

Words & Phrases

單字片語

★號為全民英檢中級必背單字

1. **take to the streets** 走上街頭

Everyone in the building took to the streets when the fire alarm went off.  
火災警鈴響起時，大樓裡的所有人紛紛走到街上。

★ 2. **get / be soaking wet** 全身溼透的  
**=get / be soaked**

I was caught in the rain without an umbrella and ended up getting soaking wet.  
我被困在雨中又沒帶傘，結果渾身溼透了。

3. **sacred** ['sekɪd] a. 神聖的

Cows are considered sacred animals in many parts of India.  
牛在印度許多地區被視為是神聖的動物。

★ 4. **significance** [sɪg'nɪfəkəns] n. 重要意義；重要性

Only after I moved away from home did I realize the significance of family.  
我搬離家後才體會到家庭的重要性。

5. **transformation** [trænsfə'meɪʃən] n. 轉變

Children often go through a big transformation when they become teenagers.  
兒童進入青少年時期常常會有很大轉變。

★ 6. **wash away... / wash... away** 沖走……

The dirt on the street was washed away by the rain last night.  
街上的塵垢被昨晚的雨沖走了。

★ 7. **occasion** [ə'keɪʒən] n. 機會，時機；場合

You should take this occasion to go abroad and learn more English.  
你應該把握這次出國的機會多學英文。

★ 8. **be on sb's best behavior** 表現出某人最好的一面

My mother-in-law is visiting us, so I must be on my best behavior.  
我的岳母要來拜訪我們，所以我必須表現出最好的一面。

Extra Words

補充字詞

- \* **splash** [splæʃ] n. (液體) 潑濺聲 & vt. & vi. 潑濺，飛濺
- \* **hose** [hoʊz] n. 水管
- \* **pistol** ['pɪstl] n. 手槍
- \* **pastime** ['pæstɑɪm] n. 消遣，娛樂
- \* **constellation** [kənstə'leɪʃən] n. 星座
- \* **offering** ['ɒfərɪŋ] n. 祭品

You Can Do This

英文試金石 請依句意在空格內填入適當的字詞

- 1 海浪將小朋友堆好的沙堡沖掉了。  
The waves \_\_\_\_\_ the sandcastles the children had built.
- 2 吉兒讀大學時經歷了很大轉變，她開始化妝、變得更美了。  
Jill experienced a major \_\_\_\_\_ in college as she began wearing makeup and got prettier.
- 3 在某個炎熱的夏日慢跑不過30分鐘後，我全身就溼透了。  
I got \_\_\_\_\_ after jogging for just 30 minutes on a hot summer day.



在國際地球村的趨勢下，英語成了升學、出國的必備利器，  
《常春藤生活英語雜誌》為使讀者可以輕鬆與外國人對話，特別推出「生活FUN學堂」，  
內容有生活性的實用對話、時事主題及新知，讓你輕輕鬆鬆，英語升級！

# Making a Splash

## The traditional Thai New Year is wet and wild. 「水」力全開！潑水節狂歡開趴

圖 / 路透



Every year on April 13th, the people of Thailand **take to the streets**<sup>1</sup> with **hoses**, buckets, water **pistols**, and water balloons. Everyone throws water at each other and **gets soaking wet**<sup>2</sup>. In a hot climate, this is a perfectly enjoyable **pastime**, but there is also a **sacred**<sup>3</sup> **significance**<sup>4</sup> to this event.

The traditional New Year in Thailand is called Songkran, which means "movement." It occurs when the sun moves from the **constellation** Pisces to Aries. This is the best time of year for new beginnings and personal **transformation**<sup>5</sup>. The practice of splashing water on one another is a symbol of **washing away**<sup>6</sup> the past and making a fresh start.

Songkran is famous for the incredible sight of water fights in the streets, but there are many other traditions associated with the festival. People also visit temples, make **offerings** to Buddha and ancestors, prepare food for monks or family, and find **occasions**<sup>7</sup> to wear their finest clothing. Everyone **is on their best behavior**<sup>8</sup> during the three days of the New Year celebrations.

Translation

每年的4月13日，泰國民眾都會紛紛帶著水管、水桶、水槍和水球走上街頭。大家會朝彼此互相潑水，然後玩得全身溼透。在炎熱的氣候中，這是個其樂無窮的消遣娛樂，但這項活動也有神聖的重要意義。

傳統泰國新年又稱為宋干節，其意思為「運轉」。宋干節正好恰逢太陽由雙魚座運行至牡羊座時。這在一年當中是萬象更新及改變自我的最佳時機。相互潑水的習俗則象徵著沖掉過往種種、揭開全新一頁。

雖然潑水節以街頭潑水大戰的壯觀景象而著稱，但仍有許多其他傳統跟潑水節有關。人們還會參訪寺廟、向佛祖和祖先獻祭、為僧侶與家人準備食物，以及找機會穿上他們最好的衣服。每個人在為期3天的新年慶祝活動中都會展現出他們最佳的一面。