

2018 to be a great year

2nd January, 2018



The year 2018 is just days old, but already there are indications it will be a great 12 months. This is according to a poll conducted by the international news service BNE. The service's top pollster asked pertinent questions about

whether people were optimistic or pessimistic about the year ahead. A resounding 100 per cent of survey participants responded positively. They all thought 2018 would be a wonderful year, both in their personal lives and in terms of national and global issues. All those who took part in the survey were of the opinion that 2018 would be significantly better than the year 2017. A BNE spokesman said he was heartened by the responses and wished everyone good fortune.

The survey questioned participants' views on their hopes for their own life, as well as for the fate of the Earth. An overwhelming majority of people were convinced they would carry out their New Year resolutions. In particular, people were determined to get in shape, stop procrastinating, save money, and improve their English ability. Others said they would use their smartphones less often, eat less fast food and chocolate, and make sure their homes are always very, very tidy. Most participants were positive about the world in 2018. They thought there would be fewer wars, less pollution and an increase in goodwill shown to the less fortunate. Everyone hoped for more peace, love, happiness and prosperity.

Sources: *BreakingNewsEnglish.com*

Writing

The year 2018 will be the best ever. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

2018 / indications / poll / international / news / optimistic / pessimistic / fortune / views / majority / resolutions / English ability / smartphones / tidy / wars / peace

True / False

- The article says there are already signs that 2018 will be a great year. T / F
- All of the participants in a survey were positive about 2018. T / F
- The participants thought global issues would not be so wonderful. T / F
- Half of the participants thought 2018 would be better than 2017. T / F
- Less than half of the people think their New Year resolutions will last. T / F
- Most of the people are determined to stop putting things off. T / F
- Most people want to make more use of their smartphones in 2018. T / F
- Everyone hoped for greater prosperity and more goodwill. T / F

Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. indications | a. opinions |
| 2. conducted | b. answered |
| 3. pessimistic | c. wealth |
| 4. responded | d. carried out |
| 5. significantly | e. destiny |
| 6. views | f. signs |
| 7. fate | g. neat |
| 8. procrastinating | h. gloomy |
| 9. tidy | i. putting things off |
| 10. prosperity | j. considerably |

Discussion – Student A

- How do you feel about 2018?
- What are you optimistic and pessimistic about regarding 2018?
- What do you think 2018 will be like for you?
- What do you think 2018 will be like for the world?
- What did you think of the year 2017?
- What do you hope will happen in 2018?
- What bad things might happen in 2018?
- What has been the best year of your life, and why?

Phrase Match

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. indications it will | a. pessimistic about the year |
| 2. according | b. to the less fortunate |
| 3. whether people were optimistic or | c. better |
| 4. in terms of national | d. to a poll |
| 5. 2018 would be significantly | e. of the Earth |
| 6. the fate | f. procrastinating |
| 7. An overwhelming | g. be a great 12 months |
| 8. stop | h. and prosperity |
| 9. an increase in goodwill shown | i. and global issues |
| 10. more peace, love, happiness | j. majority of people |

Discussion – Student B

- What do you think about what you read?
- What New Year resolutions do you have?
- How much of a procrastinator are you?
- What will you do to improve your English ability this year?
- How possible is it for you to use your smartphone less this year?
- What are your thoughts on the number of wars in 2018?
- What will lead to more love in the world?
- What questions would you like to ask the pollster?

Spelling

- daosciiintn it will be a great 12 months
- asked irpnttene questions
- whether people were optimistic or esiisitmcsp
- survey participants responded tipsioveyl
- enedtaehr by the responses
- wished everyone good enrtufo
- An overwhelming rmoyatij of people
- people were ivcnoendc they would
- reedtmnied to get in shape
- stop aicaonprngttirs
- goodwill shown to the less nruatteof
- peace, love, happiness and perryitso

Answers – Synonym Match

1. f	2. d	3. h	4. b	5. j
6. a	7. e	8. i	9. g	10. c

Role Play

Role A – Fewer Wars

You think fewer wars is the most important hope for 2018. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their hopes aren't as important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): better leaders, less poverty or more security.

Role B – Better Leaders

You think better leaders is the most important hope for 2018. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their hopes aren't as important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): fewer wars, less poverty or more security.

Role C – Less Poverty

You think less poverty is the most important hope for 2018. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their hopes aren't as important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): better leaders, fewer wars or more security.

Role D – More Security

You think more security is the most important hope for 2018. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their hopes aren't as important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): better leaders, less poverty or fewer wars.

Speaking – Hopes

Rank these with your partner. Put your most important hopes for 2018 at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------|
| • Greater tolerance | • Fewer wars |
| • More security | • Better leaders |
| • Better food | • Less poverty |
| • More money | • More equality |

Answers – True False

a T	b T	c F	d F	e F	f T	g F	h T
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.