

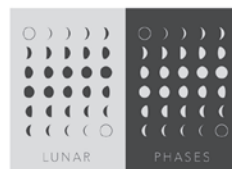
Unit 8 Reading Worksheet 2

Name _____

1 Read the definitions and number the pictures.

1. fireworks: explosions in the sky to celebration a holiday or event
2. envelopes: containers for letters
3. paper lanterns: traditional lamps made from coloured paper
4. moon phases: the stages of the moon cycle

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The Chinese New Year is one of the most important Chinese holidays. It is more than 4,000 years old and it's based on a lunar calendar. **Unlike** many holidays, the date of Chinese New Year changes every year. In 2015, it was on February 19th. In the past, the Chinese New Year was a celebration of **ancestors, gods** and the end of winter. Today, it's a time to relax, be with family and focus on good luck and new **beginnings**.

Chinese families celebrate the holiday in different ways. In the days before the New Year, most families clean and decorate their houses. The holiday officially starts on New Year's Eve — the night before the New Year. It is very important for families to eat together. Then they give money to children in special red envelopes. They **stay up** and watch fireworks at midnight. Chinese New Year lasts fifteen days. There is a lantern festival on the final night. People decorate the streets with red paper lanterns. There are many **parades** and activities.

2 Read and circle the correct option.

1. The Chinese New Year is an important Chinese **calendar** / **holiday**.
2. In 2015, the Chinese New Year was on **January** / **February** 19th.
3. The date of the holiday changes every **month** / **year**.
4. In the past, the New Year was a celebration of **gods** / **spring**.
5. Today, people relax and spend time with their **family** / **ancestors**.
6. People celebrate the Chinese New Year for **fifteen** / **twelve** days.
7. On the final **day** / **night** of the celebration, there is a lantern festival.

Guess What!

The Chinese New Year is also called the **Spring Festival**. There are many lion dances during this holiday.



Glossary.....

unlike: not like

ancestors:
family members
of the past

gods: deities,
holy or religious
beings

beginnings:
starts

stay up: to go
to bed very late

parades:
processions

spring: a warm
season after
winter