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Merry Holiday



Укладач: Босс Оксана Олександрівна

Вчитель англійської мови I категорії

Новоград-Волинської загальноосвітньої
школи I-III ступенів № 2

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РЕЦЕНЗІЯ

на авторський посібник:
«Merry Holiday»
вчителя Новоград-Волинської
загальноосвітньої школи
I-III ступенів №2
Босс Оксани Олександрівни,
спеціаліста I категорії

Посібник укладено з дотриманням всіх необхідних вимог. Матеріал викладається доступно, логічно, послідовно і повністю розкриває задану тему і сприймається з зацікавленістю.

У вступі чітко висвітлено актуальність даної теми. В основній частині подано тематичні тексти для інформаційного читання про традиції святкування Нового року в англomовних країнах, Україні, а також в багатьох інших країнах світу. Вчителем враховано психологічні особливості учнів під час викладання предмету. Це зумовлює підбір цікавого для їх сприйняття матеріалу, який містить в собі як навчальний аспект, так і пізнавальний, а також розширить їхній кругозір, розвиватиме пізнавальні інтереси учнів.

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I-III ступенів №2

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Анотація

В укладеній мною збірці зібрано та запропоновано матеріал про традиції святкування нового року в різних країнах світу, у тому числі й в англійськомовних. Поданий матеріал може бути використаний на уроках англійської мови при вивченні тем, пов'язаних із святами, звичаями та традиціями не лише для вдосконалення навичок читання, а й поповнення лексичного запасу учнів при вивченні даної теми. Тексти об'єднані у відповідні розділи й містять країнознавчий матеріал.

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Вступ

Тема досвіду: «Merry Holidays».

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Актуальність досвіду. Об'єктивною передумовою успішного навчання є пізнавальна діяльність учнів. Оволодіти знаннями, ефективно засвоїти їх можливо лише активуючи власну пізнавальну діяльність, свої розумові здібності. Яким би майстерним не був сам виклад навчального матеріалу вчителем, він не гарантує успішного засвоєння учнями нових знань. Засвоєння відбувається лише за умови, якщо учень власними зусиллями, власною напругою, власною роботою свого розуму, волі, заставить себе слухати, зрозуміти та запам'ятати. Тому навчально-пізнавальна діяльність учнів – є засобом і водночас результатом навчання. Звідси безумовна необхідність активізації навчально-пізнавальної діяльності учня на уроках іноземної мови. Якщо її не буде – не відбудеться й повноцінного процесу навчання.

Ідея досвіду полягає в тому, щоб підвищити рівень усвідомленого сприйняття навчального матеріалу учнями, що дасть змогу успішно оволодіти тематичним матеріалом без особливих труднощів.

Технологія досвіду містить в собі велику кількість текстів, які активізують розумову діяльність, розвивають пам'ять, логічне мислення, кругозір, загальний розвиток, формують пізнавальний інтерес до вивчення англійської мови. З їхньою допомогою набагато цікавіше працювати над темою, а також підготувати учнів до сприйняття нового матеріалу.

Introduction

New Year's Eve is one of the largest global celebrations around the world because it marks the last day of the year in the Gregorian calendar, December 31. Many people celebrate the end of the year with mixed emotions – joy and reflection – while anticipating for the New Year.

Different countries and cultures celebrate the new year in different ways. Many countries still follow the lunar calendar, meaning that their new year often starts in late January or in February. New Year celebrations for some countries (like China, Vietnam, and Korea) last not one day, but up to two weeks!

In the US, many people attend or throw New Year parties. They drink champagne, dance, and cheer at the stroke of midnight. Men kiss women who happen to stand under mistletoe. Fireworks, which in olden times scared away evil spirits, are very popular throughout the US, as they are throughout much of the world. US residents often make one or more New Year's resolutions, such as promising to quit smoking, lose weight, or stop drinking. Most of these resolutions last little longer than a month.

In the southern US, many people eat black-eyed peas for good luck in the new year. In Mexico and Venezuela, many people wear red or yellow underwear for good luck. In Brazil, residents wear white clothes for good luck, and in China, they wear red clothes and give children red envelopes with money in them. In Iran, people wear brand new clothes on the first day of the new year.

In Scotland, homeowners open the front door at midnight to let in the new year, and open the back door to let out the old year. In Switzerland, people kiss each other three times at midnight. In Spain, people eat 12 grapes—one per chime—as the clock chimes midnight. In Japan, they ring a bell 108 times to get rid of the 108 bad desires that people have. In Korea they ring a bell 33 times in honor of 33 ancient soldiers.

In Colombia, families make a rag doll called "Mr. Old Year." They dress it in old clothes and stuff it with things that the family doesn't want anymore. Then at midnight, they set the doll on fire, to rid themselves of all the bad things of the previous year.

Celebrations, Customs and Traditions of New Year

Learn about the evolvement of fascinating new year customs that we celebrate every year, on new year`s eve. The traditions and history of these celebration customs dates back to historic times. I have given below details about the most popular customs of new year. Happy celebrations for new year 2015 !

The whole range of celebration of the New Year's Day basically stems from the various ways ancient societies used to greet the new harvest seasons. In fact, it is the number of harvests, whether of fruit or grain, that determined how many New Years were observed. The origins of the customs that we think of as peculiarly associated with the celebration of the New Year, took roots in the ways the ancient peoples regarded the New Year. Likewise the other ancient societies in other parts of the world, the New Year festivities had been observed in our wild forests and plains by the native Indians. To the Creek Indians the ripening of the corn in July or August signified the termination of one year and the beginning of another. It was their customs to drape themselves with new clothes, replace the old interiors and households.

The Iroquois, another native Indian tribe who inaugurated the new year in January, February or March with ceremonies emphasizing the expulsion of evil spirits. The customs of sporting disguise and masks, making noises and confessions were all practiced by them.

Symbolically, New Year signifies a renewal of life. Hence, the spirit of celebration for the regeneration, while discarding the old and worn out. The customs and practices, though modified through the centuries, have still their distinctive strains in the ways we welcome each onrushing year. It was the Dutch, in their New Amsterdam settlement at mid-17th century, who originated the modern American New Year celebration. The New Year's Day was the most important holiday for the Dutch who were noted in all the colonies for their love of beer and wine.

Given here are some instances of New Year's Day revelry with their historical trails:

The Mid-night cacophony:

The idea of making deafening noise is to drive away the evil spirits who flocked to the living at this climactic season with a great wailing of horns and shouts and beating of drums. This is why at the stroke of midnight we hear the deafening cacophony of sirens, car horns, boat whistles, party horns, church bells, drums, pots and pans - anything that serves the purpose of producing a devil chasing din.

The spectacular Parades:

The popular Tournament of Roses Parade held on this day in Pasadena, CA, was started in 1886 by the Valley Hunt Club, whose members decorated their carriages with flowers, creating what was meant to be "an artistic celebration of the ripening



of the oranges in California". In the afternoon athletic events were held. The city of Pasadena later relieved the club of sponsorship of the parade, and the city was in turn succeeded by the Tournament of Roses Association, which till date directs the activities. Gradually the flower-decked carriages gave way to floats that by parade rules can be covered only with fresh flowers. Yet another annual attraction, the Rose

Bowl football game, became part of the festivities in 1902.

The traditional and spectacular Mummers' Parade of Philadelphia owes its origin to the Christmas celebrations of the Swedes and the Englishmen who settled along the Delaware River.

The masked revelers among the Swedes saw to it that the festivities of the Christmas season lasted until the New Year. The English brought with them their ancient practice of mumming. This, in America, took the form of groups of men presenting costumed plays, going from house to house reciting their parts in expectation of money or some of the Christmas fare. It was since then the parade has been divided into three main sections: the fancy-dress division, the clown division, and the string bands.

The booze bash:

Yet another familiar practice, though not quite encouraging. The unbridled drinking bash on the New Year's Eve, is also a secular leftover of a rite that was once religious in character. The original spirit has been a personal re-enacting of the chaotic world that existed before the ordered cosmos was created by God.



Resolution:

In order to have a 'clean slate' on which to start the New Year, people in times past have made certain that they had all their borrowings cleared. Those were the days before such complexities as credit



buying. The New Year resolutions, which we are so fond of, represent other efforts to make the year brand new. In fact, we often say that in the New Year we are "turning over a new leaf."

Luck in the New Year:

It is traditionally thought that the first day of the year is symptomatic of the approaching 364 days. Accordingly, people try to spend the first day of the new year in the best possible way in the company of family and friends. It was once believed to be a good omen if a tall dark-haired man visits your house on New Year's Day. Traditional New Year foods are also thought to bring good luck. In many cultures, it is a predominant belief that anything in the shape of a ring brings luck, because it symbolizes "coming full circle," completing a year's cycle. It is primarily for this reason that the Dutch believe that eating donuts on New Year's Day brings good fortune. Black-eyed peas and other legumes have been considered good luck in many cultures. The hog, and thus its meat, is considered lucky because it symbolizes prosperity. Consuming cabbage is also considered a potential harbinger of good luck. In some regions, rice is a lucky food that is eaten on New Year's Day.

Early American observances:

When they eventually lost control of New Amsterdam to the English for the last time in 1674, they had no trouble persuading the English to abandon their March 25 New Year and observe it on January 1.

The principal customs of the day were visiting friends and exchanging gifts, to which the English added the turkey shoot. But in March 1773, the New York State legislature outlawed the firing of guns and explosions.

The gatherings:

The practice of visiting friends continued until the first years of this century. It was a gala



time when everyone held open house and laid out enormous feasts for anyone who should drop in, whether friend or stranger. To neglect this annual visit was a terrible sight, and the roads were thronged with carriages bearing the holiday-makers.

Unfortunately in time the custom was abused; the distinction between privacy and sociability was ignored and troops of unwanted guests descended on the open houses, using them as eating and drinking stations. Politicians and those with an eye on the social ladder were said to have spread their blight over the purposes of the day. People

began to send invitations to special guests for their own protection, and the old custom fell irretrievably into decline.

Thus the whole range of ideas of purgation, purifications, the confessing of sins, driving off demons, expulsion of evil out of the village and so on transpired. The idea remained the same the abolition of the past. So is the case of masked processions - the masks representing the souls of the dead. The ceremonial reception of the dead, who are invited to feast and led back at the end of the feast to the borders of the territory, to the sea, or the river, or wherever else, is also in line with this concept. Add to these the interlude of Carnival, Saturnalia, reversal of normal order. Though all these constitute the much familiar New Year revelry, these are just part of the rites practiced by primitive man during the celebration of their own New Years.

New Year is considered as a time of optimism by one and all, and Australia is no different. The whole of Australia engage itself in enthusiastic celebrations of New Year, with customs and traditions holding the core of it. They follow the rule of Georgian calendar, and thus consider January 1 as the date and celebration of New Year. New Year celebrations are traditionally made over an extended period of six days, with January 6 being the last day of celebration.

New Year Celebration in Australia

No matter, whether one chooses to stay at home or come out, the mood of zest and celebrations of New Year remain on a constant high among people of Australia. Usually, with New Year being a public holiday, people along with their friends and families come out of their houses to be a part of the group celebrations as made at beautiful beaches, discotheques, pubs, clubs, hotels, and social parties organized for the purpose.



Celebrations with high degree of fervor all over the place continue for the first six days of New Year. The highly fervent New Year celebrations in Australia are world popular, which is the reason why Australia emerges to be the favorite tourist spot among visitors in and around the time of New Year.

Traditionally, people prefer to make a visit to the Church to offer their prayers to the supreme Lord. People along with their families make an early morning visit to the local or main Church to pray Lord in order to get confer with His blessings for the New Year. For the fact, the traditional customs of formally announcing the

arrival of New Year is officially considered to take place with the twelve rings of the bell in the Church on the midnight of the New Year.

As soon as people hear the twelve rings, they mutually show their bliss by cheering and making noises through drums, trumpets, horns, and other musical instruments. It is followed by sharing of hugs, kisses, and wishes with all those who are present. Also, beautifully crafted show of fireworks, which take place at exactly the 00:00 hours of January 1, is something which people enthusiastically and eagerly wait for.

Major New Year Celebration Hubs in Australia

Though, the entire Australia celebrates New Year with customs and traditions with unparalleled degrees of happiness and joy, the New Year celebrations and parties as made out in Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Perth, and Darwin are highly popular, more prominently for their grand celebrations and peculiar show of fireworks.

New Year in Sydney, Australia: Sydney hosts one of the most enthralling of New Year celebrations of the whole world. With the arrival of New Year, the famous Sydney Harbor Bridge is lit up with more than 80000 fireworks, creating an extraordinary and unforgettable experience for the spectators. The degree of firework is intense and extravagant to an extent that it can be viewed anywhere within the radius of 16 km. around Sydney.

The fireworks are perfectly string along with the soothing music, presented by a group of vocalists of Sydney Council. Another major attraction is the Sydney New Year beach party, along with other New Year parties thrown on the eve of New Year, in which people pleasantly engage in with activities such as bonfires and camping. A ride through a cruise is necessary to complete the New Year celebration experience in Sydney.

New Year in Melbourne, Australia : The Melbourne city of Australia is another major hub for celebrating New Year with an experience that remains etched in mind till the end of life. Melbourne is highly popular for the parties it throws on New Year's Eve. Discotheques, pubs, hotels, and restaurants saw masses of people coming and becoming part of high energy parties, where arrangements are made for special buffets and exceptional dinners.

The famous rock bands performing across the Melbourne city add a complete new oomph to the New Year vigor. Another major attraction which one can't afford to miss is the depiction of the Chinese-Australian rituals, as a part of which

traditional practices of 'sacrificing to ancestors', are performed with dedication and enthusiasm in the China place in Melbourne.

New Year Celebration in the USA

USA has the Gregorian calendar as a base to celebrate New Year on the 1st of January. The custom was brought into practice in year 1752. In USA, New Year's Eve is considered as a time when a lot of social meetings with friends, family members and neighbors take place. These gatherings are full of fun and laughter. Many people host parties and as well. Full of alcohol and lavish food, these parties are a true projection of the celebration spirit and culture of Americans. Not only houses and hotels, but also many major public places form a stage for such gathering. At any of these places, thousands of people can be watched singing and dancing. Cheering, hooting, kissing and wishing all forms an integral part of this gala time.

USA has something grand when it comes to New Year celebrations. On 31st December, every inch of land in the country can be seen in a festive mood, but the celebration takes place at world famous Times Square and draws most eyeballs across the world. We are talking about the ball drop in Times Square in Manhattan, New York City. The ball is made of crystal and electric lights and is placed on top of a pole, which is 77 feet, or 23 meters, high. At one minute before midnight on December 31, the ball is slowly lowered down the pole. It comes to rest at the bottom of the pole exactly at midnight. The event is shown on television across the United States and around the world. The event has been held every year since 1907, except during World War II.

In America, New Year celebration is not limited to Times Square only. Many interesting replicas of the Times Square event are held across the country. Many interesting objects are dropped and raised, including a variety of live and modeled domestic and wild animals, fruit, vegetables, automobiles, industrial machinery, a giant replica of a peach (Atlanta, Georgia), an acorn made of brass and weighing 900 pounds (Raleigh, North Carolina) and ping pong balls (Strasburg, Pennsylvania). Though it might seem crazy to you, but this is indeed USA. The craziness involved in celebrating New Year's Eve will take you with wonder and you too will feel energetic at being a part of such celebrations. The New Year gala doesn't end here, but continue till the next day.

USA has a federal holiday on 1st January. Here, the day begins by wishing the near and dear ones 'Happy New Year'. People visit famous picnic spots across the country, with their loved ones. The famous Tournament of Roses Parade is also another awaited moment where people spend some quality time. The most

surprising element of this parade is its theme, which keeps varying each year. Today, the parade is followed by thousands of participants - marching bands, dancing and singing various songs. The queen of the tournament sits on a special flower and the scene forms the most beautiful scenes of the parade. There is also a New Year custom to play the most famous games of football, such as the Orange Bowl and the Fiesta Bowl.

What do people do?

The start of New Year's Day, at midnight, is heralded by fireworks, parties and special events, which are often televised. Very few people have to work on the day itself. For many it is a day of recovery from the New Year's Eve celebrations the previous night. In some towns and cities, parades are held and special football games are played. The birth of the first baby in the New Year is often celebrated with gifts to his or her parents and appearances in local newspapers and on local news shows. Many people make New Year's resolutions. These are usually promises to themselves that they will improve something in their own lives. Common New Year's resolutions are to stop smoking or drinking alcohol, to lose weight, exercise more or to live a healthier lifestyle.

Public life

Government offices, organizations, schools and many businesses are closed in the USA on New Year's Day. Public transit systems do not run on their regular schedules. Where large public celebrations have been held, traffic may be disrupted by the clean-up operation. In general, public life is completely closed down.

Background

The Gregorian calendar is widely used in many countries such as the United States. This was introduced in 1582 by Pope Gregory XIII. The Julian calendar that had been in use until then was slightly inaccurate, causing the vernal equinox to move backwards in the calendar year. The Gregorian calendar was not accepted everywhere and some churches, particularly with origins in Eastern Europe, still use other calendars. According to the Gregorian calendar, the first day of the year is January 1.

Symbols

A common symbol of New Year's Day is Baby New Year. This is often a white male baby dressed in a diaper, a hat and a sash. The year he represents is printed on his sash. He rarely a newborn baby, as many pictures show him sitting up or even standing alone. According to mythology, Baby New Year grows up and ages in a single year. At the end of the year he is an old man and hands his role over to the

next Baby New Year. Other symbols of New Year's Day are spectacular fireworks exploding over landmarks and clocks striking midnight as the year begins.

Do you know that the celebrations of the New Year's Eve happen to be a gala affair for Americans? They know how to bid a lovely farewell to year passing by. They also know to welcome the New Year with light, sound and action. So if you are in US this year, here are some places you can visit to witness a great New Year eve:

New York City, NY: Whenever you think of a perfect New Year eve, this can be nothing but the first choice. Every year almost thousands of people from all across the globe visit the city to be a part of the grand event of the Giant crystal ball drop, held at the time square. You can also take your family to see the famous Holiday Lights at Bronx Zoo. If you are a party animal then you can hit any hot club of downtown or midtown and welcome the New Year with a “larger than life” spirit.

Boston, MA: Though Boston is more famous for topnotch universities spread all across, but it being a younger city than the others, is quite vibrant and full of spirit to be a perfect destination during the New Year eve. Moreover the city is quite culturally rich so you get some traditional flavor here as well. The city organizes the arts festival during this time known as the First Night, mainly for the youth. You can be a proud spectator of some good parades, ice sculptures, and can also visit the historic sites along with churches, museums and others. If you wish you can be a part of the annual event at the Fairmont Hotel of the city arranged specially for young professionals and enjoy good food and drink on the last day of the year.

Philadelphia, PA: if you are interested in a good nightlife, this city should be your topping your chart. This culturally diverse part of the USA will give you every flavor of entertainment, ranging from celebrations held in the historic buildings to well crowded discotheques. Choose your pick and simply spend the night with your beloved. You can find some great cruise parties being held here on the Mississippi river, and can enjoy the beautiful firework that lights the night up as the clock strikes 12.

Los Angeles, CA: one thing that makes this city a choice of many on the New Year eve is the cozy weather during the month of December. The choice is yours-whether you want to be a part of the casino or shake legs with your partner at the luxurious ball rooms. You may opt for rocking beachside ceremonies or Bowl or be a part of the Bowl gathering at Pasadena. If you are movie buff, you can also grab some passes of those celebrity parties that take place every year on the Hollywood hills, or else you can quench the thirst of dancing at various street parties arranged each year, to welcome the New Year.

San Francisco, CA: you can enjoy the best if you are in this city for this New Year. There is an influential and huge gay community here who arrange for some great parties where as the clubs are open for all with good food, drink, and entertainment. If you can shake your legs to the tunes of salsa, you can be the show stopper. The street parties usually combine revelry and fireworks together but surely you will enjoy that a lot.

Miami, FL: Miami is very famous for arranging some best beach parties during the New Year. You can hit any club as well till early morning but you will be disappointed if you are expecting some metal rock music. The city is very traditional when it comes to salsa, or Latino. You can some exotic parties arranged specially for New Year at the Bay Front Park.

Atlanta, GA: Georgia gets a tough competition in almost everything with its southern neighbor Miami, but you can't deny that it can be a hotspot for rocking New Year parties as well. The nightlife is awesome, and though the city doesn't have the abundance of outdoor cafes and patios like other cities, it comes alive during New Year. The city has a huge density of universities which makes it a city full of youth who know how to welcome the New Year with a bang.

Las Vegas, NV: Not unknown to anyone this city is more famous for casinos than a rocking New Year party. In fact Vegas is famous for arranging some high spirited, expensive parties at the "strip area" because the crowd is mostly found there. It being a mild temperature city, you will find more outdoor celebrations here as the year in the calendar changes. If you want to stand at the boulevard to witness the massive and live fireworks show sharp at 12'o clock, shot from high rooftops book, your tickets today!

Chicago, IL: if you are musically sound, Chicago should be the place to be in the New Year eve. You can be a part of some great house bands and rock concerts held every year. If you are lucky enough you can witness some wonderful fusions of rock, jazz or country. Chicago also happens to be a host of some hottest nightclubs that can entertain any human soul during the New Year.

New Orleans, Louisiana: This city doesn't need a reason to party hard. In fact, the midnight bash of the New Year eve is just a new beginning to a yearlong celebration for the city. You can join the people gathering in the Jackson Square, where they dance, drink and enjoy every minute before they start counting for the New Year to arrive. You can also witness some mind blowing firework display that looks spectacular. If you still have some energy left, you can hit the Frenchmen Street where the party ends only when the first sun of the New Year rises.

A New Year always brings something new to everyone's life. We can only hope for the best and pray to god that every New Year that arrives shows us

something much better than the going year couldn't. Wish you a very Happy New year!

New Year Celebrations in Canada

The first day of the Georgian calendar, i.e. January 1 is celebrated as New Year in the North American country of Canada. New Year Day is observed as a legitimate holiday in the whole of Canada. In case, if New Year Day falls on any of the day of a weekend, then the very next weekday is allotted as a substitute public holiday.

New Year is considered to be an important time by the Canadian people, and therefore, grand preparations go into organizing much grander New Year celebration events. Prior to the day of the New Year, i.e. on the occasion of New Year Eve's, small as well as big parties are organized all around the Canada, which go on till the early morning of the New Year Day. Apart from social parties organized in club, bars, and discotheques, people also organize private parties at home in which all near and dear ones are invited. These parties are bursting with great music, great dishes, and vibrant drinking options on the feast. Everyone eat, drink, sing, and dance all through the night till the dawn to mark a grand welcome to the coming time of the New Year.

Party culture is more prominent and visible in the urban part of Canada. People living in rural areas celebrate more of a traditional New Year. People living in the rural part of Canada, and particularly in the Canadian province of Quebec, usually go out with their friends near a pond or a river for ice fishing on New Year's Eve. They spend the entire night together while ice fishing and celebrating New Year. The long night parties leave little for everyone to hold anything on New Year Day, and therefore, it is mostly spent in resting and recovering. However, some people prefer to plan a picnic to nearby panorama, popular markets, or a tourist place. However, tradition of bursting fireworks is something which is enthusiastically and evenly followed in both the urban and the rural part of Canada. Some of the most extraordinary crafted show of fireworks occurs in the major cities of Canada including Montreal and the capital city of Ottawa, where technology driven fireworks are blown off as soon as the midnight brings New Year on its rucksack. These firework shows are enthusiastically awaited by everyone. People from distant places come and participate to be a part of such extravagant celebration affairs. They are well complemented by the great music, which is served during the entire night by prominent deejays, musicians, singers, and different bands of the country and the world. These celebrations draw thousands and millions of people from around the globe. With the moment of the arrival of New Year, everyone wish each other, and spiritedly pray for a peaceful

and pleasant time ahead. Other than these, there has been an increased trend of organizing sports events, magic shows, and special cultural programs on the occasion. Among sports centered events, the adventurous winter sports of snowboarding and skiing draw maximum visitors.

There are few customs and traditions which are rigorously followed with a belief that they bring good luck, peace, and prosperity to everyone. One such belief calls for going for a polar bear swim on New Year. There is also a tradition of clapping and roaring at the time of midnight when New Year arrives in Canada. It is done with a belief that it sways away all the past evils and negative energies. In Canada, kissing is considered to be a traditional way of showing love and conferring wishes to someone, and also a way of strengthening pleasant ties with people. Therefore, people in Canada prefer to kiss and wish Happy New Year in the midnight. Also, exchanging New Year gifts is also a way of expressing New Year wishes in Canada.

First footing tradition is also prominently followed in Canada, as a part of which a male and preferably a young person is expected to enter the household on the midnight of New Year. Other than that, consuming a bowl of black-eyed pea soup, collecting coals from hearth in the midnight, visiting friends' place in early hours of New Year, etc. are other prominent New Year customs, which are still followed by almost everyone in Canada.

New Year Celebrations in Britain

British celebrations of New Year are a defined and precise reflection of the customs, cultures, and traditions as followed and hold by British people. Even in the time of the modern world, when everything which one can think of has grown itself into an unimaginable world, festivals and the way they are celebrated are no exception. However, with the New Year celebrations in British, one can clearly draw a prominent exception in the list.

It is not that British totally evade itself from accepting the changing times, and the changing way of celebrations. But, they do change, but at the same time ensuring that they remain intact with their own customs and traditions even in the changing circumstances. New Year celebrations are a clear reflection of that. British celebrate New Year on January 1, i.e. the first date of the first month of the Georgian calendar. British celebrations reflect high vigor, enthusiasm, pleasure, and delight; and at the same times give a glance of their rich customs and traditions. They reflect the British belief that one should initiate anything with positive hopes and beliefs of pleasurable coming time.

Also, one should move ahead and over the past problems and difficulties of life, and should only remember them to learn few good lessons of life. With this as the crux of all, British celebrate their New Year. Off late, one have visible experience an addition of contemporary traditions to New Year celebrations in British, such as taking oath, making resolution, etc. British New Year celebrations are eminent all around the world, and common and royal people from all around the world put in efforts to be a part of it.

New Year celebrations in British saw a lot of planning and preparation going in before the key day arrives. Traditionally, British New Year celebrations begins on New Year's Eve, i.e. 31st December of the old year, and go on till the dawn of the New Year's Day, i.e. January 1st of the New Year. Setting off fireworks is an important celebration tradition, which gained eminence in last few years. As soon as church bell rings twelve at the midnight, these fireworks are set off. Also, people all around the place, whether in houses, streets or parties, wish and hug one another while spreading and celebrating immense cheer and joy associated with New Year. Also, tradition of sending gifts, presents, New Year cards, flowers, cakes, and candles to near and dear ones have also gain immense popularity.

New Year in England

In England, there is a tradition of opening the back door of the house as soon as the church bell rings twelve. It is considered to be a reflection of one's farewell to the old year. Then a dark haired moon, preferably young and good looking, is asked to enter through the front door with salt, coal, and bread in his possession. Doing so is traditionally believed to bring good luck, and also ensure abundance of food (bread), money (salt), and warm (coal) in the coming year. One should prefer to bring in a stranger. Also a blonde, a woman, or a red-haired are unwelcomed, as they are considered to be bring bad luck to the house. Apart from England, it is also rigorously followed in Scotland.

New Year in Scotland and Wales

In Scotland, New Year is refereed as 'Hogmanay', which has been derived from the name of an oak cake which is distributed among small children on New Year's Eve. In Wales, New Year's Eve is referred as 'Nos Galan', while New Year's Day is referred as 'Dydd Calan'.

On New Year's Day, small children wake up early in the morning, and then make a visit to all the neighbors in the neighborhood, while singing New Year

special carols. People out of generosity and love, give them coins, cookies, mince pies, apples, and other sweets. This goes on till the noon.

Traditional New Year Celebrations in New Zealand

The beautiful island country of New Zealand, which comprises of many small and big size islands, celebrates New Year on January 1 in accordance to the Georgian calendar. New Year is considered to be an absolute festival on its own by the natives of New Zealand. It is the time of the year, when some of the biggest parties of the country are organized.

The people of New Zealand very much believe in the essence and significance of New Year, and consider it as amongst the most ancient festivities to be celebrated all across the world. As an impact of the same, one can clearly sense the intensive degree of dynamism and enthusiasm involved in New Year celebrations in New Zealand. The celebrations are so grand and unique, that people from all across the world come all the way to New Zealand to witness it live. Most of the New Year celebrations in New Zealand are organized openly, under the sky, Thousands of people come together to be a part of it. Some of them have extended celebrations of few days, which keep all the visitors pretty pleased and entertained. People in Auckland on the occasion of New Year prefer to move to Whangamata on the Coromandal Peninsula, to the town of Mount Maunganui, located in the Bay of Plenty of New Zealand, or to Gisborne.

Around sixty thousand people from various towns of New Zealand make a visit to Whangamata during the time of New Year. Mount Maunganui is eminently known for hosting some great New Year parties for young people. Gisborne hosts a large open-air concert. People also visit to Gisborne as it is the first place to have rising Sun of the New Year shining over it in New Zealand.

The beach parties as organized at South Island, Nelson, Takaka, Wanaka, and Queenstown are highly based on the modern day party concepts, which have musical shows, dance programs, and other entertaining programs, with few thousands in attendance. The distinctive aspect associated with all these New Year celebrations is the place where they are organized. The natural beauty and the craft with which God has created them is simply exceptional and out of this world, which is enough to make New Year an exceptional experience for anyone. New Year is also the time when people express their gratitude and thankfulness to the supreme Lord for conferring them with something new. People holding optimistic beliefs pray for a bright and peaceful future, and set up their aspirations and resolutions for the coming time. It is also considered as a time when one

should move out and away from all the troubles, miseries, difficulties, and hard times of the past.

The natives as well as those visiting New Zealand on New Year have lots of exciting options to choose from. Those who love adventure, can have world of options in New Zealand such as heli biking, heli fishing, horse-trekking, mountain-biking, sky diving, tower-climbing, jet-boating, kayaking. The parties organized all over the town, offers something for people of every generation. What one can be sure of is that one will end up welcoming the New Year with lots of dancing, laughing, and celebrating in the midst of the firecrackers show set off exactly at the midnight ring of twelve.



Some Ways to Celebrate New Year's Eve around the World

While the Times Square ball drop on New Year's Eve is undeniably iconic, more parties and different traditions take place in other time zones. Here's a look at how countries around the world will mark the start of 2015:

1. Brazil

If you want to ward off evil spirits, wear all-white clothes on New Year's Eve. Other Brazilian traditions include jumping over seven ocean waves (one for each day of the week) and throwing flowers into the sea.

2. Chile

Eating a spoonful of lentils at midnight and putting money at the bottom of your shoe is supposed to bring you prosperity for the next 12 months. But if you're more daring, you can spend the night at a graveyard and ring in the new year with your deceased loved ones.

3. Cuba

If you've been bitten by the travel bug, Cubans recommend that you circle your house with a suitcase when the clock strikes at midnight — it's meant to bring you traveling opportunities in the new year. For general good luck, try sweeping the house or throwing water out the window.

4. The Netherlands

Every year, the Dutch participate in carbide shooting, which is a fancy term for blowing up milk cans. (It's dangerous and prohibited in many cities, but that hasn't stopped many adventurous teenagers from partaking in this tradition.)

For those who are less inclined to amateur explosive devices, the New Year's Dive is an opportunity for thousands of swimmers to half-nakedly brave the freezing waters of the North Sea.

5. The Philippines

A fashion statement is always a good way to start the new year on the right note. Filipinos enjoy wearing polka dots on New Year's Eve, while carrying coins in their pockets. Round objects signify prosperity, so many families eat and display round fruits such as oranges and grapefruits.

6. Russia

How far are you willing to go to make a wish come true? Would you write down your wish on a piece of paper, burn it, put the ashes in a glass of champagne, and drink it down? If not, you're clearly not as hardcore as the Russians.

Other traditions include a New Year's tree, and a Santa-like figure named Ded Moroz (Grandfather Frost), who distributes gifts to children with his granddaughter, Snegurochka (Snow Maiden).

7. Scotland

Some people just want to get wasted on New Year's Eve — the Scots want to bring presents to their friends and neighbors. If you are "the first foot" to enter a person's house, you have to come bearing gifts, which are usually small tokens, such as bread and whiskey. Bonfires and large fireballs are also common traditions.

Of course, we also have to thank the Scots for that great New Year's Eve staple, "Auld Lang Syne." Poet Robert Burns' song is played around the world on this day, even in non-Anglophone countries.

8. South Africa

Watch out, pedestrians! In Johannesburg, it's common to throw old furniture and appliances, like TVs and radios, out the window.

New Year celebration in Ukraine

New Year - is the only Slavic feast which is celebrated at the state level in Ukraine. Celebrating New Year in Ukraine combines the most joyful feelings associated with peace, love and understanding. This holiday in Ukraine is associated with new beginnings, many gifts, the implementation of the deepest wishes in the coming year. New Year, like many other holidays in Ukraine, has its roots in antiquity.



There are many traditions of celebrating of the New Year in Ukraine; they changed, as the century changed. Most of them are borrowed from western culture. This is due to the advent of Christianity in the Slavic land and innovation of Emperor Peter I, who moved the official date of New Year celebrations from January 13 to January 1. From the time of the Slavic paganism in the tradition of celebrating of this day there firmly entered mummers (people dressed in various costumes and masks), and the era of Peter the Great brought a Christmas tree with toys and fireworks. USSR, in turn, inoculated their people as a symbol of the New Year - **Ded Moroz** - Ukrainian Santa Claus or Saint Nicholas and his granddaughter, Snegurochka (Snow Maiden). Santa rooted in the tradition of New Year celebrations in Ukraine and is now everyone's favorite kind grandfather, from whom millions of children across the country expect New Year presents.

One prepares by the New Year in advance. There is prepared a festive table, decorated the Christmas tree toys. New Year is a family celebration, because all the relatives gather around the table to see off the old year, wishing all bad to be left, and the New Year to bring only good things and waiting for midnight. At midnight comes the new year and all congratulate each other after its arrival, and on city streets one could hear laughter and see the fireworks. Ukraine has its own unique feature of New Year celebrations. It consists in the fact that residents, mostly in central and eastern parts of the country still celebrate its coming twice - on Moscow time, and Kiev, i.e. at 23.00 and midnight. This is due to the fact that the country has long been part of the USSR and many people simply got used to celebrate the New Year with the striking of **Moscow chimes**.



There is another interesting feature of New Year celebrations in Ukraine, it is connected with the fact that Peter I shifted its date. So far, 13 January is still celebrated by people of Ukraine, but it is called old New Year. **Old New Year** - a rare historical phenomenon and an additional holiday for the Ukrainian people. It is celebrated though with smaller celebrations, but with the ancient Slavic traditions. It is significant that on this day, according to ancient traditions, boys and girls should go into the house and schedrovat - to change into different costumes and masks, sing holiday songs. For that the owners should give them gifts. That evening after dinner it is necessarily to go to the neighbors and to apologize for the possible guilt to each other, to meet the New Year in peace and harmony.

17 Unusual Ways People Celebrate the New Year

Happy New Year's Eve! Many of you will celebrate with champagne, dancing, and kissing your loved ones when the clock strikes midnight. But what about the rest of the world?

January 1st may be the de facto beginning of the New Year in the Western hemisphere thanks to the Gregorian calendar, but some cultures believe the New Year takes place at a different time altogether.

The Chinese New Year is in late January or early February. Rosh Hashanah — the Jewish New Year — is in autumn, and some cultures follow the Julian lunar calendar and celebrate in mid-January.

How people start off a brand new year varies regionally from country to country — though most do tend to have the standard fireworks display.

In Spain, they eat 12 grapes for luck.



In Spain — and in many other Spanish-speaking countries — it's common to eat 12 grapes at midnight, to bring good luck for each month of the new year. Sounds easy, right? Spaniards eat a grape with each of the twelve chimes of the midnight countdown while making a wish. The tradition dates back to 1895 when some savvy vine farmers realized they had a surplus of grapes and started the tradition to get more customers. Many then celebrate with a late-night family dinner before heading out to Spanish nightclubs after midnight until 6 AM.



In Belgium, children write New Year's letters to their parents.

In Belgium, New Year's Eve is called Sint Sylvester Vooravond. Besides toasting with the customary champagne, Belgian children write New Year's letters to their parents or godparents on New Year's day.

They decorate the cards with fancy paper complete with cherubs, angels, and colored roses and then read them aloud.

In Greece, people hang an onion on their doors.

It's believed that hanging an onion, or "kremmida" on your door on New Year's eve as a symbol of rebirth in the coming year. The following morning, parents



traditionally tap their children on the head with the kremmida to wake them up before church.

Greeks also commonly break a pomegranate on their doorstep before entering their houses on New Year's Day, another symbol of prosperity and good luck.

In Greece, new year's carols are common, and children often sing them to receive money from family and neighbors. When the countdown begins, families turn off the lights so that they can start the new year with fresh eyes.

Another important tradition is eating Vasilópita, a cake with a coin or another small object hidden inside. Whoever receives the slice with the coin gets good luck for the next year.

In Denmark, people eat a really huge cake...and throw dishes.



How do Danes show love for their friends and neighbors? By smashing plates and glasses against their houses. For extra good luck, it's customary to stand on top of a chair and leap off at midnight.

Kransekage

People in Denmark prepare an evening meal that ends with a special

dessert known as Kransekage, a steep-sloped cone-shaped cake decorated with fire crackers and flags.

Also, it is thought that throwing dishes on someone's doorstep on January 1st assures they will have many friends in the year ahead.

In Japan, it is believed the God of the New Year comes down to Earth.

On New Year's Eve in Japan, Buddhist temples ring their bells 108 times to welcome Toshigami, the New Year's God.



The Japanese also clean their homes and send thank-you cards called nengajo that wish a Happy New Year and give thanks to friends and relatives.

For Buddhists, the zodiac calendar is important. Many people celebrate that year's animal and visit temples. It's also important to clean the house and to resolve conflicts from the past year, so that you can start the new year with

a clean slate.

In Estonia, they eat up to 12 meals that night.



Some people in Estonia believe that they should eat seven, nine, or twelve meals on New Year's Eve. With each meal consumed, it is believed that the person gains the strength of that many men the following year.

You don't eat the entire meal, however — part of the meal is left unfinished for the spirits or ancestors who visit the house on New Year's Eve.



In Finland, people tell one another's fortunes with melted "tin."

YouTube

A Finnish new year tradition is called molybdomancy, which is the act of telling New Year's fortunes by melting "tin" (actually lead) in

a tiny pan on the stove and then quickly throwing it into a bucket of cold water.

The blob of metal is then analyzed in the candlelight to see what fate will befall the person in the New Year.

In Ireland, women put mistletoe leaves under their pillows to find husbands.



Single women of Ireland place sprigs of mistletoe under their pillows on New Year's night in the hope that it will bring them better luck and a future husband.

Also according to Irish superstition, be wary of who enters your home after the 31st — if the visitor is a tall, dark handsome man, your year will bring good fortune.

If it's a red-headed woman, she will bring a lot of trouble.

In Germany, they eat pigs made of marzipan and watch TV.



The German people eat jam-filled doughnuts made with or without liquor fillings on New Year's Eve, as well as a tiny marzipan pig as a token of good luck.

The entire country also loves to watch the 1920s British Cabaret play *Dinner For One* that is broadcast on German television stations in black and white each year.

Tea leaves are for posers. If you really want to know how your future looks in the new year, you can go the German (and Austrian) way – melt some lead in a spoon, throw it in cold water, and interpret the shape.

But a truly bizarre tradition is the Germans' fascination with an obscure British TV sketch called "Dinner for One." Though the program is virtually unknown in England, the 18-minute, black-and-white show is a favorite of the Germans on New Year's Eve, and has won a Guinness world record for most repeated TV show of all time.

In Macedonia, people celebrate New Year's Eve twice.

In Macedonia, New Year's Eve is celebrated both on December 31st as well as on January 14 according to the Macedonian Orthodox (also known as the Julian or Lunar) Calendar.

Fireworks happen throughout the day on the 31st, and Macedonian children receive gifts from relatives on the 14th.

In Argentina, people eat beans on New Year's Eve for good luck in the year ahead.



In Argentina, people believe that eating beans before the clock strikes midnight means they will have good luck in their careers in the year ahead.

Some also believe that if they carry a suitcase around their house, they will travel more in the year to come.

In the Czech Republic, fireworks displays light up the sky.

Explore Europe Travel/Fireworks



In Prague, visitors can watch an incredible fireworks display on the world famous Charles Bridge after the clock strikes midnight.

Much like in the U.S., people congregate to celebrate the New Year in parties, pubs, clubs, and city squares to drink and celebrate across the country.

Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year, is said to be a day of judgement.



Rosh Hashanah is the Jewish New Year and is known as the Day of Judgment, when God inscribes the fate of every person for the upcoming year in the Book of Life or the Book of Death.

It takes place over two days in early autumn and usually involves synagogue services and a large meal with family and friends.

In Ecuador, people burn effigies of their enemies at midnight.



Well, this is certainly a way to begin the new year on a cathartic note: Ecuadorians enjoy burning effigies of politicians (and other people they don't like) at midnight. It's meant to get rid of the negative energy of the past year. (Variations of this take place in Panama, Paraguay, and Colombia.)

If political demonstrations aren't your thing, you can also hide money around

the house to bring you prosperity in the new year. Finders, keepers, I guess?

*ja*In Ecuador, thousands of life-size dummies representing misfortunes from the past year that are burned in the streets.

The scarecrows are made from newspapers and pieces of wood, and at midnight, everyone gather outside their homes to burn the dummies together.

In China, New Year's rituals include cleaning and buying presents.



Though celebrations to honor the Gregorian New Year are held in major Chinese cities such as Hong Kong and Shanghai, the Chinese Lunar New Year or the "Spring Festival" does not happen until late January or early February.

Traditions vary across China, but many include cleaning the Chinese people cleaning their homes to get rid of bad luck, buying presents for loved ones, and children receiving money in red paper envelopes.

China did invent fireworks, so did you really expect the Chinese to go without a dazzling pyrotechnic display? It's also customary to dress in red and to give children allowance money in red envelopes.

But like many other Asian countries, the Chinese celebrate the lunar year as well — so double the fun.

In Serbia, New Year's Eve is like Christmas.



New Year's Eve is celebrated like Christmas in Serbia, where it is believed Santa Clause (or Deda Mraz) visits houses to leave presents under the family spruce tree.

The population then celebrates the "Serbian New Year" on January 13, according to the Julian calendar.

In Iran, the first day of Spring marks the beginning of the New Year.



The "Persian New Year" or Nowruz marks the first day of spring and the beginning of the year for the Iranian calendar.

Preparation for Nowruz begins in the last winter month of the Persian solar calendar, and symbolizes the rebirth of the god of sacrifice, Domuzi. A man dressed as Domuzi has his face painted

black and dances through the streets with tambourines and trumpets dressed all in red to symbolize good luck.

Conclusion

The last day of December the year is called New Year's Eve, and with it comes the celebration of all kinds and all-night parties, especially in Scotland, where it is of more importance than Christmas Day. It was and it often is a night of feasting, singing, dancing until midnight when bells ring and people greet each with the New Year. The celebration is the same in England, Ireland and Wales. Children go singing from door to door, and are given sweets and presents.

Those who see the New Year in, join hands at midnight and sing the Scotland song of "Auld lang June" as soon as the clock finishes striking twelve. This song is sung in England to nowadays, but it is not one of the Old English customs. Even in Scotland, singing it is not so very old, for the words were only written in the 18th century by Robert Burns.

At home or in restaurants most people spend the final hours of the old year and the first hours of the new year dining with friends. Champagne – the drink that traditionally symbolizes a celebration – is often served for the midnight toast on New Year's Eve.

Following a long New Year's Eve people usually spend a quiet New Year's Day. In most homes everyone sleeps late, then enjoys lunch and TV with the family and friends. New Year Day is the time for starting new life programs and giving up bad habits, for making New Year resolutions. But this winter Festive season is expensive. To earn extra money for presents and celebrations a lot of young people do part – time work in December.

Ring out the old year, ring in the new; is a custom followed in old most countries and one which will continue for many centuries more.

Висновки

Отже, головною метою навчання англійської мови повинно бути не тільки вивчення теоретичних засад, а загальний особистісний розвиток учнів, який забезпечив би повноцінне функціонування людини в сучасному соціально–економічному середовищі. Цьому, безумовно, сприятиме підвищення пізнавальної активності

Активність, як цілеспрямована, інтенсивна діяльність розглядається сучасними педагогами і психологами як головна, пріоритетна передумова творчого й повноцінного навчання.

У навчально-виховному процесі, стимулами пізнавальної активності, крім внутрішнього стимулу – навчального інтересу, можуть також виступати такі педагогічні прийоми, як заохочення, розкриття необхідності та значення навчального завдання (мотивація), підкреслення розвитку позитивних рис особистості в процесі навчання, своєчасне визнання успіхів, активна позиція викладача, використання інтерактивних методів навчання, які вже стають зовнішніми стимулами пізнавальної активності.

Вдалий вибір методичних прийомів та конкретних вправ є важливим стимулом активізації як пізнавальної діяльності, так і навчально-виховного процесу. Так, наприклад, вміло підібрані усні вправи на етапі актуалізації опорних знань є передумовою успішного засвоєння нового матеріалу на уроці.

У курсі вивчення англійської мови особливо важливим є підбір матеріалів для вправ і слід прикласти всіх зусиль, щоб він сподобався учням. З особливою уважністю варто продумувати перехід від однієї вправи до іншої в відповідності до мети уроку, а також підбирати цікаву форму організації таких вправ, аби вони несли не лише навчальну, а й мотиваційну цінність для навчально-виховного процесу. Безумовно, вивчення іноземної мови передбачає використання країнознавчого матеріалу, який не лише допоможе краще пізнати країну, мова якої вивчається, її звичаї та традиції, але й культуру та спосіб життя інших народів, порівняти їх із досвідом свого народу. Подібні тексти не лише розширять кругозір учнів, а й допоможуть вихованцям поважати й розуміти інші народи, їхню культуру; будучи космополітами, залишатись при цьому патріотами рідної країни.

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