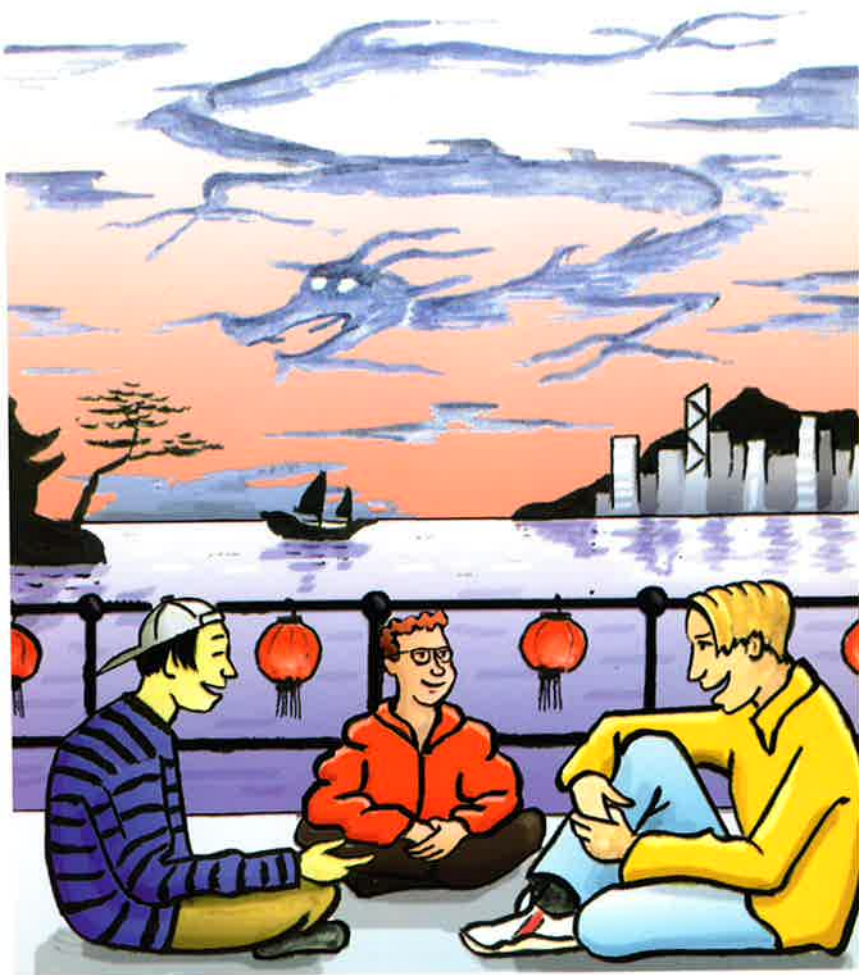


# In the Year of the Dragon

by H.Q. MITCHELL

pre-intermediate



## Teacher's Book

is based on a combination of lunar and solar movements, falling somewhere between January 21 and February 19. This is why the Chinese New Year falls on a different date each year. During the festivities, which last for 15 days, towns and villages are transformed into bright, bustling areas decorated with coloured lanterns, floral displays and banners emblazoned with coloured New Year Greetings.

### THE DRAGON PARADE

Dragon Parades are among the spectacular events that take place during the new year celebrations. People dress up in dragon and lion costumes and dance through the streets to the sound of gongs and drums. The dragons and lions reach up to take red money packets, as well as fruit and vegetables, which are offered by shop keepers in hope of good fortune.

Chinese people believe dragons and lions bring good luck. That is why they lead the parade.

### THE LANTERN FESTIVAL

The Lantern Festival, which takes place on the 15th day of the new year is celebrated at night with lantern displays and children carrying lanterns in street parades and fireworks.

### RICKSHAWS

Red, hand-drawn rickshaws, a traditional mode of transport were once the only way around Hong Kong Island. Formerly they were used by the wealthy class, whereas, these days they are used by tourists.

### CHOPSTICKS

Chopsticks are a pair of thin sticks which people use to eat Asian food with.

### MID-LEVELS

A peaceful, affluent neighbourhood on Hong Kong Island with views of Victoria Harbour.

### WAN CHAI

Wan Chai, a suburb on Hong Kong Island, has managed to retain its traditional image. Filled with bars and restaurants, it offers a lot of local colour.

### THE STAR FERRY

A distinctive green and white ferry which transports passengers between Kowloon and Hong Kong Island.

### THE RAIL SYSTEM

The Mass Transit Railway, MTR, is the city's underground system. Hong Kong Island and Kowloon are linked by an underwater tunnel which is called the Cross-Harbour Channel.

### KOMODO DRAGON- A Living Legend

The Komodo Dragon is actually a reptile, a very large member of the family of lizards called Monitors. These large lizards, called *Varanus Komodoensis*, are named after their island Komodo. Monitors live in tropical and desert areas throughout Africa, in Asia from Arabia to southern China and Malaysia, and the East Indies and Australia.

The Komodo can grow up to four metres in length and can weigh up to 160 kilograms.

Like all monitors, the Komodo is carnivorous. They have forked tongues and they use the strength of their jaw to rip their food apart. Their feet have long razor-sharp claws.

It is also advisable to spend one lesson doing some pre-reading activities. You can select the activities that suit you best from the ideas presented below.

- Write the title of the story on the board. Ask the students some general questions about the title and encourage them to make hypotheses about it, e.g.
  - What is a dragon?
  - Do dragons exist?
  - What do you think the Year of the Dragon is?
- Have the students look at the cover of the Reader and ask them some general questions about it, e.g.
  - Who do you think the people on the cover are?
  - How old are they?
  - What is the relationship between them?
  - Where are they?
  - What are they doing?
- Photocopy some of the illustrations in the Reader and remove the text and page numbers. Ask the students to describe them, guess what is happening

**REVISION TEST 1**

(Chapters 1 - 4)

**A. Answer the following questions.**

- 1 Why was Mrs Norris upset at the airport?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 2 Why was Jason rude to Mrs Pickles in the car?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 3 What did Jason buy at the travel agency?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 4 Why did Jason give his cap and jacket to the Chinese boy?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 5 Why did the ticket inspector chase Jason and Nicholas off the train?  
\_\_\_\_\_

**B. Are these sentences True or False? Write T or F in the boxes.**

- 1 Nicholas was choking when Jason came out of the bathroom at the airport. ☐
- 2 Both boys were impressed by the New Year celebrations. ☐
- 3 Nicholas watched the parade from his bedroom window. ☐
- 4 Nicholas was peeking through Jason's keyhole. ☐
- 5 Mrs Pickles did not notice Jason leaving. ☐

**REVISION TEST 1**

(Chapters 1 - 4)

**C. Choose a, b or c to complete the following sentences.**

- 1 The teacher told the boy to \_\_\_\_\_ himself in class.  
a behave                      b act                      c look
- 2 The football player had many \_\_\_\_\_ to score a goal during the game.  
a reasons                      b opportunities                      c times
- 3 She made a very good \_\_\_\_\_ on her boss during the meeting.  
a effect                      b impression                      c experience
- 4 "Remember to collect all your \_\_\_\_\_ before you leave," she said.  
a troubles                      b thoughts                      c belongings
- 5 The police were \_\_\_\_\_ the thief for hours.  
a chasing                      b moving                      c stopping
- 6 Living close to your work is very \_\_\_\_\_.  
a difficult                      b convenient                      c bothering
- 7 Carl could not \_\_\_\_\_ his father to give him the car for the night.  
a convince                      b prove                      c assure
- 8 'Merry Christmas' is a popular \_\_\_\_\_.  
a address                      b compliment                      c greeting
- 9 The boys were always getting themselves into \_\_\_\_\_.  
a trouble                      b panic                      c worry
- 10 The students were awarded prizes for their \_\_\_\_\_ at school.  
a comments                      b accomplishments                      c accents