

# Crosstalk

January The Newsletter of **CROSSROADS** Language Studio 2003

**H**  
**A**  
**P**  
**P**  
**Y**  
**N**  
**E**  
**W**  
**Y**  
**E**  
**A**  
**R**

January 1<sup>st</sup> begins a new year in most countries.

Different countries have different **customs** and **traditions** to **welcome** the New Year. For example:

**Brazil:** People wear white clothes for good **luck**. If they live near the sea, they go in the water, jump over 7 waves and throw in flowers.

**China:** The New Year is **celebrated** in February and children get “lucky money” from adults.

**Colombia:** People make a **doll** called “Mr. Old Year.” They **burn** it for luck in the New Year.

**Korea:** A bell **rings** 33 times.

**Thailand:** New Year’s Day is April 13<sup>th</sup>. People play with water, throwing it on each other.

**Venezuela:** People wear yellow **underwear** for good luck!

In many countries, people make **resolutions**.

These are like **promises** about things they want to do in the New Year.

The most **popular** New Year’s resolutions are: to **lose weight**; to stop smoking and; to start **exercising**.

Unfortunately, a lot of people find it difficult to keep resolutions for the whole year, so sometimes they have to **repeat** the same resolution the next year, too!

What resolution did you make for 2003?

In America, 4 holidays are very close together. They are: 1) Halloween, on October 31<sup>st</sup>;

2) Thanksgiving, at the end of November;

3) Christmas, on December 25<sup>th</sup>; and

4) New Year’s Day, January 1<sup>st</sup>.

The time from Halloween through New Year’s Day is called the “Holiday Season.”

On New Year’s Eve and New Year’s Day, people in many countries have celebrations, parties, parades and fireworks.

If you like sports, you should know that New Year’s Day is a very important day for American football.

## GLOSSARY (These words are in Blue in the story)

**customs** = 慣習・しきたり

**luck** = 幸運

**burn** = 燃やす

**resolutions** = 決意

**lose weight** = 体重を減らす

**traditions** = 伝統

**celebrate** = 祝う

**ring** = 鳴らす

**promises** = 約束・契約

**exercise** = 運動する

**welcome** = 歓迎する

**doll** = 人形

**underwear** = 下着

**popular** = 人気のある

**repeat** = 繰り返す

# A Word From Us



**Joshua Says:** Thank you all for making our Christmas party at Spice Kingdom restaurant so much fun. It is always nice to see everyone outside of school. I hope you enjoyed the food and friends. I also hope you got what you wanted for Christmas! Happy New Year!!

**Junko Says:** I am very happy to see everyone again at the beginning of 2003. We have many new students, and many of our long-time students are also returning. We have new things planned for you this year. More parties, more events, and lots of ways to make learning more fun.



**Joanna Says:** December was a very special month for me because it was my one-year anniversary in Japan. I took a walk down 'memory lane', remembering how strange and lost I felt in my first week here! I celebrated my anniversary with a glass of wine and a big pizza! Cheers!

**Drew Says:** Some of you know I love jazz, so I am very happy because in December I bought a CD player. Sometimes, we don't know how much we like something until we don't have it any more. After 5 months in Matsuyama without music, I now know how important it is to me!



**Tamara Says:** Last month I bought a sewing machine and have been having a lot of fun finding all of the craft and fabric stores around Matsuyama. I enjoy making my own clothing and accessories. If you sew or do crafts, let me know where your favorite store is!

**Greg Says:** I hope you all had happy holidays. I was home in Australia for Christmas. It was nice to see everyone there, but I'm glad to be back in Matsuyama and to see you all again. I look forward to hearing your New Year's Resolutions. I hope you can keep yours longer than I do!



**Peter Says:** I had very happy holidays and hope you did too. I stayed in Matsuyama and had fun going to parties and seeing all my friends. I was even Santa Clause at one party! I went snowboarding, too. That's one of my favorite things to do. I look forward seeing you all in 2003!

**Yuka Says:** Last month I went to Kobe to see a wonderful show of Vincent van Gogh paintings in a museum. There were so many people, the lines were very long. I bought some postcards with van Gogh paintings on them. Do you want to see them?



# A Word From You

**Takuyoshi Shioni Says:** Greetings from Canada! Guess what? I decided to travel around Europe this winter. My French friend studying in Vancouver is going to France for vacation and asked me to go. I'll write you from there!



**Atsushi Kineda Says:** I went to Thailand for 6 days in December. I like Thailand very much. I am learning to cook Thai food. Maybe I'll cook for you one day!"

**Miho Takeyama Says:** I took the highest level exam for Kimono and passed! After the exam I received a certificate. Now I can help other people dress in a Kimono for special occasions!

## CROSSROADS' Christmas Parties!



### EASY ENGLISH LESSON

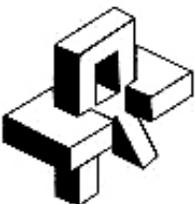
#### "GET"

The word **get** has many meanings in English. For example:

- 1. To receive:** "Did you **get** my e-mail?"
- 2. To become:** "I **get** sleepy at night."
- 3. To understand:** "I don't **get** question number six."
- 4. To buy:** "Did you **get** new shoes?"
- 5. To answer the phone:** "The phone is ringing. Can you **get** it, please?"
- 6. To arrive:** "I **got** to work at 8:00."
- 7. To put something on something (usually by accident):** "Oh no, I **got** ketchup on my new shirt!"

Good luck with your English!

Do you have a question? Please ask us!



**CROSSROADS**

ランゲージスタジオ  
英会話スクール

〒790-0878 松山市勝山町  
1丁目12-8 寿晃ビル3階



Phone: 0120-21-7594

Tel: (089) 921-7595

Fax: (089) 921-7319

Email: [info@crossroadsco.com](mailto:info@crossroadsco.com)

Web Site: [www.crossroadsco.com](http://www.crossroadsco.com)

