

Words Of Fortune Answer Key

Sample Interpretations:

1. **Turn over a new leaf** - To make a fresh start or change for the better; reflects the Lunar New Year tradition of self-improvement and renewal.
2. **A clean slate** - To start again without past mistakes; connects to cleaning homes before the holiday to sweep away bad luck.
3. **Strike while the iron is hot** - Take action when the moment is right; relates to setting intentions and seizing opportunities in the new year.
4. **Fortune favors the bold** - Success comes to those who are brave; mirrors the courage celebrated in the zodiac animals like the Tiger or Dragon.
5. **Plant the seeds of success** - Begin efforts now to achieve future growth; ties to new year wishes for prosperity and long-term goals.
6. **Out with the old, in with the new** - Let go of the past to welcome change; represents renewal, cleansing, and new beginnings central to the celebration.

Quick Tips for Teachers:

- **Pre-teach idioms:** Briefly discuss the difference between literal and figurative meanings.
- **Model one example:** Work through the first idiom together before students try the rest independently.
- **Differentiation:**
 - For **Grades 7-8:** Provide a word bank of figurative meanings or visuals to aid comprehension.
 - For **Grades 9-10:** Challenge students to write a short paragraph applying one idiom to their own life goals for the new year.
- **Extension Activities:**
 - Compare English idioms to Chinese proverbs with similar meanings, such as "Every day is a new beginning."
 - Create a classroom "wall of wisdom" featuring students' favorite idioms and how they connect to personal growth.