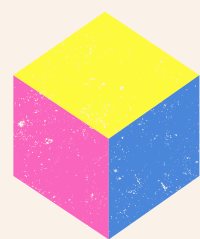


SUMAA NEWSLETTER

Hi, everyone !

We're now into the ninth month of the year, which is interesting because in Thai, we have a lot of words that sound the same but that have different meanings and sometimes Thais connect these sound-meaning pairs with beliefs about good or bad fortune. So for example, a lot of Thais think that nine is an auspicious number because in Thai, nine (or *kâaw*) sounds very similar to *kâaw*, which means to improve, to move forward, or to progress. In the same way, *hòk* can mean both six and to fall, which can be connected with failing to achieve a goal. Or we also have *sŭun*, which means zero in Thai, but which also sounds like the word for to lose, to miss, or to be bereft of something. These kinds of belief are actually quite common in other Asian cultures. For example, the word for four in Chinese also sounds like the word for to die, so four is considered an unlucky number.

Do you have any beliefs like this in your country? If you do, why don't you tell us about them!



In this month's episode of *sà·sǒm·sàp*, we talk about more Thai idioms connected to numbers, so make sure not to miss this.

lêek Thai khǎn yanṅay

Handwriting practice lines for Thai numerals:

๑ ๒ ๓

๔ ๕ ๖

๗ ๘ ๙

sà·sǒm·sàp
(๘๘๘๘๘๘๘)



sàp·sét
(๙๙๙๙๙๙๙)



If you go to Thai tourist spots, you'll notice that in addition to displaying prices in Arabic numerals, they're also given in the Thai system.

This month's episode of *sàp·sét* includes practice on writing these. It's not as difficult as you think, so if you want to know more, be sure to check this out.