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## **Vietnam preparing for Lunar New Year**

**9th February, 2013**

[http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1302/130209-tet\\_lunar\\_new\\_year.html](http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1302/130209-tet_lunar_new_year.html)

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# THE ARTICLE

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1302/130209-tet\\_lunar\\_new\\_year.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1302/130209-tet_lunar_new_year.html)

Vietnamese all over the world are preparing for their most important and popular day of the year – Tet, or the Lunar New Year. Tet is celebrated on the same day as the Chinese New Year, but does not start at the same time. There is a one-hour time difference between Hanoi and Beijing. The holiday celebrates the arrival of spring. There are a lot of traditional customs that people practise during Tet. These include remembering ancestors, sending people New Year's greetings, and giving lucky money to children. It is a time to forget the troubles of the past year and hope for better things in the coming year. It is also a good excuse for people to have big family reunions.

People in villages across Vietnam are working overtime to prepare food and crafts in time for the holiday. In Ho Chi Minh City, 68 flower markets opened on February 3 to start selling different kinds of blooms and decorative trees. Thousands of boats bring flowers from all over the country down the Mekong River to Ho Chi Minh's floating markets. Food is also big business during Tet. Villagers in Dong Thap province are working day and night to make sure they have enough pork rolls to sell – these are in big demand during the festival. Tourism is also booming because of the holiday. Vietnamese travel agents say domestic bookings are 15 per cent higher than last year, and the number of foreign tourists will rise by 46 per cent.

Sources: <http://english.vietnamnet.vn/fms/society/65848/craft-villages-busy-as-demand-surges-before-tet.html>  
<http://english.vietnamnet.vn/fms/society/65913/flower-markets-add-colour-to-festive-pre-tet.html>  
<http://english.vietnamnet.vn/fms/travel/65838/vietnamese-hit-the-road-for-tet-holiday.html>  
<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/T%E1%BA%Bft>

# WARM-UPS

**1. NEW YEAR:** Walk around the class and talk to other students about New Year. Change partners often and share your findings.

**2. CHAT:** In pairs / groups, decide which of these topics or words from the article are most interesting and which are most boring.

*preparing / popular day / celebrated / time difference / ancestors / greetings / reunions / crafts / flower markets / trees / big business / working day and night / tourism*

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

**3. CUSTOMS:** Talk about your favourites. Complete this table and share what you wrote with your partners.

Customs	What we do	Why I like it
Food		
Gifts		
Festival		
Party		
Daily		
Traditional		

**4. SPRING:** Students A **strongly** believe spring is the best season; Students B **strongly** believe it isn't. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

**5. HOLIDAYS:** Rank these and share your rankings with your partner. Put the best at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- New Year
- National / Independence Day
- Valentine's Day
- National Grammar Day
- World Sleep Day
- Earth Day
- Mother's Day
- Teachers' Day

**6. CELEBRATE:** Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word 'celebrate'. Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

# BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1302/130209-tet\\_lunar\\_new\\_year.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1302/130209-tet_lunar_new_year.html)

**1. TRUE / FALSE:** Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

- |   |       |
|---|-------|
| a. The Chinese and Vietnamese new years start at the same time.       | T / F |
| b. Tet celebrates the end of winter and longer and lighter days.      | T / F |
| c. A Tet custom is to remember family members from past generations.  | T / F |
| d. Children have to give money to adults during the New Year.         | T / F |
| e. Over 680 flower markets opened in Ho Chi Minh City.                | T / F |
| f. Flowers are brought to Ho Chi Minh by thousands of boats.          | T / F |
| g. People in one province are making pork rolls 24 hours a day.       | T / F |
| h. There will be over 40% more foreign tourists in Vietnam this year. | T / F |

**2. SYNONYM MATCH:** Match the following synonyms from the article.

- |               |                  |
|---------------|------------------|
| 1. preparing  | a. growing       |
| 2. arrival    | b. reason        |
| 3. greetings  | c. ornamental    |
| 4. excuse     | d. getting ready |
| 5. reunions   | e. flowers       |
| 6. blooms     | f. coming        |
| 7. decorative | g. overseas      |
| 8. during     | h. get-togethers |
| 9. booming    | i. throughout    |
| 10. foreign   | j. good wishes   |

**3. PHRASE MATCH:** (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- |   |                        |
|---|------------------------|
| 1. their most important and popular     | a. decorative trees    |
| 2. The holiday celebrates the           | b. in the coming year  |
| 3. a time to forget the troubles        | c. overtime to prepare |
| 4. hope for better things               | d. family reunions     |
| 5. a good excuse for people to have big | e. demand              |
| 6. working                              | f. arrival of spring   |
| 7. different kinds of blooms and        | g. of the past year    |
| 8. Food is also big                     | h. will rise           |
| 9. these are in big                     | i. day of the year     |
| 10. the number of foreign tourists      | j. business            |

# GAP FILL

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1302/130209-tet\\_lunar\\_new\\_year.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1302/130209-tet_lunar_new_year.html)

Vietnamese all over the world are (1) \_\_\_\_\_ for their most important and (2) \_\_\_\_\_ day of the year – Tet, or the Lunar New Year. Tet is celebrated on the same day as the Chinese New Year, but does not start at the same time. There is a one-hour time (3) \_\_\_\_\_ between Hanoi and Beijing. The holiday celebrates the (4) \_\_\_\_\_ of spring. There are a lot of traditional customs that people practise during Tet. These include remembering (5) \_\_\_\_\_, sending people New Year's greetings, and giving lucky money to children. It is a time to forget the (6) \_\_\_\_\_ of the past year and hope for better things in the (7) \_\_\_\_\_ year. It is also a good excuse for people to have big family (8) \_\_\_\_\_.

*troubles*  
*reunions*  
*difference*  
*preparing*  
*arrival*  
*coming*  
*popular*  
*ancestors*

People in villages across Vietnam are working (9) \_\_\_\_\_ to prepare food and (10) \_\_\_\_\_ in time for the holiday. In Ho Chi Minh City, 68 flower markets opened on February 3 to start selling different (11) \_\_\_\_\_ of blooms and decorative trees. Thousands of boats bring flowers from all over the country down the Mekong River to Ho Chi Minh's (12) \_\_\_\_\_ markets. Food is also big business during Tet. Villagers in Dong Thap province are working day and night to make sure they have (13) \_\_\_\_\_ pork rolls to sell – these are in big demand (14) \_\_\_\_\_ the festival. Tourism is also booming because of the holiday. Vietnamese travel agents say (15) \_\_\_\_\_ bookings are 15 per cent higher than last year, and the number of foreign tourists will (16) \_\_\_\_\_ by 46 per cent.

*domestic*  
*enough*  
*crafts*  
*during*  
*overtime*  
*floating*  
*rise*  
*kinds*

# LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1302/130209-tet\\_lunar\\_new\\_year.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1302/130209-tet_lunar_new_year.html)

- 1) Vietnamese all over the world \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. are prepared
  - b. are preparations
  - c. are pre-pairing
  - d. are preparing
- 2) The holiday celebrates the \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. arrival of spring
  - b. arriving of spring
  - c. arrival for spring
  - d. arrive all spring
- 3) remembering ancestors, sending people New Year's greetings, and giving \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. luckily money to children
  - b. lucky children two money
  - c. money to lucky children
  - d. lucky money to children
- 4) It is a time to forget the troubles \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. of the past year
  - b. of the passed year
  - c. of the past years
  - d. of this past year
- 5) It is also a good excuse for people to have \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. bigger family reunions
  - b. big familiar reunions
  - c. big family reunions
  - d. big family reunion
- 6) People in villages across Vietnam are working \_\_\_\_\_ food
  - a. overtime too prepare
  - b. overtime to prepare
  - c. under time to prepare
  - d. overtime troop repair
- 7) start selling different kinds of blooms \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. and decoration trees
  - b. and decorative tree
  - c. and decorating trees
  - d. and decorative trees
- 8) working day and night to make sure they have \_\_\_\_\_ to sell
  - a. enough pork roll
  - b. enough pork rollers
  - c. enough park rolls
  - d. enough pork rolls
- 9) travel agents say domestic bookings are \_\_\_\_\_ than last year
  - a. 15 per cent higher
  - b. 50 per cent high
  - c. 15 per cent highest
  - d. 50per cent higher
- 10) the number of foreign tourists will \_\_\_\_\_ per cent
  - a. increase by 46
  - b. up by 46
  - c. raise by 46
  - d. rise by 46

# LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1302/130209-tet\\_lunar\\_new\\_year.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1302/130209-tet_lunar_new_year.html)

Vietnamese all over the (1) \_\_\_\_\_ their most important and popular day of the year – Tet, or the Lunar New Year. Tet is celebrated (2) \_\_\_\_\_ Chinese New Year, but does not start at the same time. There is a (3) \_\_\_\_\_ between Hanoi and Beijing. The holiday celebrates the arrival of spring. There are a lot (4) \_\_\_\_\_ that people practise during Tet. These include remembering ancestors, sending people New Year's greetings, (5) \_\_\_\_\_ to children. It is a time to forget the troubles of the past year and hope for better things in the coming year. It is also (6) \_\_\_\_\_ to have big family reunions.

People in villages across Vietnam (7) \_\_\_\_\_ prepare food and crafts in time for the holiday. In Ho Chi Minh City, 68 flower markets opened on February 3 (8) \_\_\_\_\_ kinds of blooms and decorative trees. Thousands of boats bring flowers from all (9) \_\_\_\_\_ the Mekong River to Ho Chi Minh's floating markets. Food is also big business during Tet. Villagers in Dong Thap province are working day and night to (10) \_\_\_\_\_ pork rolls to sell – these are (11) \_\_\_\_\_ the festival. Tourism is also booming because of the holiday. Vietnamese travel agents say domestic bookings are 15 per cent higher than last year, and the number of foreign tourists (12) \_\_\_\_\_.

# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1302/130209-tet\\_lunar\\_new\\_year.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1302/130209-tet_lunar_new_year.html)

1. Where are Vietnamese preparing for Tet?

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2. What's the time difference between Hanoi and Beijing?

---

3. What does Tet celebrate?

---

4. What do children get during Tet?

---

5. What do people hope for during Tet?

---

6. What two things are people working overtime to prepare?

---

7. How many flower markets opened in Ho Chi Minh City?

---

8. How do many flowers get to Ho Chi Minh City?

---

9. What are people working 24 hours to make?

---

10. How many more overseas tourists will be in Vietnam this year?

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# MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1302/130209-tet\\_lunar\\_new\\_year.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1302/130209-tet_lunar_new_year.html)

1. What other holiday is celebrated on the same day as Tet?
  - a) Independence Day
  - b) the Chinese New Year
  - c) National Day
  - d) Mother's Day
2. What's the time difference between Hanoi and Beijing?
  - a) three hours
  - b) two hours
  - c) one-and-a-half hours
  - d) one hour
3. What does Tet celebrate?
  - a) the arrival of spring
  - b) family ancestors
  - c) children
  - d) traditional customs
4. What kind of money do children get?
  - a) big
  - b) pocket
  - c) lucky
  - d) pretend
5. What is Tet a good excuse for?
  - a) ancestors
  - b) family reunions
  - c) flowers
  - d) pork rolls
6. What do people prepare in addition to food?
  - a) graphs
  - b) rafts
  - c) crafts
  - d) grafts
7. When did the flower markets open in Ho Chi Minh City?
  - a) February 6
  - b) February 5
  - c) February 4
  - d) February 3
8. What does the article say is big business?
  - a) food
  - b) money
  - c) the Mekong River
  - d) boats
9. What is in big demand during Tet?
  - a) pork rolls
  - b) fish and chips
  - c) pizza
  - d) tom yam soup
10. How much has domestic tourism increased by?
  - a) 50%
  - b) 15%
  - c) 10%
  - d) 5%

# ROLE PLAY

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1302/130209-tet\\_lunar\\_new\\_year.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1302/130209-tet_lunar_new_year.html)

## **Role A – Positive thinker**

You think the coming year will be great for everyone. Tell the others three reasons why. You do not agree with anything negative that you hear from the others. Make them believe that everything will be good this year and nothing bad will happen.

## **Role B – Negative thinker**

You think the coming year will be very, very bad for everyone. Tell the others three reasons why. You do not agree with anything positive that you hear from the others. Make them believe that everything will be bad this year and nothing good will happen.

## **Role C – Good for your country**

You think the coming year will be great for your country. Tell the others three reasons why. You also think it will be bad for the world. Tell the others three reasons why. You disagree with everything the negative thinker says.

## **Role D – Good for the world**

You think the coming year will be great for the world. Tell the others three reasons why. You also think it will be bad for your country. Tell the others three reasons why. You disagree with everything the positive thinker says.

# AFTER READING / LISTENING

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1302/130209-tet\\_lunar\\_new\\_year.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1302/130209-tet_lunar_new_year.html)

**1. WORD SEARCH:** Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'new' and 'year'.

<b>new</b>	<b>year</b>
------------	-------------

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

**2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS:** Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

**3. GAP FILL:** In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

**4. VOCABULARY:** Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

**5. TEST EACH OTHER:** Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• popular</li><li>• difference</li><li>• arrival</li><li>• money</li><li>• excuse</li><li>• big</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• overtime</li><li>• 68</li><li>• boats</li><li>• business</li><li>• tourism</li><li>• 46</li></ul>
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# NEW YEAR SURVEY

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1302/130209-tet\\_lunar\\_new\\_year.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1302/130209-tet_lunar_new_year.html)

Write five GOOD questions about New Year in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

## **NEW YEAR DISCUSSION**

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

- a) What did you think when you read the headline?
- b) What springs to mind when you hear the words 'New Year'?
- c) How much do you like New Year?
- d) What customs do you practice every New Year?
- e) When and how do you remember your ancestors?
- f) Is money an important part of your New Year celebrations?
- g) What troubles from last year would you like to forget?
- h) What good things are you hoping for this year?
- i) What do you think of family reunions?

*Vietnam preparing for Lunar New Year – 9th February, 2013*  
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## **NEW YEAR DISCUSSION**

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

- a) Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
- b) What food and crafts are important in your country at New Year?
- c) Are flowers important in national holidays in your country?
- d) What's your favourite festival food and why?
- e) Do you have any New Year resolutions?
- f) Is it better to stay at home with family during New Year or travel?
- g) What can foreign tourists do in your country during the New Year?
- h) Is there anything you dislike about New Year?
- i) What questions would you like to ask a Tet flower seller?

# DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

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# DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

# MULTIPLE CHOICE - LANGUAGE

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1302/130209-tet\\_lunar\\_new\\_year.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1302/130209-tet_lunar_new_year.html)

Vietnamese all over the world are (1) \_\_\_\_\_ for their most important and popular day of the year – Tet, or the Lunar New Year. Tet is (2) \_\_\_\_\_ on the same day as the Chinese New Year, but does not start at the same time. There is a one-hour time difference (3) \_\_\_\_\_ Hanoi and Beijing. The holiday celebrates the (4) \_\_\_\_\_ of spring. There are a lot of traditional customs that people practise during Tet. These (5) \_\_\_\_\_ remembering ancestors, sending people New Year's greetings, and giving lucky money to children. It is a time to forget the troubles of the past year and hope for better things in the (6) \_\_\_\_\_ year. It is also a good excuse for people to have big family reunions.

People in villages across Vietnam are working (7) \_\_\_\_\_ to prepare food and crafts (8) \_\_\_\_\_ time for the holiday. In Ho Chi Minh City, 68 flower markets opened on February 3 to start selling different kinds of blooms and decorative trees. Thousands of boats bring flowers from (9) \_\_\_\_\_ over the country down the Mekong River to Ho Chi Minh's floating markets. Food is also (10) \_\_\_\_\_ business during Tet. Villagers in Dong Thap province are working day and night to make sure they have enough pork rolls to sell – these are in big demand (11) \_\_\_\_\_ the festival. Tourism is also booming because of the holiday. Vietnamese travel agents say domestic bookings are 15 per cent higher than last year, and the number of foreign tourists will rise (12) \_\_\_\_\_ 46 per cent.

## Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- |     |                 |                |                 |                |
|-----|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|
| 1.  | (a) preparation | (b) preparing  | (c) prepared    | (d) prepares   |
| 2.  | (a) celebration | (b) celebrated | (c) celebrating | (d) celebrates |
| 3.  | (a) among       | (b) over       | (c) through     | (d) between    |
| 4.  | (a) whole       | (b) arrival    | (c) being       | (d) departure  |
| 5.  | (a) contain     | (b) part of    | (c) among       | (d) include    |
| 6.  | (a) soon        | (b) near       | (c) coming      | (d) arrival    |
| 7.  | (a) overtime    | (b) on time    | (c) under time  | (d) all-time   |
| 8.  | (a) at          | (b) on         | (c) in          | (d) of         |
| 9.  | (a) entire      | (b) whole      | (c) every       | (d) all        |
| 10. | (a) big         | (b) middle     | (c) small       | (d) no         |
| 11. | (a) during      | (b) while      | (c) as          | (d) through    |
| 12. | (a) by          | (b) as         | (c) of          | (d) for        |

# SPELLING

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1302/130209-tet\\_lunar\\_new\\_year.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1302/130209-tet_lunar_new_year.html)

## Paragraph 1

1. appourl day
2. eleatredcb on the same day
3. a one-hour time fenefcderi
4. the vrlarai of spring.
5. forget the uelobtsr of the past year
6. have big family oseninru

## Paragraph 2

7. working rovmeeit
8. tcrideovae trees
9. fitagnlo markets
10. in big ddneam
11. Tourism is also bmgonio
12. igefnro tourists

# PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1302/130209-tet\\_lunar\\_new\\_year.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1302/130209-tet_lunar_new_year.html)

**Number these lines in the correct order.**

- ( ) at the same time. There is a one-hour time difference between Hanoi and Beijing. The holiday celebrates
- ( ) during Tet. Villagers in Dong Thap province are working day and night to make sure they have enough pork rolls
- ( **1** ) Vietnamese all over the world are preparing for their most important and popular day
- ( ) to sell – these are in big demand during the festival. Tourism is also booming because of the holiday. Vietnamese travel
- ( ) People in villages across Vietnam are working overtime to prepare food and crafts in
- ( ) ancestors, sending people New Year's greetings, and giving lucky money to children. It is a time to
- ( ) forget the troubles of the past year and hope for better things in the coming year. It is also a good
- ( ) excuse for people to have big family reunions.
- ( ) of the year – Tet, or the Lunar New Year. Tet is celebrated on the same day as the Chinese New Year, but does not start
- ( ) agents say domestic bookings are 15 per cent higher than last year, and the number of foreign tourists will rise by 46 per cent.
- ( ) selling different kinds of blooms and decorative trees. Thousands of boats bring flowers from all
- ( ) time for the holiday. In Ho Chi Minh City, 68 flower markets opened on February 3 to start
- ( ) over the country down the Mekong River to Ho Chi Minh's floating markets. Food is also big business
- ( ) the arrival of spring. There are a lot of traditional customs that people practise during Tet. These include remembering

# PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1302/130209-tet\\_lunar\\_new\\_year.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1302/130209-tet_lunar_new_year.html)

1. popular their day most important Preparing and for.

---

2. of arrival the celebrates holiday The spring.

---

3. past troubles to is year of forget a the the time It.

---

4. better year things in Hope the for coming.

---

5. excuse for people to have big family reunions A good.

---

6. working are in People villages Vietnam across overtime.

---

7. country from all Boats over bring the flowers.

---

8. pork sell sure enough to Make have rolls they.

---

9. the also holiday booming because Tourism of is.

---

10. per 46 by rise will tourists foreign of number The cent.

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## CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1302/130209-tet\\_lunar\\_new\\_year.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1302/130209-tet_lunar_new_year.html)

Vietnamese all over the world are preparing *for / from* their most important and popular day of the year – Tet, or the Lunar New Year. Tet is *celebrating / celebrated* on the same day as the Chinese New Year, but does not start at the same *time / timing*. There is a one-hour time *different / difference* between Hanoi and Beijing. The holiday celebrates the *arrives / arrival* of spring. There are a lot of *traditional / tradition* customs that people practise during Tet. These *include / included* remembering ancestors, sending people New Year's greetings, and *making / giving* lucky money to children. It is a time to forget the troubles of the *next / past* year and hope for better things in the coming year. It is also a good *excuse / excused* for people to have big family reunions.

People in villages across Vietnam are working *over time / overtime* to prepare food and crafts *in / on* time for the holiday. In Ho Chi Minh City, 68 flower markets opened on February 3 to start *sells / selling* different kinds of blooms and decorative trees. Thousands of boats *bring / brings* flowers from all over the country down the Mekong River to Ho Chi Minh's floating markets. Food is also *small / big* business during Tet. Villagers in Dong Thap province are *worked / working* day and night to make sure they have *enough / plenty* pork rolls to sell – these are in big *demand / command* during the festival. Tourism is also *booming / rooming* because of the holiday. Vietnamese travel agents say domestic bookings are 15 per cent higher than last year, and the number of foreign tourists will *raise / rise* by 46 per cent.

**Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct.**

# INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1302/130209-tet\\_lunar\\_new\\_year.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1302/130209-tet_lunar_new_year.html)

V\_\_tn\_m\_s\_\_ll\_v\_r th\_w\_rld \_r\_ pr\_p\_r ng f\_r th\_\_r  
m\_st \_mp\_r t\_nt \_nd p\_p\_l\_r d\_y \_f th\_y\_\_r - T\_t, \_r  
th\_L\_n\_r N\_w Y\_\_r. T\_t\_s c\_l\_b\_r t\_d \_n th\_s\_m\_d\_y  
\_s th\_Ch\_n\_s\_ N\_w Y\_\_r, b\_t d\_\_s n\_t st\_r t\_t th\_  
s\_m\_t\_m\_. Th\_r\_\_s\_\_n-h\_\_r t\_m\_d ff\_r nc\_  
b\_tw\_\_n H\_n\_\_nd B\_\_j ng. Th\_h\_l\_d\_y c\_l\_b\_r t\_s  
th\_\_rr\_v\_l \_f spr ng. Th\_r\_\_r\_\_l\_t \_f tr\_d\_t\_\_n\_l  
c\_st\_ms th\_t p\_\_pl\_ pr\_ct\_s\_d\_r ng T\_t. Th\_s\_  
\_ncl\_d\_r\_m mb\_r ng \_nc\_st\_rs, s\_nd ng p\_\_pl\_ N\_w  
Y\_\_r's gr\_\_t\_ngs, \_nd g\_v ng l\_cky m\_n\_y t\_ch\_ldr\_n.  
\_t\_s\_\_t\_m\_t \_f rg\_t th\_tr\_\_bl\_s \_f th\_p\_st\_y\_\_r  
\_nd h\_p\_f\_r b\_tt\_r th\_ngs \_n th\_c\_m ng y\_\_r. \_t\_s  
\_ls\_\_g\_d\_xc\_s\_f\_r p\_\_pl\_ t\_h\_v\_b\_g f\_m\_ly  
r\_\_n\_\_ns.

P\_\_pl\_ \_n v\_ll\_g\_s \_cr\_ss V\_\_tn\_m \_r\_w\_rk ng  
\_v\_r t\_m\_t pr\_p\_r \_f\_d \_nd cr\_fts \_n t\_m\_f\_r th\_  
h\_l\_d\_y. \_n H\_Ch\_M\_nh C\_ty, 68 fl\_w\_r m\_rk\_ts  
\_p\_n\_d \_n F\_br\_\_ry 3 t\_st\_r t\_s ll ng d\_ff\_r nt k\_n ds  
\_f bl\_\_ms \_nd d\_c\_r t\_v\_tr\_\_s. Th\_\_s\_n ds \_f b\_\_ts  
br ng fl\_w\_rs fr\_m \_ll\_v\_r th\_c\_\_ntry d\_wn th\_  
M\_k ng R\_v\_r t\_H\_Ch\_M\_nh's fl\_\_t ng m\_rk\_ts. F\_\_d  
\_s \_ls\_b\_g b\_s\_n ss d\_r ng T\_t. V\_ll\_g\_rs \_n D\_ng  
Th\_p pr\_v\_nc\_\_r\_w\_rk ng d\_y \_nd n\_gh\_t t\_m\_k\_  
s\_r\_th\_y h\_v\_\_n\_\_gh p\_rk r\_lls t\_s ll - th\_s\_\_r\_\_n  
b\_g d\_m\_nd d\_r ng th\_f\_st\_v\_l. T\_\_r sm\_s \_ls\_  
b\_\_m ng b\_c\_\_s \_f th\_h\_l\_d\_y. V\_\_tn\_m\_s tr\_v\_l  
\_g\_n ts s\_y d\_m\_st\_c b\_\_k\_n gs \_r 15 p\_r c\_nt h\_gh\_r  
th\_n l\_st\_y\_\_r, \_nd th\_n mb\_r \_f f\_r\_\_gn t\_\_r sts  
w\_ll r\_s\_by 46 p\_r c\_nt.

# PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1302/130209-tet\\_lunar\\_new\\_year.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1302/130209-tet_lunar_new_year.html)

vietnamese all over the world are preparing for their most important and popular day of the year – tet or the lunar new year tet is celebrated on the same day as the chinese new year but does not start at the same time there is a one-hour time difference between hanoi and beijing the holiday celebrates the arrival of spring there are a lot of traditional customs that people practise during tet these include remembering ancestors sending people new year's greetings and giving lucky money to children it is a time to forget the troubles of the past year and hope for better things in the coming year it is also a good excuse for people to have big family reunions people in villages across vietnam are working overtime to prepare food and crafts in time for the holiday in ho chi minh city 68 flower markets opened on february 3 to start selling different kinds of blooms and decorative trees thousands of boats bring flowers from all over the country down the mekong river to ho chi minh's floating markets food is also big business during tet villagers in dong thap province are working day and night to make sure they have enough pork rolls to sell – these are in big demand during the festival tourism is also booming because of the holiday vietnamese travel agents say domestic bookings are 15 per cent higher than last year and the number of foreign tourists will rise by 46 per cent

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1302/130209-tet\\_lunar\\_new\\_year.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1302/130209-tet_lunar_new_year.html)

Vietnamese all over the world are preparing for their most important and popular day of the year – Tet, or the Lunar New Year. Tet is celebrated on the same day as the Chinese New Year, but does not start at the same time. There is a one-hour time difference between Hanoi and Beijing. The holiday celebrates the arrival of spring. There are a lot of traditional customs that people practise during Tet. These include remembering ancestors, sending people New Year's greetings, and giving lucky money to children. It is a time to forget the troubles of the past year and hope for better things in the coming year. It is also a good excuse for people to have big family reunions. People in villages across Vietnam are working overtime to prepare food and crafts in time for the holiday. In Ho Chi Minh City, 68 flower markets opened on February 3 to start selling different kinds of blooms and decorative trees. Thousands of boats bring flowers from all over the country down the Mekong River to Ho Chi Minh's floating markets. Food is also big business during Tet. Villagers in Dong Thap province are working day and night to make sure they have enough pork rolls to sell – these are in big demand during the festival. Tourism is also booming because of the holiday. Vietnamese travel agents say domestic bookings are 15 percent higher than last year, and the number of foreign tourists will rise by 46 percent.





# HOMework

**1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION:** Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

**2. INTERNET:** Search the Internet and find out more about Tet and the Chinese New Year. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

**3. NEW YEAR:** Make a poster about the way different people around the world celebrate the New Year. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

**4. TET:** Write a magazine article about someone returning to Vietnam for the first time in 50 years for Tet. Include an imaginary interview with him/her.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

**5. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?** Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

**6. LETTER:** Write a letter to a Tet flower-market seller. Ask him/her three questions about his/her business during Tet. Give him/her three ideas on what to do this year. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

# ANSWERS

## TRUE / FALSE (p.4)

a F    b F    c T    d F    e F    f T    g T    h T

## SYNONYM MATCH (p.4)

- |               |                  |
|---------------|------------------|
| 1. preparing  | a. getting ready |
| 2. arrival    | b. coming        |
| 3. greetings  | c. good wishes   |
| 4. excuse     | d. reason        |
| 5. reunions   | e. get-togethers |
| 6. blooms     | f. flowers       |
| 7. decorative | g. ornamental    |
| 8. during     | h. throughout    |
| 9. booming    | i. growing       |
| 10. foreign   | j. overseas      |

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.8)

1. All over the world
2. One hour
3. The arrival of spring
4. (Lucky) money
5. Better things to come
6. Food and crafts
7. 68
8. By boat
9. Pork rolls
10. 46% more

## MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.9)

1. b    2. d    3. a    4. c    5. b    6. c    7. d    8. a    9. a    10. b

## ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.  
(It's good for your English ;-)