

# Answers

1. Which dates does Chinese New Year fall between? Tick one.

- 1<sup>st</sup> January and 1<sup>st</sup> February
- 21<sup>st</sup> January and 5<sup>th</sup> February
- 21<sup>st</sup> January and 19<sup>th</sup> February**
- 1<sup>st</sup> January and 19<sup>th</sup> February

2. Why is Chinese New Year not on the same day every year?

**Chinese New Year is not on the same day every year because it is worked out according to the first day of the Chinese Lunar calendar. This means the year is determined by the movements of the sun and moon.**

3. Why is red a significant colour in Chinese culture? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

**The colour red is very lucky to the Chinese as it symbolises fortune, good luck and joy. It is also the colour that, according to legend, scared away the Nian beast, ensuring the safety of the village.**

4. Why is money given in even amounts?

**Money is given in even amounts because odd numbers are believed to be bad luck in Chinese culture.**

5. Why do you think lions and dragons are used for the dance in the parade rather than animals such as rabbits, cats and dogs?

**Lions and dragons are the most commonly used animals as part of the Chinese New Year parade dance as these costumes are bigger allowing more people to fit underneath them. Lions and dragons are big, fierce creatures, they can scare away evil spirits and bad luck.**

6. In your own words, explain the legend of how Chinese New Year began.

**Pupils' own responses, such as 'According to Chinese legend, a village was attacked by a monster called the Nian, which ate their food, livestock and people. The villagers left food out for it but noticed that it was scared of a girl wearing red. They then used red lanterns, scrolls and firecrackers to scare away the Nian and it never returned.'**

7. According to the Chinese Zodiac, 2021 is the year of the...?

**2020 is the year of the ox.**

8. What personality trait are people who are born in the year of the rat said to have? Tick one.

- cunning**
- kind
- unkind
- energetic

9. Using the illustration of the Chinese zodiac, what animal was the year you were born in?  
**Pupils answers will vary depending on date of birth.**
10. Which part of Chinese New Year would you most like to experience? Why?  
**Pupils' own responses, such as 'I would like to experience the lion and dragon dances at Chinese New Year because I think it would be wonderful to see the costumes as well as hear the loud music. The text says that the parade is a 'magnificent show.'**