

UNIT 59

Christmas and New Year's



I. Express Yourself



II. Vocabulary

Match the word with its correct meaning.

yearend

a. to brighten; to ignite

skeleton staff

b. (n) the end of usually the fiscal year;
(adj) made, occurring, or existing at the yearend

lit up

c. the smallest number of people needed for a business or organization to operate

crowded

d. filled with many or too many people or things

III. Conversation Practice

Practice the conversation with your teacher by doing a role play.

Kazuhiro: Hello, Steve? It's Kazuhiro. **How are you doing?**

Steve: Hi, Kaz. **I'm doing well**, thanks. How's Tokyo?

Kazuhiro: Everything's great here. Listen, I'll be coming to Manhattan over the **yearend** break for vacation. **Will you be around?** I'll be with my family.

Steve: Yes, **we'll be around**. Have you been to New York before?

Kazuhiro: Never, this is our first step. Is it like Japan where everybody's off from work at that time?

Steve: No, many people take off Christmas and New Year's but businesses are still open. There's usually a **skeleton staff**.

Kazuhiro: What do you recommend we do? We're coming for a week.

Steve: Well, you must go to Rockefeller Center at night to see the Christmas tree when it's **lit up**.

Kazuhiro: Yes, that's on our list. We heard Macy's department store has magnificent window displays.

Steve: Definitely worth seeing. They're famous for it. The kids will love to go to "FAO Schwarz" which is on 57th Street. It's the best toy store in the world.

Kazuhiro: They'll love that. What about New Year's Eve, what should we do?

Steve: Go to Time Square and watch the **ball drop** at midnight. It's very **crowded** but so much fun.

Kazuhiro: That sounds great. I'm excited for our trip. **I hope we get to see you.**



Key Points

<p><u><i>How are you doing?</i></u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How are you? - How are you getting along? - How's it going? - How are things going with you? - How's everything? - What's happening? - How's life?
<p><u><i>I'm doing well.</i></u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - I'm doing fine / OK / all right / well / great. - Pretty well. - Not bad. - Couldn't be better. - Excellent.
<p><u><i>Will you be around?</i></u> <u><i>We'll be around.</i></u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Are you going to be there? - Are you available?
<p><u><i>I hope we get to see you.</i></u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - I hope to see you. - I'd love to see you.

IV. Role-play

**Your foreigner friend wants to send some gifts to his/her relatives abroad.
Recommend some souvenirs to your friend.**



Part 2

I. Introduction




II. Discussion

 Exercise A Christmas is coming!



 Exercise B

Do you Agree or Disagree? Explain your stand.

	<p>Gift-giving is not necessary on Christmas.</p>
	<p>Giving money is better than giving material items as Christmas presents.</p>
	<p>Giving/Sending letters to a special someone is the best gift for Christmas/New Year's.</p>

 Exercise C

Role-play

**You are in a store and having trouble choosing some Christmas gifts you want to send to your family in Japan.
Ask the staff for some recommendations.**



**You are going to visit your friend in the Philippines.
Call him and ask about some good places to visit and other fun things to do on Christmas and the New Year.**

