

A festival in China

Read the text and mark the right answers.

The oldest and most important festival in China is Chinese New Year.

It is a time of celebration for millions of Chinese people all over the world. Chinese New Year is a time when families and friends get together. The festival celebrates the end of the winter season and the beginning of spring. It takes place around 15th February.

Chinese New Year is a 15-day holiday. It begins on the first day of a new moon and ends with the Lantern Festival, which is two weeks later on the night of the bright full moon.

Chinese people prepare for the New Year. They clean their houses to sweep away all the bad luck from the old year. They get their hair cut and buy new clothes. People decorate their houses with signs that wish peace and good luck for the coming year. Often, at midnight on Chinese New Year's Eve, people open all the doors and windows to let the old year leave.

The Lantern Festival is on the fifteenth day of the Chinese New Year holiday. People hang lanterns everywhere – in the streets, and at their homes.

An important part of the Lantern Festival is the dragon dance. Young men carry the dragon when they dance through the streets. The dragon can be as long as a football field and is made of silk, paper and bamboo.

1 The festival celebrates ...

- a) the earth coming back to life.
- b) the full moon.
- c) the end of winter.
- d) the end of the bright moon.

2 People clean their houses because they want to ...

- a) get ready for the party.
- b) welcome their guests.
- c) send away bad luck.
- d) decorate their homes.

3 The New Year Lantern Festival is ...

- a) on the first day of a new moon.
- b) on the 15th day of the holiday.
- c) at midnight on Chinese New Year's Eve.
- d) in the first week of the holiday.

4 At the Lantern Festival young men ...

- a) dance with a dragon.
- b) open all the doors.
- c) play football.
- d) buy new clothes.

(Quelle: Ministerium für Bildung Sachsen-Anhalt, Zentrale Klassenarbeit 2016 Sekundarschule Englisch Schuljahrgang 6)