



Name: _____ Date: _____

ENGTEA: It's reading time!

CELEBRATING HOGMANAY: THE HEART OF SCOTLAND'S NEW YEAR

In the heart of Scotland, as the year comes to an end, a unique and vibrant celebration takes place - Hogmanay. This traditional event in Scotland welcomes the New Year with a spirit and style that can't be found anywhere else in the world.

Historical Roots

There is a lot of history behind Hogmanay. Its roots go back to the Norse celebration of the winter solstice and include traditions from the Gaelic Samhain festival.

These influences mixed with Scottish traditions to create the Hogmanay celebration we know today.

The Celebration

Hogmanay, celebrated on New Year's Eve, is more than just a party; it's a cultural event that includes many traditions and rituals. It starts at midnight when family and friends get together to count down the last seconds of the old year.



First-Footing

'First-Footing' is one of the most important Hogmanay traditions. People believe that the first person to walk into a house after midnight will bring good luck for the next year. The "first-footer" should be a man with dark hair who brings gifts like coal, shortbread, salt, whisky, or a black bun, which represent warmth, taste, and wealth.

Fire Festivals

In many Scottish towns, ancient fire festivals light up the Hogmanay night. The most famous is Edinburgh's Torchlight Procession, where thousands of people march carrying lit torches to create a river of fire through the city streets that end in a spectacular fireworks display. Other towns, like Stonehaven, host dramatic fireball-swinging ceremonies, symbolizing the sun and purifying the coming year.

Edinburgh's Hogmanay

The most well-known Hogmanay party takes place in Edinburgh, which is the capital city of Scotland. The event starts on December 30 and lasts for three days. It includes a torchlight procession, concerts outside, the famous fireworks at midnight from Edinburgh Castle, and a huge party outside. The celebrations end with the "Loony Dook," a custom in which people dress up and jump into the cold water of the Firth of Forth on New Year's Day.



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Auld Lang Syne

"Auld Lang Syne," a poem written by Robert Burns in the Scots language and set to a traditional folk tune, is sung at every Hogmanay party. Around the world, the song is associated with New Year's. It's a moving reminder of how important it is to remember old friends and good times.

In conclusion

Hogmanay is more than just New Year's Eve in Scotland; it's an event that shows what it means to be Scottish. The Scottish way of life is based on coming together, remembering the past, and being hopeful about the future. This can be seen in their rich traditions and lively gatherings. Hogmanay is a celebration of Scotland's rich cultural history and strong spirit. The bells ring at midnight, and the tunes of "Auld Lang Syne" fill the air.



1 Match the english words with the correct polish translations.

English	Polish
vibrant	pokaz fajerwerków
take place	zwyczaj
winter solstice	żywy
count down	starożytny
warmth	odbywać się
ancient	przesilenie zimowe
fireworks display	ciepło
a custom	odliczać/odliczanie



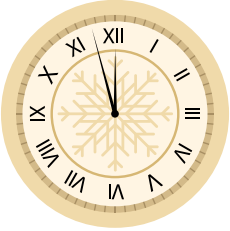


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2 Write the correct words under the pictures.
shortbread, coal, torches, gatherings, midnight













3 Your dictionary

Write new words from the text. Translate them into Polish or write English definitions.



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4 Choose the correct answer.

1. What is the historical origin of Hogmanay?

- a) Norse celebration of the winter solstice
- b) Gaelic Samhain festival
- c) Scottish traditions
- d) All of the above



2. What is the significance of "First-Footing" in Hogmanay?

- a) It is a tradition where people exchange gifts.
- b) The first person to enter a house after midnight brings good luck for the next year.
- c) It is a ritual to purify the coming year.
- d) It is a celebration of the winter solstice.



3. Which Scottish town is famous for its Torchlight Procession during Hogmanay?

- a) Edinburgh
- b) Stonehaven
- c) Glasgow
- d) Inverness

4. What is the main event that marks the end of the Hogmanay celebrations in Edinburgh?

- a) Torchlight Procession
- b) Fireworks at midnight from Edinburgh Castle
- c) Loony Dook
- d) Concerts outside

5. What is the significance of the song "Auld Lang Syne" during Hogmanay?

- a) It is a traditional Scottish folk song.
- b) It is associated with New Year's celebrations worldwide.
- c) It is a reminder to remember old friends and good times.
- d) All of the above





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Answers

ex.1

1. vibrant - żywy
2. take place - odbywać się
3. winter solstice - przesilenie zimowe
4. count down - odliczać
5. warmth - ciepło
6. ancient - starożytny
7. fireworks display - pokaz fajerwerków
8. a custom - zwyczaj



ex.2 (od lewej do prawej)

midnight, coal, gatherings,
shortbread, torches

ex.3 Wypisz nowo poznane słownictwo, przetłumacz na polski lub napisz angielskie definicje.

ex.4

1. d)

2. b)

3. a)

4. b)

5. d)

