

New Year Proverbs Answer Key

- **Plato:** Reminds students that starting something new is often the hardest but most vital part of success.
- **Ali:** Encourages living meaningfully and using each day with purpose, not just counting time.
- **Lao Tzu:** Highlights that progress comes from taking the first step, no matter how big the goal.
- **Eliot:** Suggests that every moment can be a chance to begin again, reflecting renewal and hope.
- **Einstein:** Emphasizes balance-learning from the past, embracing the present, and staying hopeful for the future.

A strong reflection should connect the proverb's meaning to **personal growth, motivation, or new beginnings**.

Teacher's Guide

Implementation Tips:

- Begin with a short discussion: "What's the difference between a saying and a proverb?"
- Read each proverb aloud and ask students to restate it in their own words before writing.
- Encourage discussion about how these quotes connect to New Year's resolutions or goal setting.

Differentiation Strategies:

- **Grades 7-8:** Allow shorter responses or use sentence frames like "This means that..." or "It reminds me to..."
- **Grades 9-12:** Require deeper analysis linking proverbs to real-world experiences or famous examples.
- **For ELLs:** Provide simple paraphrases of each proverb to clarify meaning.