

## Superstitions(高年級組)

In many Western countries, people are afraid of the number 13. They are especially afraid of Friday the 13th. They don't travel or do important things on Friday the 13th. They also feel it is unlucky to open an umbrella indoors. Besides, some say breaking a mirror can bring seven years of bad luck. What's more, number four sounds like the Chinese word, death, and it should be avoided. Superstitions like these have been around for a long time.

However, do all superstitions mean bad luck? I don't think so. For example, the Chinese believe that good luck can be found in pairs. In addition, fish are considered lucky creatures. This is because "fish" in Chinese sounds like the word meaning "surplus". So many businessmen put a bowl full of fish in their store. They believe it will help to bring in a surplus of money. Besides, fish is often served at dinner on Chinese New Year. People hope these practices will bring extra wealth in the coming year.

Maybe you are superstitious, but don't feel bad. Almost everyone has some rational or irrational beliefs. Even though we live in a world of science and technology, superstitions play an important role in our lives.