

Religious Education Assessment: Chinese New Year Celebrations

Learning objective: To demonstrate an understanding of the traditions, symbols, and significance of Chinese New Year within the community.

Read each question carefully. Use your knowledge of traditions, symbolism, and the importance of family to provide your answers. Write your responses clearly in the spaces provided.

Chinese New Year, also known as the Spring Festival, is the most important traditional festival in China. It is based on the lunar calendar, meaning the date changes each year. Families travel long distances to be together for a reunion dinner on New Year's Eve. Red is the most popular colour during this time, representing good luck and joy. Many people clean their homes to sweep away bad luck from the previous year and decorate with paper cuttings and lanterns to welcome good fortune.

Word bank: Lunar Calendar · Red Envelopes · Zodiac · Prosperity · Ancestors · Reunion Dinner · Lion Dance

1. Explain why the date of Chinese New Year changes every year according to the passage. (2 marks)

2. Identify two ways in which families prepare their homes before the festival begins. (2 marks)

3. What do 'red envelopes' symbolise in Chinese culture, and how are they typically used during the celebration? (3 marks)

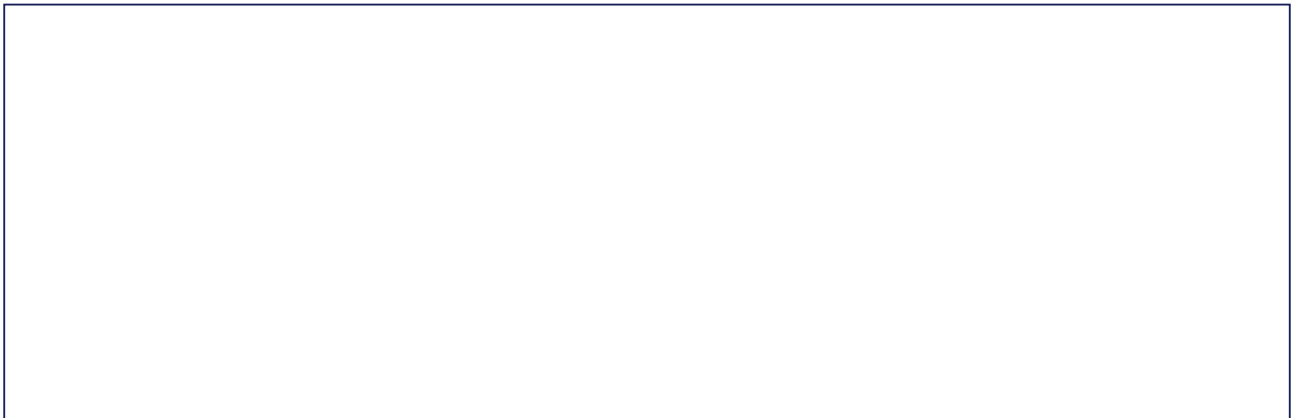
4. Max the monkey is curious about the 'Reunion Dinner'. Why is this meal considered the most important part of the celebration for families? (4 marks)

5. Choose one animal from the Chinese Zodiac. Explain why it is important and what personality traits are associated with the people born in that year. (4 marks)

6. Compare and contrast the significance of 'giving' (such as red envelopes) with the significance of 'remembering' (such as honouring ancestors) during the festival. Why are both important to the community? (5 marks)

7. Zara the zebra notices many patterns and symbols used in decorations. Name one symbolic decoration (other than lanterns) and explain what it represents. (5 marks)

Draw: Draw a scene showing a traditional Chinese New Year decoration. Include at least two symbols of good luck and label them with a brief explanation of why they are used.



Extension challenge: Total: /25