

5a. How is Christmas celebrated in Britain? What Christmas traditions seem interesting and exciting to you?


5b. Do you know any Belarusian Christmas traditions? Compare how Christmas is celebrated in Britain and in Belarus.

6.  What do people do at Christmas in Britain? Write 10 sentences.

Lesson 3. New hopes

1a. Have a competition. Say as many things as you can about what people do at Christmas in the UK.

1b. Remember 15 things that you do at New Year.

2a.  Find on the Internet and listen to the Christmas song “Let It Snow”. What picture can you imagine? What’s the weather like outside? What’s inside the house?



2b. Sing the song.

Let It Snow

Oh the weather outside is **frightful**,
But the fire is so **delightful**,

And since we’ve no place to go,
Let It Snow! Let It Snow! Let It Snow!

It doesn’t show **signs** of stopping,
And I’ve bought some corn for popping,

The lights are turned way down low
Let It Snow! Let It Snow! Let It Snow!

The fire is slowly **dying**,
And, my dear, we’re still goodbying,
But as long as you love me so,
Let It Snow! Let It Snow! Let It Snow!

frightful – ужасная
delightful – восхитительный

since – так как

signs – знаки
some corn for popping –
немного кукурузы, чтобы похрустеть

lights are turned way down low – свет приглушён

2c. Find all the words with the [aɪ] sound. Which letters denote (передают) the sound? Make a table in your exercise book.

3a.   Listen and read about celebrating the New Year in Britain. Match the paragraphs to the pictures.



1. Many people in the UK **stay up** until **midnight** on New Year's Eve, 31 December, so that they can celebrate the start of the New Year. People **see in** the New Year with their friends and family. Sometimes one can be invited to someone's New Year's Eve house party. Many pubs¹ and clubs have special events².

2. A few minutes before midnight, British people traditionally watch Big Ben (the clock in the Houses of Parliament), and celebrate after it **strikes** for the 12th time, which is shown on television. There's a tradition **to join hands** at midnight and sing *Auld Lang Syne*, written by the Scottish poet Robert Burns.

3. In London, people often gather in the area around Trafalgar Square [trəˈfælgə ˈskweə], Piccadilly [ˌpɪkəˈdɪli] Circus, Leicester ['lestə] Square and Parliament ['pɑːləmənt] Square from about 9 p.m. until the early hours of the morning. They listen to Big Ben and watch a 10-minute fireworks display at the London Eye starting at midnight. The fireworks are also shown live on large screens (экраны) in Trafalgar Square, and on BBC1 TV channel.

4. In Scotland and in the north of England people **follow the custom** of the First Foot. People try to be the first ones to **knock at** their friend's houses after midnight. In many places

¹ a **pub** – место, где можно перекусить и поболтать с друзьями;

² **special events** ['speʃ(ə)l ɪ'vents] – специальные мероприятия

the first-footer is allowed to be a resident of the house (может быть человеком, живущим в доме), but they must not be in the house when the clock strikes midnight. The First Foot is traditionally a tall, dark-haired man. In some places a woman or fair-haired man are thought as **unlucky**. The First Foot usually brings several gifts, including a coin, bread, salt, coal (уголь), or a drink (usually whisky) for **good luck**.

5. On New Year's Day people **make New Year's resolutions** (promise to start doing something good in the new year).

Popular resolutions include to **improve** (make better):

- **health**: lose weight, exercise more, eat better, give up smoking;
- **finances**: make more money, save money;
- **career** [kə'riə]: get a better job;
- **education**: **care** [keə] **about** studies, get better grades (оценки), get a better education, learn something new (such as a foreign language or music);
- **self**: become more organised, lessen stress, be less grumpy (несдержанный), manage ['mænɪdʒ] time, be more independent.

care about – feel that something is important, so that one is interested in it

3b. Guess the meaning of the words in bold:

stay up until **midnight**; see in the New Year; **strike** (struck, struck) twelve; **join** hands; **follow a custom**; **knock** [nɒk] at / on the door; **lucky** / **unlucky**; give / bring something for **good luck**; **improve** [ɪm'pru:v] ...

3c. 🧑🧑 Which customs are the same as in Belarus? Which are different? Which customs would you like to follow? Which customs do you follow in your family? Which custom is followed in most Belarusian families? Discuss and report to the class.

4. 🧑🧑 How do you celebrate the New Year? Speak in pairs. Use the words from Lesson 2, ex. 3b and the words below.

Prepare for, cook special dishes, put on special clothes, decorate the house / flat inside and outside, lay the table for the celebration, invite somebody, see off the old year, be thankful

for, remember, be lucky / unlucky that (count oneself lucky / unlucky that), strike 12, see in, follow the custom of, think of a wish, hope to improve, watch fireworks, tell fortunes, play.

5a. 👤 👤 Look through the possible New Year's resolutions in the text again and say which of them you would like to make.

5b. Report to the class. Which are the most popular New Year's resolutions?

6. Read the New Year's resolutions. Do you like it?
Make a card of your New Year's resolutions.

This New Year my resolution is to spread happiness and enjoy all around.

What are you planning? Hope you live up to your New Year's resolutions!



New Year in Belarus (cloze test on vocabulary)

7. 📝 Write how you celebrate the New Year (10–12 sentences).

Lesson 4. Merrymaking

1a. 🎧 🎧 Listen and read one of the traditional rhymes which has long accompanied Bonfire Night. When do people celebrate Bonfire Night? Why?

Remember, remember the Fifth
of November,
The Gunpowder Treason and
Plot,

I see no reason
Why the Gunpowder Treason
Should ever be forgot.
Guy Fawkes ['gaɪ'fɔ:ks], Guy
Fawkes, t'was his intent
To blow up the King and
Parli'ment.

gunpowder ['gʌnpaʊdə] поро-
х; **treason** – государ-
ственная измена; **plot** –
заговор
reason – причина

intent – намерение
to blow up – взорвать