

CrossTalk

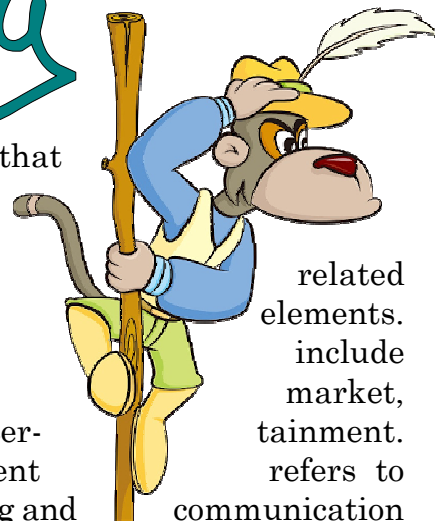
CROSSROADS Language Studio's Newsletter January, 2016

Year of the Monkey

Welcome to 2016, or The Year of the Monkey in the Chinese calendar. Also known as the Farmers' Calendar, or the Hsia Calendar, it not only records the passage of time but also is a tool for predicting your future. This widely-used traditional fortune-telling system calculates a person's destiny from his or her birth data as presented in the Hsia calendar format. Information about time (year, month, day and hour) are presented in terms of the five basic elements (metal, water, wood, fire and earth), which are believed to be the basic components of everything in the universe. The relationship between these five elements is used to predict one's fortune and help maximize good luck, or minimize bad luck, in life.

The Year of the Monkey is symbolized by two elements: yang fire sitting on top of metal. According to the cycle of birth and destruction, fire conquers metal; thus, the two are on a collision course. Usually, such conflicting elements indicate disharmony, suggesting international conflicts and clashes. However, yang fire sitting on the monkey is also a symbol of the "setting sun," which is comparatively mild. Moreover, yang fire as the sun always brings optimism and warmth. As such, it will be easier to reach agreements and treaties to resolve conflicts and struggles.

In terms of business, sectors that will perform well in the year of the Monkey will be to fire and water Fire industries energy the stock finance, and enter- The water element transport, shipping and In general, the Yang Fire Monkey year, with fire on top and metal below, is a symbol of optimism, flexibility and progress. However, natural disasters such as fire, explosions, nuclear issues, tornadoes and environmental disasters will be prevalent.



related elements include market, tainment. refers to communication

For individuals, it's a good year if you're a monkey, one full of fun and creativity. But it's a bad time for those born in the year of the tiger, which is in direct conflict with the monkey. This clash particularly causes problems in relation to travel... accidents will abound in the sea, on the roads and in the air. So stay home if you're a tiger. Then again, if you're really a tiger, you won't be afraid of a monkey. Nevertheless, the monkey creates a fire penalty with the tiger and the snake, which in turn brings health problems related to inflammation and lungs. For those born in the year of the tiger, it is necessary to carry the pendant of a snake as protection to repel the monkey. But there's good news for snakes, dragons and rats. These animals are entering a year of harmony. However, as with most things in life, there are no guarantees.



Net News

NET LESSONS: Too busy to come to CROSSROADS?

.... Try our *lessons on the net!*

Here's some highlights about the monkey year:
<http://www.chinese-astrology.co.uk/monkey.html>

Article by Colm



Some Thoughts for the Month



Joshua Says: The New Year, “an unspoiled page in the book of time”; a time to set the coming year with good intentions and high ambitions. Well, there is one resolution all our students should set for this New Year (and every New Year, for that matter) “I’m going to try harder this year to improve my English”... right? From January 1st, there are 12 months, or 52 weeks, or 365 days, or 8,760 hours or 525, 600 minutes or 31, 536,000 seconds ahead of us this year; plenty of time to do “10 minutes every day”, and much more! Happy New Year everyone!

Junko Says: Pantone the “Color Authority”, has announced the color of the year and, for the first time, have selected two colors for 2016. They are Rose Quartz which represents rosy warmth; and Serenity, which represents tranquility. They say the two colors make a natural pairing and, together, express compassion, stability, consistency, comfort and relaxation; the kinds of things many people are looking for. Anyway, I’m sure you will see many electrical appliances with these colors this year.



Mark Says: New Year's Eve is probably the biggest party night of the year in New Zealand. People usually spend it at parties, in bars and clubs, at organised firework displays or even out camping, around a large bonfire with fellow campers. I really miss the summer carnival atmosphere of a southern hemisphere New Year but I did very much enjoy this past December 31st in Japan with just my daughter and myself.

Colm Says: Out with the old and in with the new... it’s that time of year again. Will you make New Year’s resolutions only to abandon them after a month or two? Or will you make changes for good? And remember that you usually don’t gain something without losing something. Happy New Year and good luck for 2016.



Danielle dit: Je vous souhaite à toutes et tous mes meilleurs vœux pour cette nouvelle année 2016. J’espère que vous avez pu profiter de la période des fêtes entre Noël et le nouvel an pour vous reposer (et manger plein de bonnes choses) afin de commencer cette année sur les chapeaux de roues ! Quelles sont vos bonnes résolutions pour l’année à venir ?

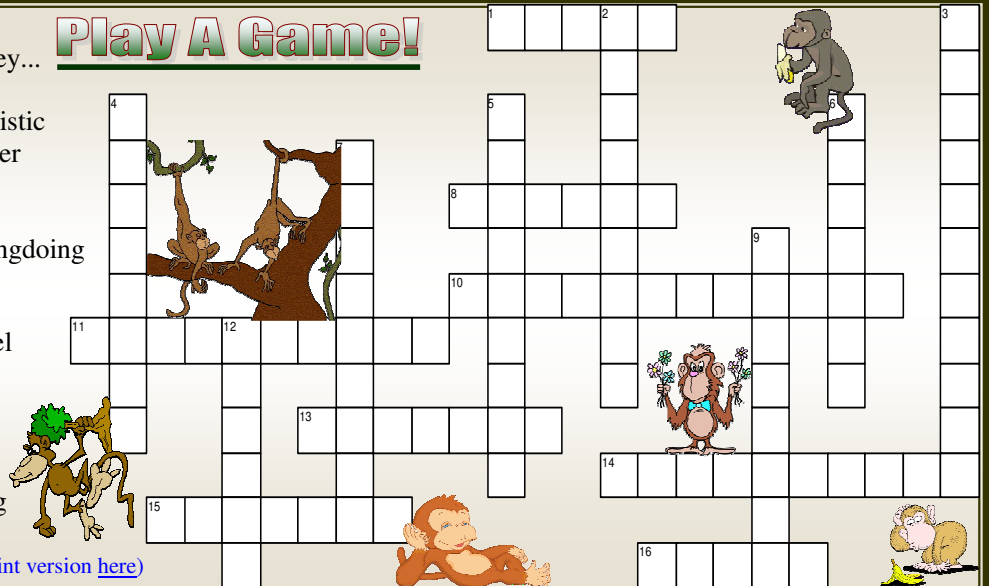
ACROSS

- 1 when opposing forces meet, they...
- 8 part of the whole
- 10 uniquely or distinctly characteristic
- 11 not suited or compatible together
- 13 one's inescapable future
- 14 telling the future
- 15 forced compensation for a wrongdoing
- 16 force back or reject by force

DOWN

- 2 represent with a image or model
- 3 in disagreement
- 4 make as small as possible
- 5 most frequent or common
- 6 bring to a final conclusion
- 7 an individual part on something
- 9 make as big as possible
- 12 plentiful

Play A Game!



(print version [here](#))

NOTICE BOARD

- "Now there are more overweight people in America than average-weight people. So overweight people are now average. Which means you've met your New Year's resolution." – Jay Leno
- "New Year's Resolution: To tolerate fools more gladly, provided this does not encourage them to take up more of my time." – James Agate
- "He who breaks a resolution is a weakling; He who makes one is a fool." – F.M. Knowles
- "For last year's words belong to last year's language. And next year's words await another voice. And to make an end is to make a beginning." – T.S. Eliot



The month of January is named after the Roman god Janus, an appropriate personification of the start of the New Year. This particular Roman god had two faces so that he could look ahead to the future and back at the past, at the same time.

2016



Another fresh new year is here ...
Another year to live!
To banish worry, doubt, and fear,
To love and laugh and give!

This bright New Year is given me
To live each day with zest ...
To daily grow and try to be
My highest and my best!

I have the opportunity
Once more to right some wrongs,
To pray for peace, to plant a tree,
And sing more joyful songs!

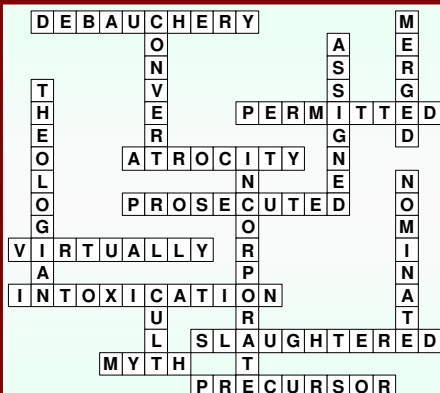
"A Morning Wish" ... W.R. Hunt



Happy New Year Everyone!

We can't bring back time. Once it is gone, it is gone. Yesterday is lost forever. And tomorrow is still uncertain. We may look ahead at a full year ahead, but we really have no idea of what will actually happen or even if we will experience any of it at all.

The New Year is full of time. Will you waste it, or will you make every minute count?



ACROSS

- 1 excess of immoral activities
- 6 allowed
- 7 shockingly cruel or inhuman
- 10 accused of breaking the law
- 11 almost, but not quite all, complete or whole
- 12 result from consuming too much alcohol
- 14 killed (usually for food)
- 15 traditional story lacking proof of fact
- 16 preceding and indicating something to come

Last Month's puzzle Solution

DOWN

- 2 change from one state to another
- 3 made or formed into one
- 4 selected for a special purpose
- 5 someone learned in religious theory
- 8 merge or unite into one
- 9 select someone for a position or honour
- 13 unorthodox system of religious beliefs and customs



Don't forget... Our SPECIAL 1+1 Campaign offer! Up to 50% off!!

See our notice board, or ask Junko in our office, for the details.