



Goodies

Happy Lunar New Year!



I hope I get a lot of red envelopes!

SOON it will be the Lunar New Year. Do you and your parents follow any Lunar New Year traditions? When does your household start decorating your flat? We buy *fai chun*, New Year cakes and empty red envelopes that will be filled with money and handed out. And let us not forget the spring cleaning on the 28th of the 12th lunar month. In one or two days, you and your parents will start going to the homes of your relatives and friends, and they also go to visit your place. Do you have the New Year candy box ready?

Lunar New Year is about family, not just money!





Think about it!

- 1 Can I **sweep** the floor on Lunar New Year's day?
- 2 Can I wash my hair on Lunar New Year's day?
- 3 Can I buy a pair of slippers during the Lunar New Year?
- 4 Can I do my New Year **clean-up** on Lunar New Year's day?
- 5 Can I buy a pair of shorts during the Lunar New Year?
- 6 Can I give a book as a Lunar New Year gift to others?

D O you know the answers to the six questions above about the Chinese traditions of the Lunar New Year? Match the answers below to the questions!

How traditional are you?



A

Tradition:
No! You will wash away your **fortune** for the year!



B

Tradition:
No! This will bring you bad luck! In Chinese, the word for 'shoe' (鞋) sounds too much like the word for 'sigh' (唉).



C

Tradition:
No! You will sweep away all the good luck for the family!



D

Tradition:
No! You should do it two days before that (on the 28 of the twelfth month in the lunar calendar)!



E

Tradition:
No! This is like a **curse** on your friends and will make them lose all **bets** this year! In

Chinese, the word for 'book' (書) sounds exactly like the word for 'lose' (輸).



F

Tradition:
No! Your fortune will not last long this way! The Chinese term for 'shorts' (短褲) sounds like the words for 'short fortune' (短富).

Answers on P12