



A Village Party That Became a National Holiday

Read the story. 英文を読もう。

Class _____

No. _____

Name _____

① On September 15, 1947, small three-wheeled trucks drove around a mountain village in Hyogo. They picked up older people and took them to the village hall. There, a big party with food and shows was waiting. Everyone aged 55 and over was invited.



② The party was the idea of the village head, Kadowaki Masao. World War II had just ended, and many parents were very tired and sad. He wanted to thank them for their long, hard work. He also wanted older people to share their wisdom with young people. He chose September because farm work was not busy and the weather was nice.

③ The idea spread across Hyogo and then across Japan. In 1966, it became a national holiday called Keiro no Hi, or Respect for the Aged Day. Keiro means showing respect to older people. Since 2003, it has been on the third Monday of September, so many people get a three-day weekend. Today, a tall stone in the town tells visitors that the holiday was born there.

④ On this day, children call their grandparents, send flowers, or draw pictures for them. Some schools ask students to write letters to their grandparents. Many towns hold parties for older people with songs and dances. People who turn 100 get a letter and a silver cup from the Prime Minister.

⑤ Today, Japan has more older people than ever. In 1963, only 153 people in the country were 100 or older. In 2026, the number passed 100,000 for the first time. And those 55-year-old guests from 1947 would look very young now.

Words 単語

respect 尊敬（する）、敬う
aged 年をとった／～歳の
village 村
invite 招待する

grandparents 祖父母
spread 広がる、広める
national holiday 国民の祝日
three-day weekend 3連休

turn （年齢に）なる
Prime Minister 内閣総理大臣、首相
silver 銀（の）
for the first time 初めて



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) A village party in 1947 grew into a national holiday for older people.
- (B) Three-wheeled trucks were popular in Japan after the war.
- (C) The Prime Minister started a holiday for grandparents in 2003.
- (D) Japan has fewer older people than before.

2. Who was invited to the party in 1947?

- (A) Only people over 100.
- (B) Children and their teachers.
- (C) Everyone aged 55 and over.
- (D) Only the village head's family.

3. Why did Kadowaki choose September?

- (A) Because it was his birthday month.
- (B) Because farm work was not busy and the weather was nice.
- (C) Because the war ended in September.
- (D) Because the government told him to.

4. When did the day become a national holiday?

- (A) In 1947.
- (B) In 1963.
- (C) In 2003.
- (D) In 1966.

5. In paragraph 3, what does "spread" mean?

- (A) Stopped.
- (B) Went to more and more places.
- (C) Became smaller.
- (D) Was kept secret.

6. Which sentence matches the reading?

- (A) The holiday is always on September 15 now.
- (B) Only 153 people were 100 or older in 1963.
- (C) People who turn 100 get a gold cup.
- (D) The first party was held in Tokyo.

7. What does the last sentence of the reading suggest?

- (A) People aged 55 are not seen as very old today.
- (B) The guests in 1947 were all children.
- (C) People in 1947 lived longer than people today.
- (D) Nobody aged 55 likes parties.

8. In the dialogue, why is Tuesday a holiday?

- (A) Because it is Aoi's grandma's birthday.
- (B) Because the school decided it.
- (C) Because it is between two holidays.
- (D) Because it is Grandparents Day.

True or False? 正しいければ T、ちがえば F に○

Respect for the Aged Day is on the third Monday of September.	T / F
The holiday started in Tokyo in 2003.	T / F
At the first party, people aged 55 and over were invited.	T / F
People who turn 100 get a silver cup.	T / F
In 1963, there were more than 10,000 people aged 100 or older in Japan.	T / F
In 2026, Tuesday, September 22, was a school day.	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。



● telephone



● flowers



● tea



● grandmother



● cup



● letter



● birthday cake



● grandfather

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

1. R T E P E C S

2. G V L L A I E

3. V I L E R S

4. A L H Y T E H

5. N V I T I E

6. T A R P Y

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

called

card

grandfather

healthy

laughed

wall

village

winter

angry

teaching

picture

turn

school

A Card for Grandpa

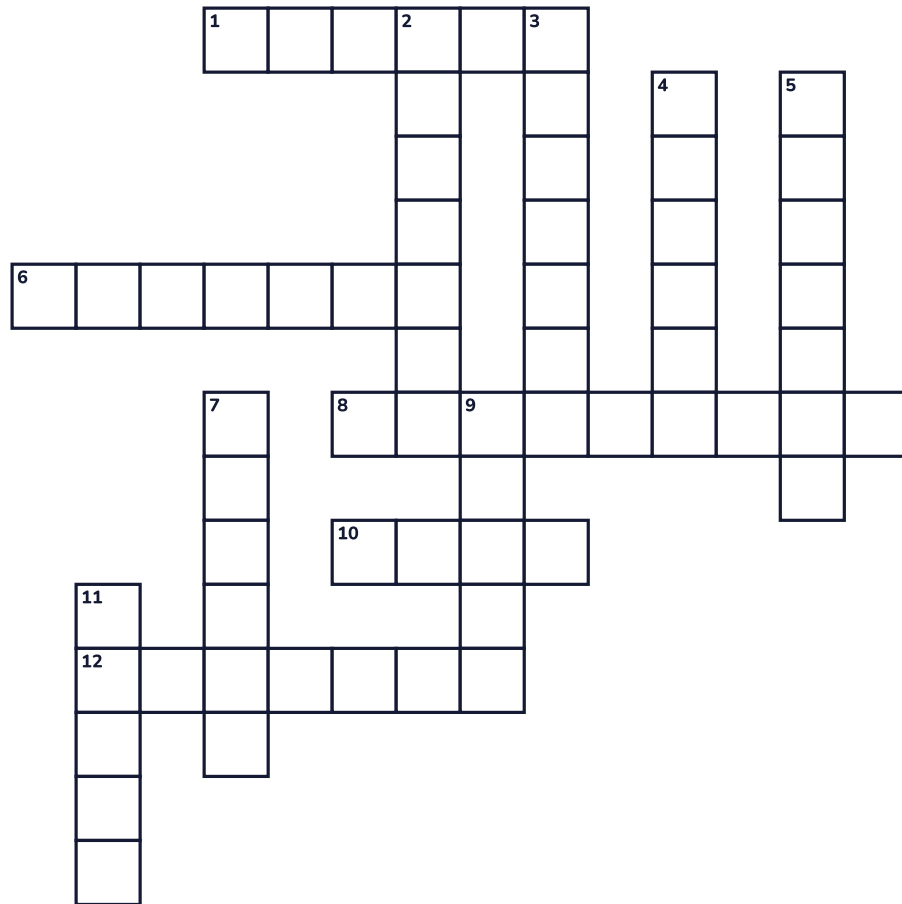
Ren's (1) _____ lives in a small (2) _____ by the sea. He lives there with his old dog, Kuro. On Respect for the Aged Day, Ren made a (3) _____ for him. He drew a (4) _____ of Grandpa fishing. He wrote, "Thank you for (5) _____ me how to fish. Please stay (6) _____!" Then he (7) _____ Grandpa on the phone. Grandpa (8) _____ and said, "I will put your card on the (9) _____." Next year, Grandpa will (10) _____ 80.



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 shiny gray metal. Gold is first, this is second. (6)
- 6 Your mother's mother or your father's mother. (7)
- 8 The ninth month of the year. (9)
- 10 A small piece of paper with a message for someone. (4)
- 12 Not sick. Strong and well. (7)

Down ↓

- 2 A very small town in the countryside. (7)
- 3 A feeling that someone is important and good. (7)
- 4 Knowledge you get from a long life. (6)
- 5 The number 100 in words. (7)
- 7 The day after Sunday. (6)
- 9 People get together to eat and have fun. (5)
- 11 You say this word with "you" when someone helps you. (5)



Word Search

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

Class _____ No. _____ Name _____

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

Find these words! 13

- ☐ CARD
- ☐ FLOWER
- ☐ GRANDMA
- ☐ GRANDPA
- ☐ HEALTHY
- ☐ LIFE
- ☐ MONDAY
- ☐ PARTY
- ☐ RESPECT
- ☐ SILVER
- ☐ SMILE
- ☐ THANK
- ☐ VILLAGE

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。

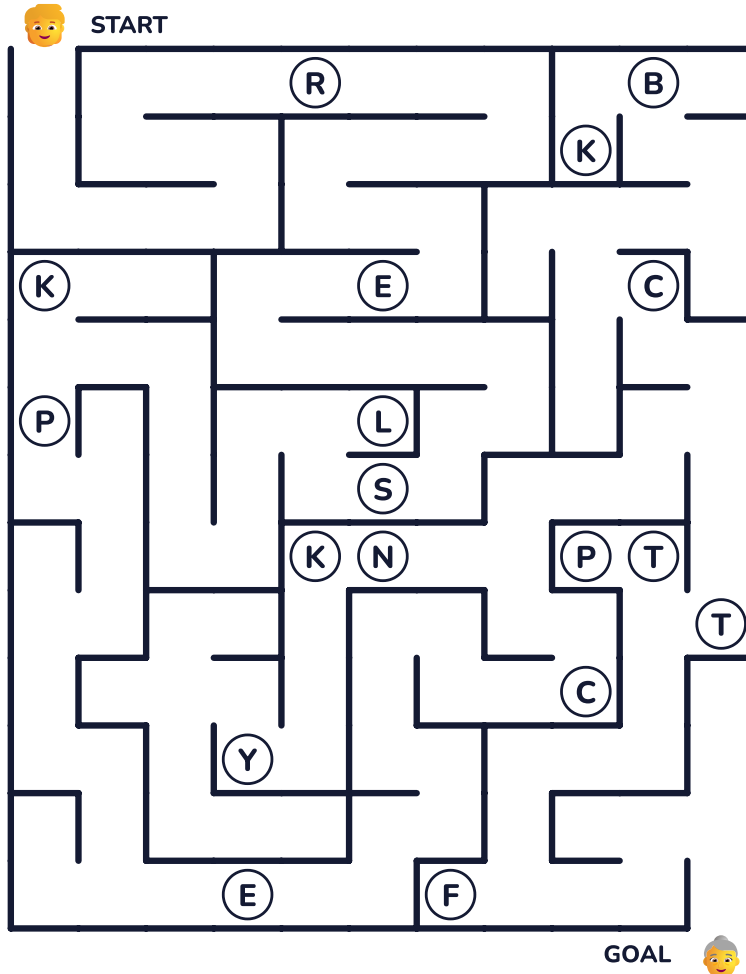


**Maze & Sentences**

Class _____ No. _____ Name _____

Take the flowers to Grandma!

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. a / The / holiday / started / small / in / village .

2. will / I / my / send / flowers / grandma / to .

3. long / and / live / healthy / Please / stay .

4. next / year / eighty / will / grandpa / turn / My .

5. respect / worked / who / for / us / people / hard / We .

**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 a grandparent over 80	
... has written a letter to a grandparent	
... likes cooking with a grandparent	
... knows where Respect for the Aged Day started	
... can say "grandmother" in another language	
... has learned a game from an older person	
... knows someone who is over 90	
... has visited a grandparent's hometown	

Let's Write! 英語で書いてみよう。

Dear _____, thank you for _____. I want to _____ with you next time.

An older person I respect is _____ because _____.

When I am 100 years old, I want to _____.



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 _____



grandmother



grandfather



flowers



letter

