



- 1** How many British superstitions do you know? Match the beginnings and endings of these superstitions.



BRITISH SUPERSTITIONS

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- 1 If you open an umbrella indoors,
 - 2 If you see two magpies,
 - 3 If the sky is red in the evening,
 - 4 Something bad will happen to you
 - 5 You'll have a male visitor
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- a if you walk under a ladder.
 - b it'll bring bad luck.
 - c if you drop a knife (and a female visitor if it's a fork).
 - d you'll be lucky.
 - e the weather will be good the next day.



- 2** **3.03** Listen and check. Are any of the superstitions the same in your country?



- 3** Study the sentences in exercise 1. Then complete the information in the *Learn this!* box with *after*, *present simple*, and *'will' + verb*.

LEARN THIS!

- 1** We use the **first conditional** to predict the result of an action. We use the _____ to describe the action and _____ to describe the result.
If you walk under a ladder, it'll bring bad luck.
- ↑ ↑
action result
- 2** The *if* clause can come before or after the main clause. If it comes _____, we don't use a comma.
You'll have good luck if you carry a rabbit's paw in your pocket.




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- 4** Complete the sentences about superstitions. Use the present simple or *will* form of the verbs in brackets.

- 1 **Turkey** If you get out of the bed on the right side, your day _____ (start) well.
- 2 **China** If you _____ (not eat) meat on the first day of the Chinese year, you'll have a long and happy life.
- 3 **France** If an unmarried girl steps on a cat's tail, she _____ (not find) a husband in the next year.
- 4 **Ireland** If you _____ (put) a pair of shoes on a table, it'll bring bad luck.
- 5 **Korea** If you give your boyfriend or girlfriend a pair of shoes, he or she _____ (leave) you.
- 6 **Russia** If you _____ (look) in a broken mirror, you'll have bad luck.



- 5**  **3.04 PRONUNCIATION** Listen and repeat the sentences in exercise 4. How are the words *will* and *won't* pronounced?



- 6** Complete the text. Use the correct form of the verbs in brackets.



Superstitions around the world

Different countries have different superstitions. For example, in Britain and Japan, if a black cat ¹ _____ (walk) in front of you, you ² _____ (have) good luck. But in the USA and many other countries it's the opposite: if a black cat ³ _____ (cross) your path, it ⁴ _____ (bring) you bad luck. However, many superstitions are almost the same the world over. For example, if you ⁵ _____ (break) a mirror, you ⁶ _____ (be) unlucky for seven years, but if you ⁷ _____ (touch) wood, it ⁸ _____ (prevent) bad luck.

There are also superstitions about numbers. If you ⁹ _____ (look) at the seats on some aeroplanes, you ¹⁰ _____ (not find) the number 13. In Japan the number 4 is unlucky because it is pronounced the same as the word for 'death'. However, dates where the numbers are the same (for example 12/12/12) are very lucky. If a Japanese couple ¹¹ _____ (decide) to get married, they ¹² _____ (try) to have the wedding on such a date.



SPEAKING Work in pairs. Ask and answer the questions.

What will you do if:

- the weather is fine at the weekend?
- you wake up in the middle of the night?
- you don't feel well on Monday morning?
- you forget your best friend's birthday?
- you can't do your homework?
- there's nothing good on TV this evening?

What will you do if the weather is fine at the weekend?

I'll go to the beach.