

Chinese New Year

The Zodiac & Spelling



LEVEL: BEG (Lit/1)

Listening Speaking Reading Writing

Track 1

NOTE: You may already have introduced the Chinese Zodiac to your class in which this exercise could be used to review spelling and pronunciation of words.

Part 1 Listening

- 1 The first part tests Ss understanding of the alphabet. Ss listen to spelling of the words and write the letters in the given spaces.
- 2 After listening, Ss check answers with each other.
- 3 Ss check answers with T. T goes over pronunciation of words if needed.

(If in the audio lab, you may want to give students time to listen again and repeat the spelling and pronunciation of the words or record their own voices.)

Listen to the zodiac word. How do you spell it?

1. rat
(born 1924, 1936, 1948, 1960, 1972, 1984, 1996, 2008)
2. ox
(born 1925, 1937, 1949, 1961, 1973, 1985, 1997, 2009)
3. tiger
(born 1926, 1938, 1950, 1962, 1974, 1986, 1998, 2010)
4. rabbit
(born 1927, 1939, 1951, 1963, 1975, 1987, 1999, 2011)
5. dragon
(born 1928, 1940, 1952, 1964, 1976, 1988, 2000, 2012)
6. snake
(born 1929, 1941, 1953, 1965, 1977, 1989, 2001, 2013)
7. horse
(born 1930, 1942, 1954, 1966, 1978, 1990, 2001, 2014)
8. sheep
(born 1931, 1943, 1955, 1966, 1979, 1991, 2002, 2015)
9. monkey
(born 1932, 1944, 1956, 1967, 1980, 1992, 2003, 2016)
10. rooster
(born 1933, 1945, 1957, 1968, 1981, 1993, 2004, 2017)
11. dog
(born 1934, 1946, 1958, 1969, 1982, 1994, 2005, 2018)
12. pig
(born 1935, 1947, 1959, 1970, 1983, 1995, 2006, 2019)

Part 2 Matching

- 1 The matching exercise is to check Ss understanding of the words that were spelled in the listening task. Ss match the numbered word from the listening to the picture in the Chinese Zodiac wheel. Encourage Ss to help each other to promote sharing of knowledge.

Part 3 Speaking: Find Someone Who...

- 1 This portion of the lesson allows Ss to use the learned and practiced language freely but also to gather information from their classmates. Before Ss do the exercise, practice asking the question 'Are you a _____?', and make sure Ss know how to answer. Also, bring Ss attention to the questions at the bottom of the page to help them with the writing they will be doing. Encourage them to spell out their names so that they practice saying and listening to the letters of the alphabet.
- 2 Ss walk around the room finding out what animal symbol their classmates are.
- 3 When finished, T can elicit answers from students, ex. "Who is a rabbit?". Ss can then write about their classmates, ex. Juan is a _____. He's born in _____.