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**INSTITUTO INMACULADA CONCEPCION VALDIVIA**

**ENGLISH DEPARTMENT**

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**ENGLISH AS A FOREIGN LANGUAGE EXERCISE HANDOUT Unit 1**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Grade:**  **Date**: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Capacity: Written Expression / L. Reasoning Skills: Write/ Apply / Identify

Contents: First ConditionalValue: LibertyAttitude: Autonomy

**IDENTIFY specific information about the origin of two superstitions developing AUTONOMY.**

## "A broken mirror gives you seven years of bad luck."

In ancient Greece, it was common for people to consult "mirror **seers**," who told their fortunes by analyzing their reflections. Divination was performed with the help of water and a looking glass (mirror). This was called catoptromancy. The mirror was put into the water and a sick person was asked to look into the glass. If his image appeared distorted, he would die **soon**; if it was clear, he would live."

In the first century, the Romans added a **twist** to the superstition. At that time, it was believed that a distorted image resulting from a broken mirror meant seven years of ill-health and misfortune, rather than death.

**"A black cat crossing your path is lucky/unlucky."**

Many cultures agree that black cats are powerful omens but do they signify good or evil?

The ancient Egyptians loved all cats, and it was there that the belief began that a black cat crossing your **path** brings good luck. This positive reputation was different in Europe in the early seventeenth century in England. King Charles had a black cat as a pet. When the cat died, King Charles lamented that his luck was gone. The day after the cat’s death he was arrested and charged with high treason.

During the Middle Ages, in many other parts of Europe people thought black cats were the "familiars," or companions of witches, or even witches themselves in disguise, and that a black cat crossing your path was an indication of bad luck, a sign that the devil was watching you. This was a strong belief held by the Pilgrims when they came to America, perhaps that explains the strong association between black cats and **witchcraft** that exists in the country to this day.

**WRITE T (true) or F (false) next to the following statements. Justify the false ones.**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ The Ancient Greeks used water or a mirror to see their future. …………………………………………………………………………………………………………………..……
2. \_\_\_\_\_ For the Romans, a sick person would die if his image was distorted. …………………………………………………………………………………………………………………..……
3. \_\_\_\_\_ For different cultures blacks cats are always evil. …………………………………………………………………………………………………………………..……
4. \_\_\_\_\_ For King Charles his black cat was good luck. …………………………………………………………………………………………………………………..……
5. \_\_\_\_\_ For some people in the Middle Ages, a black cat was a witch.

…………………………………………………………………………………………………………………..……

**IDENTIFY the meaning of these words and match them with their definitions.**

1. Seers a- way, road.
2. Soon b- someone who can tell your fortune
3. Twist c- the practice of magic
4. Path d- in a short time
5. witchcraft c- a change, a different meaning

**APPLY First Conditional and complete the sentences.**

1. If it ………………………………….. ( rain) tomorrow, we ……………………….. (not go) to school .
2. My parents ………….................... (be) very angry if my sister …………………….….( not pass) her exams.
3. ……………………. you…………..….( pay) if I ………………………… ( go) to the cinema with you?
4. If I ……………………………….. ( not arrive) late to school, they ………………………….... ( let) me in.
5. We …………………………….. ( not have) English classes if our teacher ………………………..… ( be) ill.

**WRITE the superstitions related to these words using First Conditional.**

**Ladder**

………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

**Shooting star**

………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

