

# Answers

1. Why is the calendar known as the Gregorian calendar?

**It is named after its inventor, Pope Gregory XIII.**

2. Which country welcomes the New Year first? Tick **one**.

- Brazil
- Kiribati**
- The United States of America
- Mexico

3. Give another name that is used for New Year's Eve.

**Accept 'Old Year's Day', 'Saint Sylvester's Day' or 'Hogmanay'.**

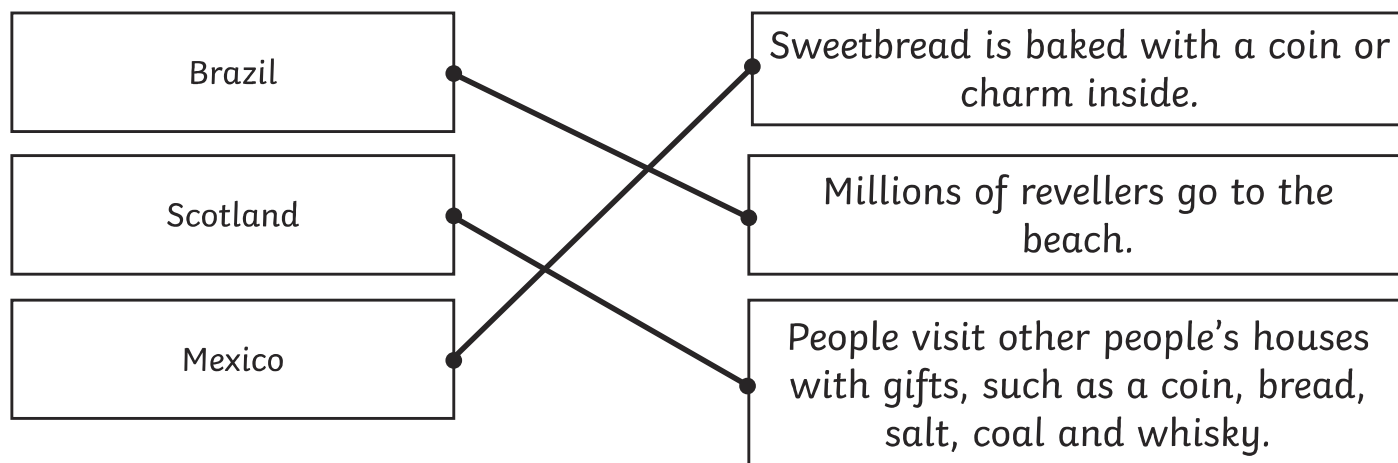
4. Explain one of the traditions that Mexicans may carry out at New Year and give the reason.

**Accept answers giving reference to one of the following traditions and explaining its meaning:**

- **Decorating houses in red, yellow, white and green to symbolise hopes for the new year.**
  - **Eating a grape for each of the 12 chimes of midnight and making a wish each time.**
  - **Baking sweetbread with a hidden coin or charm inside to bless the recipient with good luck.**
  - **Write down all the bad or unhappy things that have happened in the past year and burn the list, symbolising the removal of negative energy for the coming year.**
5. 'The recipient of the coin or charm is said to be blessed with good luck.'  
What does the word 'recipient' mean in this sentence?

**The word 'recipient' means the person receiving the coin or charm.**

6. Match the country to the New Year celebration.



7. Why do you think fireworks have become popular to use in New Year's celebrations?

**Pupil's own responses, such as: I think fireworks have become popular to use because they are bright and colourful and make people happy. This then starts the new year off with happy feelings and celebrates all the hopes people have at the start of a new year.**

8. Why do you think people choose to make New Year's Resolutions?

**Pupil's own response, such as: I think people choose to make New Year's Resolutions because it helps them to give up something that may be difficult to stop and focus on making it through a year. It also shows that the person is making changes for the year ahead which will have a positive effect on their life.**