

Happy New Year everyone ! I hope your 2019 will be filled with happiness, love, and success. During this past vacation, I celebrated Christmas with my family in Detroit and I celebrated the New Year with friends in Boston. Although it was really cold, I was happy to be back home.



In the United States, New Year is a national holiday and almost everyone celebrates it. We begin our New Year celebrations on December 31st, New Year's Eve. Families and friends gather together to "ring in" the New Year, often with a toast of champagne and a song. Americans also enjoy the tradition of watching the ball at Times Square in New York City drop at midnight. The ball slowly descends from the top of the tower during the day, and 10 seconds before midnight, everyone starts to countdown to midnight out loud. Immediately after the ball drops, confetti and lights illuminate the Square and people share a kiss with their loved one or hug a friend. Another popular American tradition is making New Year's resolutions. People promise to do something better in the new year, like workout more often, eat healthier, or use less water. My New Year's resolutions are to stop procrastinating and to try one new thing each month. So far I have learned how to salsa dance, but I still need to work on not procrastination.

Although there is no common meal that Americans eat during New Year celebrations, many different cultures have their own dishes, which often signify money and prosperity for the New Year. For example, in my house, we eat black eyed peas, collard greens, and cornbread because it is believed that eating these dishes will bring money in the New Year. Other cultures like to eat pork because pigs root around with their snouts moving in a forward motion, which symbolizes progress for the coming year. Almost everyone, however, drinks champagne for the New Year, like in Martinique!

Happy New Year!

Quiz :

1. What do we call the day before January 1st?
2. When does the ball drop in Times Square?
3. List the three examples of New Year resolutions I gave in the article.
4. What are 2 popular dishes people eat for the New Year?
5. What do those dishes represent?