Гомельский государственный университет имени Франциска Скорины

Студенческая газета кафедры английского языка



Meridian*



Nº 4

ноябрь - декабрь

2020 г.

Кафедра английского языка обеспечивает преподавание дисциплины «Английский язык» на геологогеографическом факультете. Каждый выпуск студенческой газеты подготавливается преподавателями, студентами и магистрантами факультета и представляет обзор событий и новостей в сфере геологии и геоэкологии



^{* (}рус. яз.) меридиан, зенит, расцвет, полдень, высшая точка



Civilizations around the world have been celebrating the start of each new year for at least four millennia. Today, most New Year's festivities begin on December 31 (New Year's Eve), the last day of the Gregorian calendar, and continue into the early hours of January 1 (New Year's Day). Common traditions include attending parties, eating special New Year's foods, making resolutions for the new year and watching fireworks displays.

The earliest recorded festivities in honor of a new year's arrival date back some 4,000 years to ancient Babylon. For the Babylonians, the first new moon following the vernal equinox - the day in late March with an equal amount of sunlight and darkness - heralded the start of a new year. They marked the occasion with a massive religious festival called Akitu (derived from the Sumerian word for barley, which was cut in the spring) that involved a different ritual on each of its 11 days. In addition to the new year, Atiku celebrated the mythical victory of the Babylonian sky god Marduk over the evil sea goddess Tiamat and served an important political purpose: It was during this time that a new king was crowned or that the current ruler's divine mandate was symbolically renewed.



A friend asks his friend for a cigarette. His friend says: "I thought you made a New Year resolution to quit smoking". The man says, "I am in the process of quitting". Right now, I am in the middle of phase one. I've quit buying.





An optimist stays up until midnight to see the new year in. A pessimist stays up to make sure the old year leaves.

My new Year's resolution is to stop hanging out with people who ask me about my New Year's resolution.



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