squares.

The correct answer is shown on the card in bold.

The card is then placed at the bottom of the pile, and it's the next player's turn to roll the dice.

The first player to reach the finish wins the game.

New Year's Eve Board Game

Finish		Talk about how New Year's Eve is celebrated in your country.		Talk about your most memorable New Year's Eve.	
					Talk about why people struggle to keep their resolutions.
Talk about what you like to eat and drink on New Year's Eve.		Talk about where you like to welcome in the new year.		Talk about your favourite New Year's Eve song.	
					
Talk about why celebrating the new year is important.		Talk about any new year resolutions you have made.		Talk about what made you happy this past year.	
Talk about what you hope to achieve in the new year.		Talk about any predictions you have for the new year.		Talk about your plans to celebrate New Year's Eve.	
					Talk about who you like to celebrate New Year's Eve with.
Talk about any challenges you had this past year.		Talk about celebrating New Year's Eve as a child.			Start

The act of counting backward to the start of the New Year is called a...

- a. countless
- b. countdown**
- c. count on

Colourful explosions in the sky that mark the arrival of the New Year are called...

- a. firearms
- b. firecrackers
- c. fireworks**

Tiny pieces of coloured paper that fall from the sky during celebrations are called...

- a. confetti**
- b. confectionery
- c. litter

Which fruit is traditionally eaten at midnight in Spain on New Year's Eve?

- a. apples
- b. bananas
- c. grapes**

Which city is famous for its massive New Year's Eve celebration in Times Square?

- a. London
- b. New York**
- c. Paris

Which Roman god is January named after?

- a. Janus**
- b. Jupiter
- c. Mars

What song is traditionally sung at midnight to welcome the New Year in English speaking countries?

- a. The Final Countdown
- b. New Year's Day
- c. Auld Lang Syne**

A promise or commitment for self-improvement in the coming year is called a...

- a. evolution
- b. revolution
- c. resolution**

In Brazil, what colour do people wear on New Year's Eve for good luck?

- a. white**
- b. red
- c. yellow

What is a traditional New Year's Eve meal in the Southern United States?

- a. turkey and stuffing
- b. black-eyed peas and collard greens**
- c. pizza and chicken wings

In which country is it believed that breaking dishes on New Year's Eve brings good luck?

- a. Germany
- b. Japan
- c. Greece**

Long narrow strips of paper used for decoration during New Year's Eve are called...

- a. streamers**
- b. tinsel
- c. strings

In Spain, what do people traditionally do at midnight on New Year's Eve for good luck?

- a. make a wish
- b. wear red underwear**
- c. jump over a fire

In Italy, what food is traditionally eaten on New Year's Eve to bring good luck and prosperity?

- a. pizza
- b. spaghetti
- c. lentils**

What soup do the Japanese people traditionally eat to celebrate the New Year?

- a. ramen
- b. miso
- c. ozoni**

When people lift their glasses and drink to celebrate it is called a...

- a. toast**
- b. cheers
- c. clink

A type of small firework that you hold in your hand and light is called a...

- a. sparkle
- b. sparkler**
- c. sparkling

A sparkling wine often associated with celebrating New Year's Eve is called...

- a. prosecco
- b. lambrusco
- c. champagne**

In which country did the tradition of making New Year's resolutions begin?

- a. Egypt
- b. China
- c. Iraq**

People celebrating New Year's Eve are often called...

- a. rebels
- b. revellers**
- c. ravers