CHINESE BOOST

Festivals Chinese vocabulary: Intermediate (HSK 4-6)

30 words with pinyin, 繁體 and meanings, 22 of them with an example sentence.
Every word here links to its entry on the site.

Festivals Chinese vocabulary: Intermediate (HSK 4-6) on the web
The same words as a CSV, for Anki or a spreadsheet
A free account, which keeps 简体 or 繁體, pinyin or 注音 and the rest of how you read Chinese on every device

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Words

月饼 月餅
yuèbǐng mooncake (esp. for the Mid-Autumn Festival)
> 你喜欢吃甜的月饼还是咸的?
> Nǐ xǐhuan chī tián de yuèbǐng háishi Xián de?
> Do you like sweet mooncakes or savory ones?

春联 春聯
chūnlián Spring Festival couplet (the first line of which is pasted on the right side of a doorway at New Year, and the second on the left side)

红包 紅包
hóngbāo money wrapped in red as a gift / bonus payment / kickback / bribe
> 老板赏了他一个红包。
> Lǎobǎn shǎngle tā yí gè hóngbāo.
> The boss gave him a red envelope as a reward.

庆祝 慶祝
qìngzhù to celebrate
> 你是怎样庆祝生日的?
> Nǐ shì zěnyàng qìngzhù shēngrì de?
> How did you celebrate your birthday?

热闹 熱鬧
rènao bustling with noise and excitement / lively
> 藏族的节日很热闹。
> Zàngzú de jiérì hěn rènao.
> The Tibetan festivals are very lively.

节假日 節假日
jiéjiàrì public holiday
> 节假日火车票不好买。
> Jiéjiàrì huǒchēpiào bù hǎo mǎi.
> Train tickets are hard to buy on public holidays.

元旦
yuándàn New Year's Day
> 元旦就在眼前。
> Yuándàn jiù zài yǎnqián.
> New Year's Day is close at hand.

传统 傳統
chuántǒng tradition / traditional
> 中华传统节日有很多。
> Zhōnghuá chuántǒng jiérì yǒu hěn duō.
> There are many traditional Chinese festivals.

除夕
chúxī lunar New Year's Eve
> 除夕那天，你要回老家吗?
> Chúxī nàtiān, nǐ yào huílǎojiā ma?
> Are you going back to your hometown on New Year's Eve?

端午节 端午節
duānwǔjié Dragon Boat Festival (5th day of the 5th lunar month)

重阳节 重陽節
chóngyángjié Double Ninth or Yang Festival / 9th day of 9th lunar month

压岁钱 壓歲錢
yāsuìqián money given to children as a gift on Chinese New Year's Eve
> 你今年收到多少压岁钱?
> Nǐ jīnnián shōudào duōshǎo yāsuìqián?
> How much New Year money did you get this year?

年夜饭 年夜飯
niányèfàn reunion dinner on Lunar New Year's Eve (Chinese New Year tradition)
> 今年的年夜饭在奶奶家吃。
> Jīnnián de niányèfàn zài nǎinai jiā chī.
> This year's reunion dinner will be at Grandma's house.

清明节 清明節
qīngmíngjié Qingming or Pure Brightness Festival or Tomb Sweeping Day, celebration for the dead (in early April)

纪念 紀念
jìniàn to commemorate / to honor the memory of / memento / keepsake / souvenir
> 周年纪念很重要。
> Zhōunián jìniàn hěn zhòngyào.
> Anniversaries are important.

腊八粥 臘八粥
làbāzhōu Laba congee, ceremonial rice porridge dish eaten on the 8th day of the 12th month in the Chinese calendar

春卷 春捲
chūnjuǎn egg roll / spring roll

元宵节 元宵節

yuánxiāojié Lantern Festival, the final event of the Spring Festival 春節|春节, on 15th of first month of the lunar calendar

> 元宵节是什么时候?
> Yuánxiāojié shì shénme shíhou?
> When is the Lantern Festival?

习俗 習俗

xísú custom / tradition / local tradition / convention

> 不同的国家有不同的习俗。
> Bùtóng de guójiā yǒu bùtóng de xísú.
> Each country has its own customs.

团圆 團圓

tuányuán to have a reunion

> 一家人终于团圆了!
> Yìjiārén zhōngyú tuányuán le!
> The family is finally reunited!

粽子

zòngzi glutinous rice and choice of filling wrapped in leaves and steamed or boiled

> 粽子刚煮好，小心烫!
> Zòngzi gāng zhǔ hǎo, xiǎoxīn tàng!
> The zongzi just finished cooking, so be careful, they're hot!

灯笼 燈籠

dēnglóng lantern

> 元宵节你想不想去看灯笼?
> Yuánxiāojié nǐ xiǎng bùxiǎng qù kàn dēnglóng?
> Do you want to go see the lanterns on the Lantern Festival?

拜年

bàinián to pay a New Year call / to wish sb a Happy New Year

> 初一我们去外婆家拜年。
> Chūyī wǒmen qù wàipójiā bàinián.
> On the first day of the New Year, we go to Grandma's house to pay a New Year call.

龙舟 龍舟

lóngzhōu dragon boat / imperial boat

汤圆 湯圓

tāngyuán boiled or deep-fried balls of glutinous rice flour, usually eaten during Lantern Festival

> 妈妈煮的汤圆又软又甜。
> Māma zhǔ de tāngyuán yòu ruǎn yòu tián.
> The glutinous rice balls Mom cooked are soft and sweet.

祝福

zhùfú blessings / to wish sb well

> 谢谢你的祝福。
> Xièxie nǐ de zhùfú.
> Thanks for your well-wishes.

花灯 花燈

huādēng colored lantern (used at Lantern Festival 元宵節|元宵节)

> 你能教我做花灯吗?
> Nǐ néng jiāo wǒ zuò huādēng ma?
> Can you teach me how to make a festival lantern?

元宵

yuánxiāo Lantern Festival / night of the 15th of the first lunar month / sticky rice dumplings

> 元宵到了，街上挂满了灯笼。
> Yuánxiāo dàole, jiēshang guà mǎnle dēnglóng.
> The Lantern Festival has arrived, and the streets are full of lanterns.

祈福

qífú to pray for blessings

守夜

shǒuyè to be on all-night duty / to be on night watch / to keep a vigil

> 你们家除夕夜守夜吗?
> Nǐmen jiā chúxīyè shǒuyè ma?
> Does your family stay up all night on New Year's Eve?