



Waiting for Christmas, One Door at a Time

Read the story. 英文を読もう。

Class _____ No. _____ Name _____

① In December 1839, the children at a home in Hamburg, Germany, could not wait for Christmas. The home was run by a pastor named Johann Hinrich Wichern. He took an old wooden wheel and put candles on it. Each day, the children lit one more candle. As the light grew, Christmas came closer.



② This waiting time is called Advent. The name comes from a Latin word that means arrival. For Christians, it is a time to get ready for the birth of Jesus. Advent starts on the fourth Sunday before Christmas and ends on December 24. Today, many families put four candles on a ring of green branches. They light one new candle every Sunday.

③ The Advent calendar also comes from Germany. At first, some families drew 24 lines with chalk, and children wiped away one line each day. Later, a man named Gerhard Lang began to sell printed calendars. When he was a boy, his mother gave him a small sweet for each day before Christmas. Today, most calendars have 24 little doors, from December 1 to December 24. Behind each door, you may find a picture, a piece of chocolate, or a tiny toy.

④ In Japan, Advent calendars have become popular in recent years. Stores sell calendars with tea, toys, and even makeup inside. Japanese programmers have their own kind of Advent calendar too. Every day in December, a different person writes an article on the internet. In 2023, people wrote more than 19,000 articles on one website. Behind these doors, there is no chocolate, only new ideas.

Words 単語

arrival 到着、到来

pastor 牧師

wheel 車輪

candle ろうそく

branch 枝

chalk チョーク

wipe away ふき取る、ぬぐい去る

article 記事



Reading Check

Choose the best answer. 正しいものを選ぼう。

Class _____ No. _____ Name _____

1. What is the reading mainly about?

- (A) How to make chocolate in Germany
- (B) Advent and the ways people wait for Christmas
- (C) The life of a famous programmer
- (D) Christmas Day in Japan

2. What did Wichern put candles on?

- (A) A Christmas tree
- (B) A church window
- (C) A big cake
- (D) An old wooden wheel

3. When does Advent end?

- (A) On December 24
- (B) On December 1
- (C) On the first Sunday of December
- (D) On January 6

4. In paragraph 3, why did Gerhard Lang's mother give him a sweet each day?

- (A) Because he was sick
- (B) Because it was his birthday
- (C) To help him count the days to Christmas
- (D) To pay him for his work

5. In the dialogue, why can't Yuna open a door yet?

- (A) Lukas lost the calendar.
- (B) The first door is for December 1.
- (C) The doors are only for children.
- (D) She must light all four candles first.

True or False? 正しいければ T、ちがえば F に○

- | | |
|--|-------|
| Advent ends on December 24. | T / F |
| Wichern put candles on a Christmas tree. | T / F |
| Most Advent calendars have 24 doors. | T / F |
| Japanese programmers write articles only on December 25. | T / F |



Word Work

Words & phrases. 単語のれんしゅう。

Class _____ No. _____ Name _____

① Match the pictures and the words. 絵と単語を線で結ぼう。



●

● star



●

● chocolate



●

● church



●

● candle



●

● door



●

● calendar

② Fill in the blanks. 語群から選んで () に入れよう。

Sunday

Waiting

chocolate

pumpkin

day

candle

calendar

doors

Friday

Emma's Calendar

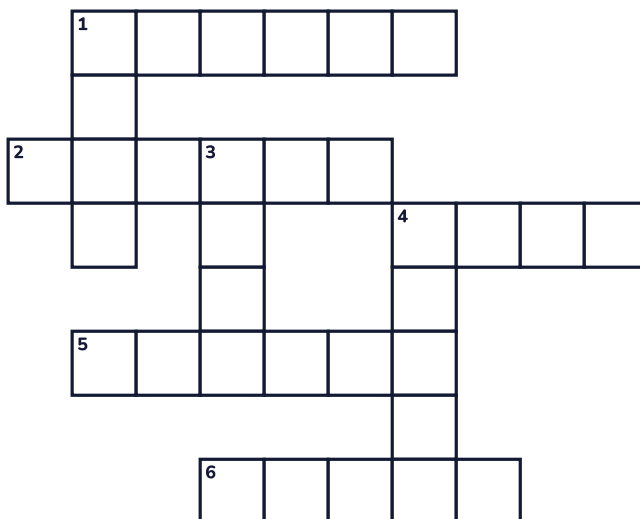
It is the first (1) _____ of Advent. Emma's family lights the first (2) _____ on the wreath. Then her grandma gives her a (3) _____ with 24 little (4) _____. On December 1, Emma opens the first one. She finds a small (5) _____ inside. "Only one door a (6) _____," says Grandma. Emma smiles. (7) _____ for Christmas is fun.



Crossword Puzzle

Read the clues and fill in the puzzle. ヒントを読んで、クロスワードを完成させよう。

Class _____ No. _____ Name _____



Across →

- 1 The first day of Advent is always this day of the week. (6)
- 2 You light this. It gives a small light. (6)
- 4 To stay until something happens. (4)
- 5 A color made from red and blue. Churches use it in Advent. (6)
- 6 Teachers write on the board with this. (5)

Down ↓

- 1 It shines in the night sky. People hang paper ones in windows. (4)
- 3 You open this to go into a room. A calendar can have 24 small ones. (4)
- 4 A round thing on a cart or a bike. (5)



Word Search

Find the hidden words. かくれた単語を探そう (→ ↓ ↘ ↗)。

Class _____ No. _____ Name _____

C	F	W	J	D	E	C	E	M	B	E	R	L
U	H	R	H	D	D	W	O	G	W	B	T	H
Y	F	A	H	E	A	P	H	I	D	S	T	C
D	U	E	L	I	E	D	D	O	I	O	A	G
T	I	G	R	K	K	L	V	D	F	H	O	O
S	U	N	D	A	Y	T	N	E	T	A	G	R
V	P	M	H	M	G	C	L	Y	N	H	W	U
W	U	W	I	B	V	D	L	B	W	T	C	L
E	R	D	U	V	N	V	W	S	E	D	A	C
W	P	H	P	A	I	S	T	A	R	J	J	P
W	L	E	C	J	W	R	E	A	T	H	H	A
J	E	E	M	M	H	C	J	R	L	M	T	S
R	T	K	J	J	V	T	I	L	F	A	G	S

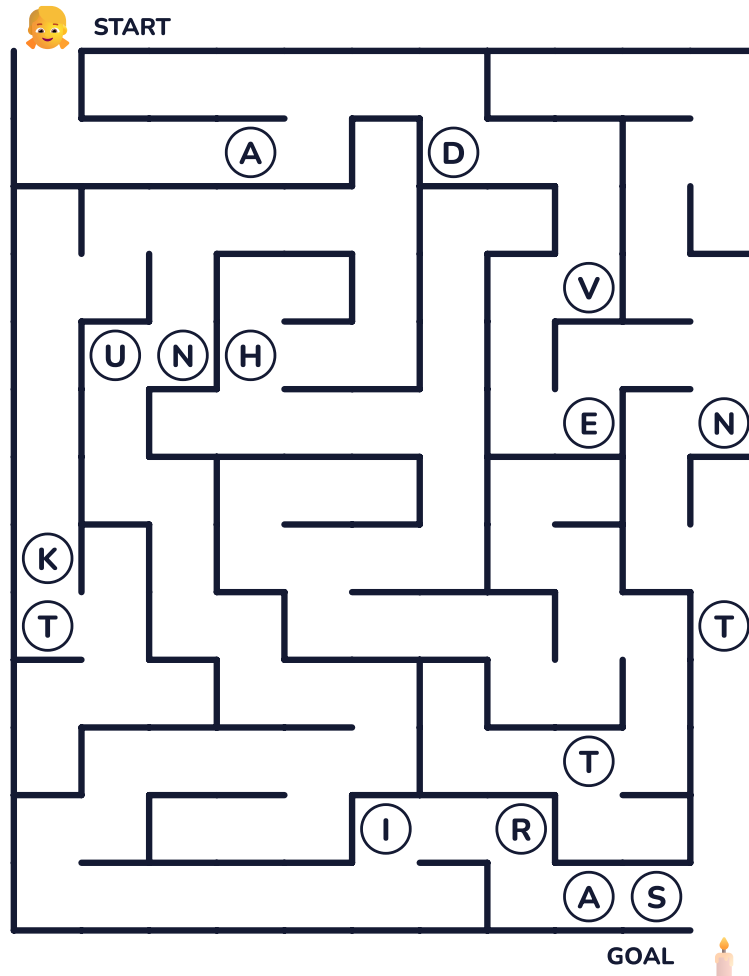
Find these words! 10

- ☐ ADVENT
- ☐ CANDLE
- ☐ CHALK
- ☐ DECEMBER
- ☐ DOOR
- ☐ PURPLE
- ☐ STAR
- ☐ SUNDAY
- ☐ WHEEL
- ☐ WREATH



Help Emma find the Advent candle!

Collect the letters on the right path. What is the secret word? 正しい道の文字を集めると、ひみつの言葉になるよ。



Secret word: _____



Class Activity & Writing

Class _____ No. _____ Name _____

Let's Write! 英語で書いてみよう。

If I made an Advent calendar, I would put _____ behind the doors because _____.

I am waiting for _____. I will count the days by _____.



Trace & Color

Trace the words. Then color the picture! なぞって書こう。絵に色を塗ろう。

Class _____ No. _____ Name _____



candle



calendar



door



star



chocolate

Draw your Advent! アドベント（待降節）とアドベントカレンダーの絵を描こう。