



Boats, Dragons, and Rice in Leaves

Read the story. 英文を読もう。

Class _____ No. _____ Name _____

① More than 2,000 years ago, a sad poet stood by a river in southern China. His name was Qu Yuan. He loved his country very much, but the king sent him away. When an enemy army took the capital, Qu Yuan jumped into the river.



音声を聞こう

② The story says that local people jumped into their boats to find him. They rowed fast and beat drums to scare the fish away. They also threw rice into the water, so the fish would eat the rice and not the poet. This is how many people explain the start of the Dragon Boat Festival.

③ The festival is on the fifth day of the fifth month of the Chinese lunar calendar. So it usually comes in late May or June. Teams race long, thin boats with dragon heads. Twenty people paddle together, and one person beats a big drum at the front. Families eat zongzi, sticky rice wrapped in bamboo leaves. In the north, many people like sweet zongzi, but in the south, salty ones are popular.

④ Long ago, people believed the fifth month was a dangerous time. It was hot, and many people got sick. So they hung strong-smelling plants on their doors to keep bad things away. Children wore threads of five colors on their wrists for good luck.

⑤ This festival also traveled to Japan a long time ago. Today, Japanese families celebrate Children's Day on May 5. They eat chimaki, take baths with the same strong-smelling plant, and fly carp streamers. In an old Chinese story, a carp that swims up a waterfall becomes a dragon. So on May 5, there are dragons in Japan, too.

Words 単語

poet 詩人

capital 首都、都

row (舟を) こぐ

paddle (パドルで) こぐ

scare away おどして追い払う

lunar 月の、太陰の

sticky ねばねばした

wrap 包む

dangerous 危険な

thread 糸

carp 鯉 (こい)

waterfall 滝



Reading Check

Choose the best answer. 正しいものを選ぼう。

Class _____ No. _____ Name _____

1. What is the main idea of the reading?

- (A) How to build a dragon boat
- (B) The story, customs, and Japanese connection of the Dragon Boat Festival
- (C) Why Qu Yuan was a bad minister
- (D) How to catch fish in a river

2. Why did people throw rice into the river?

- (A) To feed the dragons
- (B) To make the water clean
- (C) So the fish would eat the rice and not the poet
- (D) To give a gift to the king

3. When does the Dragon Boat Festival usually come?

- (A) In late May or June
- (B) In January
- (C) On May 5 every year
- (D) In December

4. How many people paddle in the boat in the reading?

- (A) Five
- (B) Twelve
- (C) Fifteen
- (D) Twenty

5. In paragraph 4, what does keep bad things away mean?

- (A) keep bad things in a box
- (B) stop bad things from coming near
- (C) buy bad things
- (D) forget bad things

6. Which sentence is true about the reading?

- (A) Qu Yuan did not love his country.
- (B) Everyone in China likes sweet zongzi.
- (C) The festival traveled to Japan long ago.
- (D) Children wore threads of one color.

7. Why does the writer say there are dragons in Japan, too?

- (A) Because Japan also has dragon boat races on May 5 in Tokyo.
- (B) Because Japanese people believe in real dragons.
- (C) Because a carp in an old story becomes a dragon, and families fly carp streamers.
- (D) Because the dragon is a Japanese symbol for May.

8. In the dialogue, what does Mei's grandma make?

- (A) salty zongzi with pork and egg
- (B) sweet chimaki
- (C) carp streamers
- (D) a dragon boat

True or False? 正しいければ T、ちがえば F に○

- | | |
|---|-------|
| The Dragon Boat Festival is on May 5 every year in China. | T / F |
| Qu Yuan was a poet. | T / F |
| People eat zongzi during the festival. | T / F |
| A dragon boat usually has only two paddlers. | T / F |
| Japan's Children's Day is connected to this festival. | T / F |
| Long ago, people thought the fifth month was a lucky and safe time. | 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。



●

● fish



●

● wave



●

● drum



●

● carp streamer



●

● rice



●

● rowing



●

● dragon



●

● egg

② Unscramble the words. 文字を並べ替えて単語にしよう。

1. A D G N R O

2. E I R R V

3. E P A L D D

4. T P O E

5. R A U L N

6. A M T E

③ Fill in the blanks. 語群から選んで () に入れよう。

slowly

Hong

salty

boat

snow

second

piano

drum

together

paddlers

proud

eyes

zongzi

Mei's First Race

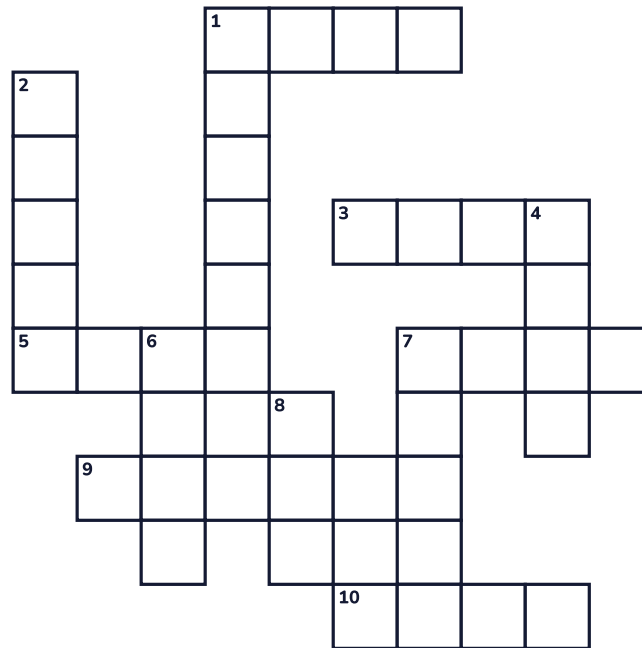
Mei lives in (1) _____ Kong. This year, she joins a dragon (2) _____ team at her school. There are twenty (3) _____ on the team. Her friend Leo plays the (4) _____ at the front. Before the race, a man paints the (5) _____ of the dragon head red. The race starts! Everyone paddles (6) _____. Mei's team does not win, but they finish (7) _____. After the race, they eat (8) _____ with their families. Mei's zongzi is (9) _____. She feels very (10) _____.



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 A person who writes poems. (4)
- 3 You ride in this on water. (4)
- 5 Small white grains. People in Asia eat it every day. (4)
- 7 A green part of a plant. Zongzi are wrapped in it. (4)
- 9 A big animal in stories. It can fly and has scales. (6)
- 10 You hit this to make a loud sound. (4)

Down ↓

- 1 To move a boat with a short pole with a wide end. (6)
- 2 Water that flows to the sea. (5)
- 4 A group of people who play or work together. (4)
- 6 A big fish. Japanese streamers on May 5 look like it. (4)
- 7 About the moon. This kind of calendar follows it. (5)
- 8 In Taiwan, people try to stand this up at noon. (3)



Word Search

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

Class _____ No. _____ Name _____

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

Find these words! 13

- ☐ BOAT
- ☐ CARP
- ☐ DRAGON
- ☐ DRUM
- ☐ EGG
- ☐ LEAF
- ☐ LUNAR
- ☐ POET
- ☐ RACE
- ☐ RICE
- ☐ RIVER
- ☐ TEAM
- ☐ ZONGZI

Secret Code 暗号を解こう！記号を文字に直すと、メッセージが出てくるよ。



◎ ☼ ▲ ▲ + ✂ ♣ ☐ ☎ ✂ ♣ ✂ ◆

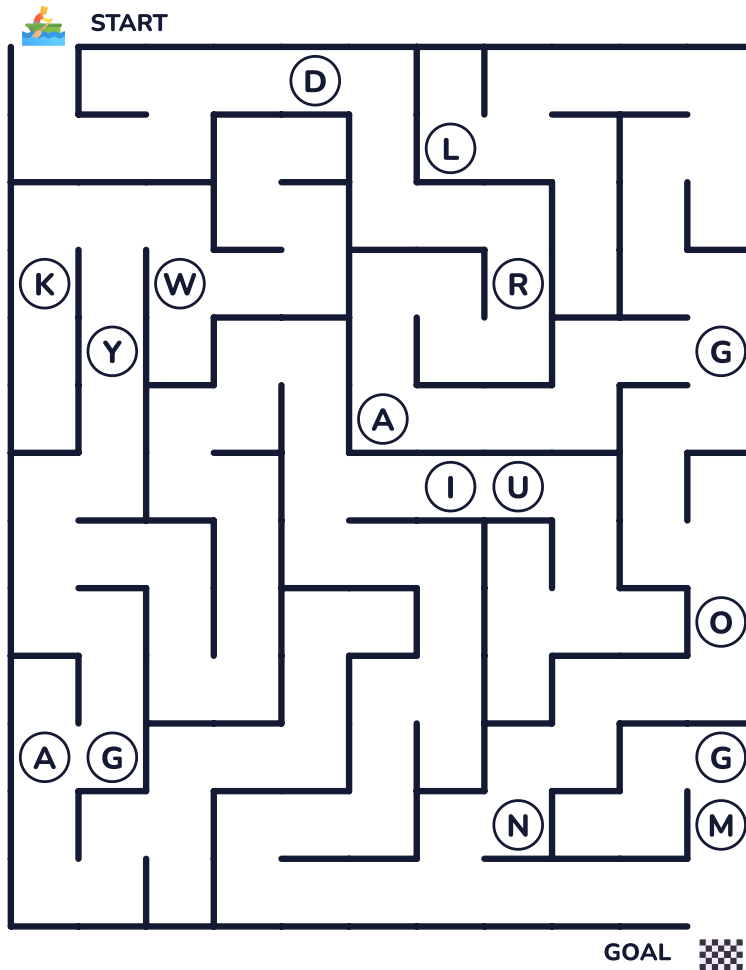


Maze & Sentences

Class _____ No. _____ Name _____

Help the dragon boat reach the finish line!

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: _____

Put the words in order. 並べ替えて正しい文にしよう。

1. Qu / in / China / Yuan / poet / a / was .

2. heads / race / People / with / dragon / boats .

3. this / zongzi / day / on / We / eat .

4. at / drum / the / front / person / a / One / beats .

5. Japanese / fly / May / carp / families / in / streamers .

**Class Activity & Writing**

Class _____ No. _____ Name _____

Find Someone Who... クラスで聞いて回ろう！ Ask: "Do you ...?" / "Have you ...?"

Find someone who ...	Name
... has eaten chimaki or zongzi	
... has eaten kashiwa-mochi	
... has taken a shobu bath	
... can stand an egg on its end	
... has been in a boat	
... knows the name of a famous poet	
... likes sweet food more than salty food	
... can play the drum	

Let's Write! 英語で書いてみよう。

On the Dragon Boat Festival, people _____. In Japan on May 5, we _____.

I like _____ zongzi better because _____.

If I joined a dragon boat team, I would want to be the _____ because _____.



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 _____



dragon



rowing



drum



rice

