

New Year celebrations

Ranking Exercise:

Rank the following New Year's resolutions from most to least challenging to keep. Explain why the first ranked item is the most challenging.

- _____ Save more money.
- _____ Exercise regularly.
- _____ Read more books.
- _____ Learn a new language.
- _____ Spend less time on social media.

Explanation for the Most Challenging Resolution: _____

Feature	New York City	Sydney
Main Event	Times Square Ball Drop	Sydney Harbour Fireworks
Cultural Significance	Countdown and Midnight Kiss	Family Gatherings and Reflection
Typical Weather	Cold, often snowy	Warm, summer night
Traditional Food	Champagne and Party Snacks	Seafood and Barbecues
Local Customs	Singing Auld Lang Syne	Harbour boat parades
Duration of Celebration	Few hours leading to midnight	All day and night
Accessibility	Highly crowded, security checkpoints	Open spaces, beaches, parks

Related Questions:

1. What are the key differences in the weather during New Year's celebrations in New York City and Sydney?

2. How does the traditional food differ between the two cities on New Year's Eve?

3. Why might someone prefer the New Year celebration in Sydney over New York City?

4. Describe how the cultural significance of New Year's Eve is reflected in the celebrations in both cities.

5. What challenges might you face if you wanted to attend the Times Square Ball Drop?

6. Imagine you are celebrating New Year's Eve in Sydney. What activities might you participate in?

Example Answers:

Ranking Explanation:

- Learn a new language is the most challenging because it requires consistent effort, time, and dedication over a long period. It's not only about memorizing words but also about understanding a new culture and way of thinking.

Questions:

1. New York experiences cold and often snowy weather, while Sydney has warm summer nights.
2. In New York, champagne and party snacks are common, whereas in Sydney, seafood and barbecues are traditional.
3. Someone might prefer Sydney for its warm weather, outdoor celebrations, and relaxed atmosphere.
4. In New York, the focus is on the countdown and the iconic ball drop, symbolizing a fresh start. In Sydney, the celebration is more about family gatherings and reflecting on the year.
5. The challenges include dealing with large crowds, cold weather, and strict security.
6. Activities might include watching the fireworks, participating in harbor boat parades, and enjoying barbecues at the beach.