

# CrossTalk

CROSSROADS Language Studio's Newsletter January, 2022

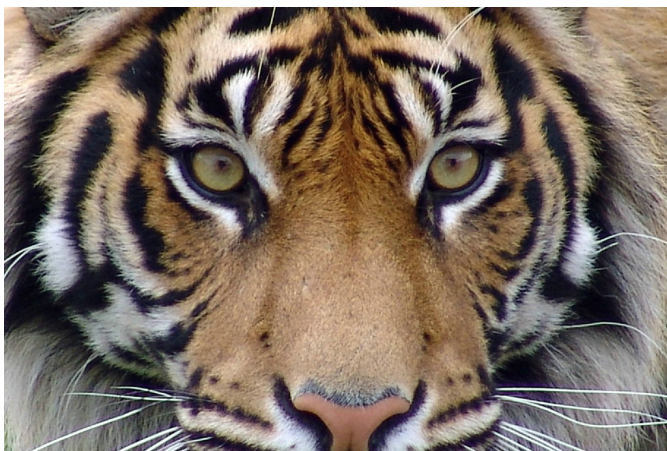
## YEAR OF THE TIGER

*Tyger Tyger, burning bright,  
In the forests of the night;  
What immortal hand or eye,  
Could frame thy fearful symmetry?*

This is the first stanza of a poem written by William Blake (1757 – 1827), a famous English poet and Christian mystic of that era. In his poem he questions why had an all-loving God, the creator of “all things bright and beautiful,” create such a fearful creature as the tiger!

*Did he smile his work to see?  
Did he who made the lamb make thee?*

Well, from the point of view of “all things bright and beautiful,” you may well understand Blake’s confusion on this point. And tigers do tend to be... fearsome. But most of us would also agree that tigers do maintain the “beautiful” part of the bright and beautiful image.



*In what distant deeps or skies,  
Burn the fire in thine eyes?*

And Blake wasn't alone in his feeling of awe towards this unique creature.



Tigers have long held a sense of mysticism and intrigue for their power, solitary lifestyle and courage, especially in Eastern and Southern Asian cultures. In these cultures, tigers are often depicted as guardians that will protect against evil spirits and bring good luck.

In modern Western cultures, tigers have often made their appearance in literature and film. Rudyard Kipling featured Shere Khan, a somewhat unsavory character, in his famous children's book “The Jungle Book.”

Tiger is a goofy, but energetic, friend of Winnie the Pooh in A. A. Milne's book of the same name.

And we can't possibly overlook Hobbes in the cartoon series “Calvin & Hobbes” where Hobbes, the tiger, represents six year old Calvin's alter ego.

We are at the start of the “Year of the Tiger.” Will the tiger bring good luck and protection from the evils now inflicting our world?



## Net News

**NET LESSONS:** Too busy to come to CROSSROADS?

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

Here's Blake's “tyger” poem with an audio recording:

<https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poems/43687/the-tyger>

# Some Thoughts for the Month



**Joshua Says:** This year is a new start in so many ways, not just a calendar New Year. We've successfully moved into, and have already started teaching in, our new building and, I believe, we've even upgraded our facilities and services as a result of this move. Our new school looks and feels different while, at the same time, familiar. One difference is the view – much better! I hope our students and their friends will take advantage of this and freely use our “open house” much more.

**Junko Says:** We are going to feature a series of BBC documentaries from 2021 and 2022 on our TV in the Open House. These series will include history, the universe, math, science, UFO's, nature and animals and full episodes of “Our Planet”, etc. We hope you will enjoy these programs. Also, we'd like to show the programs you'd like to share with other students and we'll take requests for the programs you'd like to watch, so please contribute your ideas!



**Marek Says:** The climate change results in many weather phenomena appearing in the most unlikely places in the world and now they become more frequent and put the climate crisis in a much more grounded perspective. One of the latest weather anomalies was a snowfall in the Sahara, the biggest desert in Africa. The first ever recorded snowfall occurred in 1979, but since 2016 this weather event occurs almost every year.

**Mandey dit:** "C'est le début de l'année 2022. Je vous souhaite à tous une bonne année et une santé. Prenez bien soin de vous!! Avez-vous aussi pris des résolutions? Allez-vous faire plus de sport? Manger moins de gâteaux? Ou bien étudier plus? Personnellement, j'ai décidé d'être très relax cette année et de passer le permis de voiture automatique. Cachez vos grands-mères et vos enfants quand je sors la voiture. Vous êtes prévenue! Encore une belle année ensemble."



**ACROSS**

- 2 fascinating, interesting, curious
- 5 a belief beyond ordinary understanding
- 6 preferring to be alone
- 11 represented in a drawing or in words
- 12 foolish
- 14 protectors
- 15 part of a poem
- 16 fail to notice
- 17 unacceptable, displeasing
- 19 outstanding, one-of-a-kind

**DOWN**

- 1 a general conscious awareness
- 2 causing harm
- 3 (two words) another version of oneself
- 4 a distinctive period of time
- 7 disorder, lack of clear thought
- 8 cause to remain in place
- 9 showing no fear
- 10 frightening
- 13 highlighted, given prominence
- 18 a great feeling of wonder or admiration

[\(print version here\)](#)

**Play A Game!**  
 Find the answers on P1

The first half of these common proverbs is listed on the left and the proverb is completed in the list on the right. See if you can link the two halves of each proverb correctly.

He who pays the piper



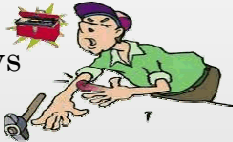
Empty vessels make



Many hands

Absence makes

A poor workman always



No news is

Where there's a will

A chain is only as strong as

You can take a horse to water



Fools rush in

You can't put new wine

You can't make an omelette



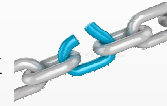
A fool and his money

A watched pot

A leopard can't

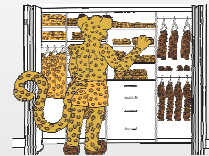
are soon parted

its weakest link



the most noise

change its spots



good news

blames his tools

without breaking eggs

make light work



but you can't make it drink

there's a way

never boils



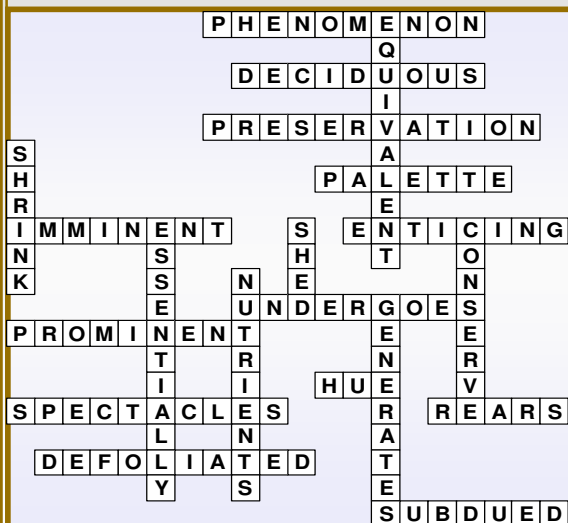
into old bottles

calls the tune

where angels fear to tread



the heart grow stronger



## Last Month's puzzle Solution

### ACROSS

- 1 a remarkable development
- 3 plants that shed foliage
- 4 protection from loss or damage
- 6 something to mix colors on
- 7 close in time
- 10 highly attractive
- 13 having the experience of
- 15 most noticeable
- 16 tone, tinge, tint
- 17 remarkable display
- 18 rises up
- 19 lost its leaves
- 20 soften in tone or sound

### DOWN

- 2 being equal to
- 5 become smaller
- 8 basically, fundamentally
- 9 get rid of
- 11 use cautiously
- 12 foods that supply the body with energy
- 14 creates



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.