

# Lesson 29

## I broke my resolutions.

**Target:** Having a conversation about New Year's Eve

### Vocabulary

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### New Year's Eve



### Related vocabulary

- |  |                                    |   |
|--|------------------------------------|---|
| - to <b>celebrate</b> / a <b>celebration</b> | - a <b>custom</b>                  | - to <b>welcome in the new year</b>           |
| - <b>at the stroke of midnight</b>           | - a <b>tradition</b>               | - to <b>go overboard</b>                      |
| - to <b>kick off</b>                         | - to <b>ring in the new year</b>   | - to <b>wake up with a nasty hangover</b>     |
| - to <b>pray for...</b>                      | - <b>over the holidays</b>         | - one's <b>relatives</b>                      |
| - <b>in the new year</b>                     | - <b>luck</b> / to be <b>lucky</b> | - to <b>make a resolution</b>                 |
| - a <b>fireworks display</b>                 | - to <b>reflect upon...</b>        | - to <b>stick to / keep one's resolutions</b> |
| - to <b>set off fireworks</b>                | - to <b>camp out</b>               | - to <b>break a resolution</b>                |

### Conversation

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**1** Use the questions below to have a conversation with your partner about the topic

#### Partner #1: Questions

1. What places in Japan have the best fireworks displays? Do people usually camp out for them?
2. What is Chinese New Year? When is it celebrated?
3. What time do New Year's celebrations usually kick off?
4. What do you think the top 5 resolutions people make are?
5. Are children allowed to stay up late on New Year's Eve in your country?
6. Have you ever woken up with a nasty hangover after New Year's?
7. How do you celebrate New Year's? How old are your New Year traditions?
8. What do you usually do at the stroke of midnight?
9. Why do you think people make resolutions? What are your resolutions for next year?
10. What do people usually go to a shrine or temple for?

#### Partner #2: Questions

1. What do you normally do over the New Year's break?
2. How can New Year's resolutions be a good opportunity for change?
3. Why do you think people can't stick to their resolutions?
4. Do you think New Year's eve is a good time to reflect on the year that has passed?
5. What's the most interesting / strangest New Year's related custom you have heard about?
6. Are there any special meals or activities for New Year's day?
7. Do any of your friends go a bit overboard on New Year's?
8. What are some New Year's customs / traditions in other parts of the world that you know?
9. What are some of your predictions for next year?
10. What two things would you like to see or do this year?

**2** Complete one or more of the situations below

1. **Role play:** Partner #1: You have been invited to a New Year's Eve party, but you don't know what to do.  
Partner #2: Explain what a New Year's party usually entails.
2. **Interview:** Interview your partner about New Year customs in their country.
3. **Speech:** Imagine you were a famous person. Explain some of your resolutions for the new year.
4. **Debate:** You think New Year's Eve should be a family celebration, but your partner disagrees.