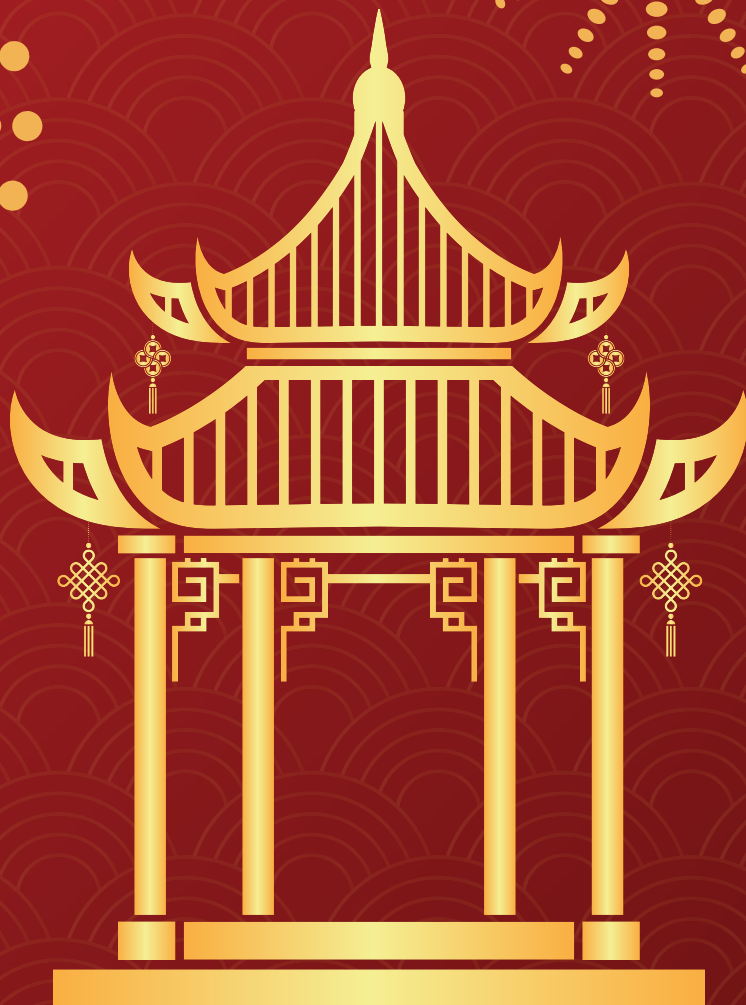
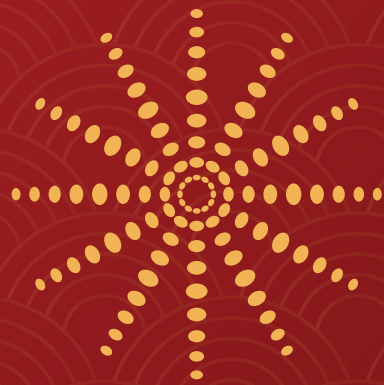


# 新年快樂

HAPPY LUNAR NEW YEAR



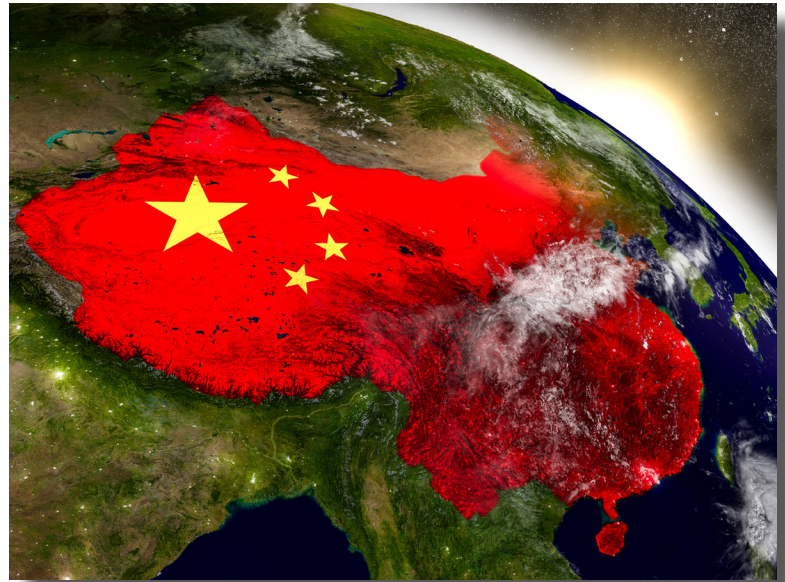
# FACTS & FIGURES: CHINA

China is located in the eastern parts of Asia and is the largest country that is entirely situated in Asia.

China borders 14 countries. The countries bordering China are: Russia, Mongolia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Afghanistan, Pakistan, India, Bhutan, Nepal, Myanmar (formerly called Burma), Laos, Vietnam, and North Korea.

## Interesting Facts:

- China is the most populous country in the world as it is home to almost one-fifth of the world population.
- The highest mountain on the border with China is Mount Everest, the world's highest mountain, at 29,000ft.
- The longest river in China is the Yangtze River 3,914 miles in length. This is also Asia's longest river.
- China has the world's longest sea-crossing bridge. The Hongkong to Zhuhai-Macao bridge was opened to traffic in October 2018.
- The Gobi Desert which stretches over China and Mongolia is the largest desert in Asia.



## The People of China

Almost one in five people on our earth live in China, while the country is smaller than the USA. The Chinese government lifted the one-child policy in 2016, now Chinese parents are allowed to have two children.

Many Chinese live in the 'megacities' of the country. Megacities are cities with more than 10 million inhabitants. Six of the 33 megacities in the world are located in China. In rural areas, the living standard is still very poor and many people live there live in huts or along the rivers in stilt houses.

The Chinese love music and opera plays, although the voices of the Chinese opera singers may sound strange to our ears.



## Chinese Language

Although Mandarin Chinese is the official language, in many regions other languages are spoken such as Cantonese, Shanghainese, Hainanese or Mongolian.

Chinese writing is done from top to bottom in little symbols or signs, called ‘characters’ of which an adult usually knows about 8,000 different characters. By age 13 years most Chinese children can read and write 3,000 characters.

### Some Chinese words good to know:

- **Ni hao!** (Nee-HOW) means “Hello!”
- **Xie Xie** (Shee-yoo Shee-yoo) means “Thank You”
- **Gong Xi Fa Cai!** (gong zee fah chai) means “Happy Chinese New Year!”

## ALL ABOUT THE CHINESE NEW YEAR

The Chinese New Year, or Spring Festival, has more than 4,000 years of history and is the longest holiday of the year. In the 21st century, the national holiday begins on the first of the Lunar Calendar and lasts until the 15th of the first month.

In China, all stores are closed during the first five days of the Spring Festival, with some not opening until the very end. People must stock up on New Year supplies beforehand and many begin on the Laba Festival. Kitchens will also show the first signs of Spring Festival dishes with the preparation of cured meat, salted fish, and other preserved food.



# CHINESE ASTROLOGY WHAT'S YOUR ZODIAC ANIMAL?

Chinese zodiac animals have lucky meanings. Chinese people associate each animal sign with certain characteristics. It's believed that people born in a given year have the personality of that year's animal. Each zodiac animal's year comes around every 12 years, and each year is associated with a zodiac animal. The most recent zodiac sign years are shown below.



## Year of the Rat

1924, 1936, 1948, 1960, 1972, 1984,  
1996, 2008, 2020

### Personality Traits

Quick-witted, resourceful, versatile, kind



## Year of the Horse

1930, 1942, 1954, 1966, 1978, 1990,  
2002, 2014, 2026

### Personality Traits

Animated, active, energetic



## Year of the Ox

1925, 1937, 1949, 1961, 1973, 1985,  
1997, 2009, 2021

### Personality Traits

Diligent, dependable, strong, determined



## Year of the Goat

1931, 1943, 1955, 1967, 1979, 1991,  
2003, 2015, 2027

### Personality Traits

Calm, gentle, sympathetic



## Year of the Tiger

1926, 1938, 1950, 1962, 1974, 1986,  
1998, 2010, 2022

### Personality Traits

Brave, confident, competitive, dynamic



## Year of the Monkey

1932, 1944, 1956, 1968, 1980, 1992,  
2004, 2016, 2028

### Personality Traits

Sharp, smart, curiosity



## Year of the Hare

1927, 1939, 1951, 1963, 1975, 1987,  
1999, 2011, 2023

### Personality Traits

Quiet, elegant, kind, responsible



## Year of the Rooster

1933, 1945, 1957, 1969, 1981, 1993,  
2005, 2017, 2029

### Personality Traits

Observant, hardworking, courageous



## Year of the Dragon

1928, 1940, 1952, 1964, 1976, 1988,  
2000, 2012, 2024

### Personality Traits

Confident, intelligent, enthusiastic



## Year of the Dog

1934, 1946, 1958, 1970, 1982, 1994,  
2006, 2018, 2030

### Personality Traits

Lovely, honest, prudent



## Year of the Snake

1929, 1941, 1953, 1965, 1977, 1989,  
2001, 2013, 2025

### Personality Traits

Enigmatic, intelligent, wise



## Year of the Pig

1935, 1947, 1959, 1971, 1983, 1995,  
2007, 2019, 2031

### Personality Traits

Compassionate, generous, diligent



# MATCH THE ANSWERS

Match the item in the left column with the clue on the right and write the letter of the answer in the circle. How many can you guess correctly?

A. Red Envelopes



1. Popular means of transportation in China.

B. Mao Zedong



2. The largest public square in the world.

C. Beijing



3. The capital of China.

D. Tiananmen Gate



4. Gifts that contain good luck money, given for births, weddings and the new year

E. Great Wall of China



5. The official language of China

F. Mandarin Chinese



6. Gate of Heavenly Peace

G. Tiananmen Square



7. A communist nation that covers a vast territory in eastern Asia; the most populous country in the world

H. Chinese New Year



8. Marks the end of winter and beginning of spring and believed to bring good luck for the future

I. People's Republic of China



9. Founder of the Communist People's Republic

J. Bicycle Riding



10. A fortification 5,500 miles long built across northern China in the 3rd century BC; it averages 6 meters in width

K. Shang



11. The first-ever Chinese dynasty.

# BEIJING WORD SEARCH

O L Y M P I C S U I U I F C  
L M E I P P T E M P L E O B  
E U T A P M A L M X E K R E  
H Z H O U K O U D I A N B I  
R G A M B W N G R D I A I J  
M T G A M O N E C H X N D I  
I S E N M I B N U O V P D N  
N I L D T L H S R C E E E G  
G R E A T W A L L K S K N R  
I I K R L C R U I E R I A I  
E S U I M O T A N Y I N A E  
P J K N Y E M I G P D G E J  
P D T T G P H E A V E N H I  
N I Y E R C H I O C B B I P

BEIJING  
OLYMPICS  
CHINESE  
SLALOM  
SKATING  
LUGE

BOBSLEIGH  
CURLING  
PEKING  
FORBIDDEN  
TEMPLE

HEAVEN  
MING  
GREAT WALL  
ZHOUKOU DIAN  
MANDARIN  
HOCKEY









