

Learn Local - English Together - Lesson 23 - New Year's traditions

EXERCISE 1: LISTENING & PRONUNCIATION

Svolgi due esercizi di listening: per prima cosa guarda il video cercando di concentrarti sul suo significato generale. Poi riascoltalo leggendo la trascrizione qui riportata. Infine, leggi il testo ad alta voce elicitando vocabolario e pronuncia.

Hello and welcome to Learn Local - English Together, your super fun Friday English lesson with me, Arianna.

In today's lesson, I am going to teach you some useful vocabulary and expressions to talk about New Year's traditions. December 31st is New Year's Eve, whereas January 1st is New Year's day.

New Year's day is the beginning of the new year. Most people go to parties the night before and finish partying on New Year's day. What we usually do here in Italy is gather somewhere - either at home or in restaurants - and have the so-called "cenone di Capodanno", that is a sort of New Year's dinner party with a lot of dancing/singing and fun. So the two major things that most people do on New Year's Eve is to dress up and attend parties.

What else do most people do on New Year's Eve? Well, basically they wait until midnight and count down to the new year. The countdown to the new year goes like this: ten, nine, eight, seven, six, five, four, three, two, one, happy new year!

These are called noisemakers or party horns. They are blown to make a lot of noise on New Year's Eve and at birthday parties. Another couple of things that people like to do on New Year's Eve is to watch firework displays and make a toast. In English toast means when people have some kind of alcohol and raise their glasses saying "Cheers", "Here's to a bright new year". Let's have a New Year's Champagne toast!

Last but not least, at New Year's time you make resolutions. A resolution is a promise to yourself to start or stop doing something to make your life better. People will make a certain decision at the beginning of the new year and will try and follow through with that resolution throughout the year.

What are you going to do to celebrate New Year's Eve this year? What's your New Year's resolution for 2023? Let me know in the comments below. Thanks very much for watching this lesson. Do not forget to download the PDF to read the script and do the exercises. I'll see you in January for a new year of super fun and interesting English lessons together!

EXERCISE 2: VOCABULARY - NEW YEAR'S DECORATIONS

In questa lezione abbiamo imparato a dire "trombetta" in inglese, e cioè party horn, noise maker o party blower. And what about New Year's decorations?

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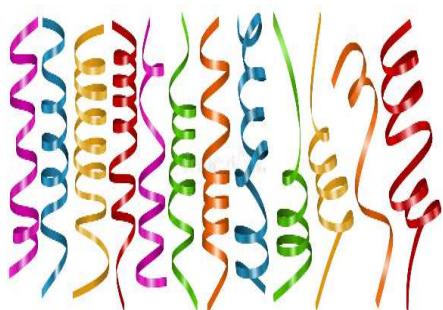
Saresti in grado di abbinare l'immagine al relativo termine inglese?
Let's give it a try!

1.



a. streamers

2.



b. headband

3.



c. balloons

4.



d. confetti

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EXERCISE 3: GRAMMAR - HOT VERBS MAKE AND DO

Questa lezione è ricca di espressioni introdotte dal verbo *(to) make*, quali *make noise*, *make a resolution*, *make a decision*. Questo verbo, in genere tradotto con “fare” è spesso accostato ad un sostantivo per esprimere diversi concetti, per esempio fare rumore/confusione, o prendere una decisione. Anche il verbo *(to) do* traduce il verbo “fare” in inglese, ed è altresì impiegato in combinazione con sostantivi e avverbi per tradurre svariate espressioni.

Ma sapresti indicare i casi in cui usiamo l'uno o l'altro verbo?

Beh, la spiegazione è molto semplice: *do* si usa per esprimere l’idea di fare/svolgere un’attività già di per sé esistente, per esempio fare un esercizio (*do an exercise*, *do your homework*), mentre *make* rappresenta un fare che è più vicino al concetto di “creare”, di qui l’espressione *(to) make a choice/decision*. Si usa *make* per dire “prendere una decisione” o “fare una scelta” perché è un qualcosa che in un certo senso creiamo noi ex novo nel momento in cui “decidiamo” o “scegliamo”.

***Is that clear?* Riscrivi le seguenti espressioni nella colonna giusta a seconda del verbo cui si accompagnano!**

a good impression business arrangement a decision a difference a change

research a profit/a loss your best a start/a move sth clear a good job

a degree an effort sb a favour a suggestion a mistake one’s best

friends plans progress an exercise an appointment the bed justice to

repairs a choice wonders a complaint the cleaning

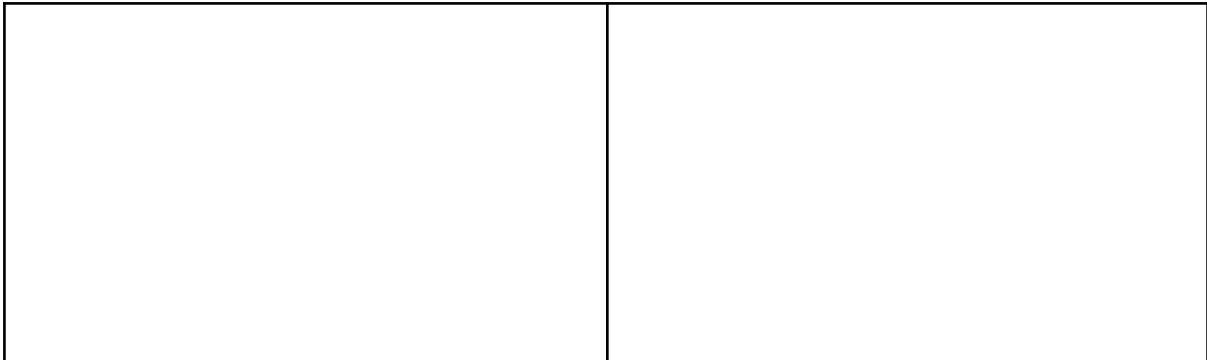
something for a living a cancellation the washing a bid an application

an experiment a cancellation damage an investment preparations

MAKE

DO

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