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Level 5 – 27th January 2025

Lunar New Year sees record migration in China

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2501/250127-year-of-the-snake-5.html>

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Please try Levels 4 and 6. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2501/250127-year-of-the-snake-5.html>

The Lunar New Year is huge in China. Hundreds of millions of people return to their hometowns for it. This year is no exception. Airports and railway stations are packed with travellers making their annual trek. This year is the Year of the Snake in the 12-year Chinese zodiac cycle. The festivities begin on the 29th of January. There are seven national holidays. Overseas travel is particularly popular this year. A travel agency said "bookings for outbound flights and holiday packages on its platform had doubled from last year". The most popular destinations are in Asia.

China's New Year sees the world's biggest annual movement of people. With the advent of high-speed transport, the number of people on the move has skyrocketed. Xinhua said journeys are expected to "hit record highs" this year. The first New Year holiday began in China some 3,500 years ago. Back then, far fewer people would have left their hometowns. However, with the rapid growth of China's economy, billions of people have relocated to greener pastures. The subsequent annual exodus has been a boon for the economy. Many sectors see an uplift in profits.

Sources: <https://www.reuters.com/world/china/china-readies-lunar-new-year-amid-worries-about-economy-2025-01-24/>
<https://www.yahoo.com/news/lifestyle/chinas-lunar-travel-rush-kicks-103144154.html>
<https://www.sydney.edu.au/news-opinion/news/2025/01/23/lunar-new-year-chinese-2025-year-of-the-snake.html>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2501/250127-year-of-the-snake-5.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. The Lunar New Year is | a. with travellers |
| 2. Hundreds | b. from last year |
| 3. This year is no | c. trek |
| 4. packed | d. of millions of people |
| 5. making their annual | e. flights |
| 6. the 12-year Chinese zodiac | f. exception |
| 7. bookings for outbound | g. cycle |
| 8. doubled | h. huge in China |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. the world's biggest annual | a. uplift in profits |
| 2. With the advent | b. has skyrocketed |
| 3. the number of people on the move | c. exodus |
| 4. journeys are expected to hit | d. for the economy |
| 5. relocated to | e. movement of people |
| 6. The subsequent annual | f. greener pastures |
| 7. a boon | g. record highs |
| 8. see an | h. of high-speed transport |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2501/250127-year-of-the-snake-5.html>

The Lunar New Year (1) _____ China. Hundreds of millions of people return to their hometowns for it. This year (2) _____. Airports and railway stations are packed with travellers making (3) _____. This year is the Year of the Snake in the 12-year Chinese zodiac cycle. The (4) _____ the 29th of January. There are seven national holidays. Overseas travel (5) _____ this year. A travel agency said "bookings for outbound flights and holiday packages on its platform had doubled from last year". The (6) _____ are in Asia.

China's New Year sees the world's (7) _____ of people. With the advent of high-speed transport, the number of people on the (8) _____. Xinhua said journeys are expected to (9) _____" this year. The first New Year holiday began in China some 3,500 years ago. Back then, far fewer people would have left their hometowns. However, with the (10) _____ China's economy, billions of people have relocated to greener pastures. The (11) _____ has been a boon for the economy. Many sectors see an (12) _____.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2501/250127-year-of-the-snake-5.html>

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THE YEAR OF THE SNAKE SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2501/250127-year-of-the-snake-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about the Year of the Snake 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.

WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

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WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

