



The Day of Two and Nine

Read the story. 英文を読もう。

Class _____ No. _____ Name _____

① In Japan, numbers can be read in more than one way. The number 2 can be ni, and 9 can be ku. Put them together, and you get niku. Niku means meat in Japanese. So the 29th of every month is Meat Day, and meat shops have special sales.



音声を聞こう

② But there is a problem. February usually has only 28 days. So February 9 became a meat day, too. It started in 2017. In the Japanese calendar, that was the year 29, so people called it the Year of Meat. Meat shops hold a prize drawing, and lucky winners can get top-quality beef.

③ Today, many people in Japan love beef, pork, and chicken. But for a long time, eating meat was not common. In 675, an emperor said people must not eat cows, horses, dogs, monkeys, or chickens. Deer and wild boar were not on the list, so some people still ate them. In 1872, newspapers said that Emperor Meiji ate beef. Around this time, beef hot pot restaurants became very popular in Tokyo.

④ Japan has other meat days, too. August 29 is Yakiniku Day, a day for Japanese barbecue. November 29 is Good Meat Day, because 11 can be read ii, which means good. Number games like this are everywhere in Japan. Next time you see a date, try to read it in Japanese. It might be a hidden message!

Words 単語**meat** 肉**sale** 特売、販売**beef** 牛肉**pork** 豚肉**common** ふつうの、よくある**wild boar** イノシシ**hot pot** 鍋料理**hidden** かくれた



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 passage?

- (A) Japanese people have always eaten a lot of beef.
- (B) Meat Day is a national holiday in Japan.
- (C) Meat Day comes from a number game, and meat has an interesting history in Japan.
- (D) Meat shops in Japan close on the 29th.

2. Why did February 9 become a meat day?

- (A) Because February usually has no 29th.
- (B) Because an emperor ate beef on that day.
- (C) Because it is the coldest day of the year.
- (D) Because it is Yakiniku Day.

3. Which animal was NOT on the list in 675?

- (A) horse
- (B) monkey
- (C) chicken
- (D) deer

4. In paragraph 3, what does common mean in eating meat was not common?

- (A) expensive
- (B) usual
- (C) dangerous
- (D) delicious

5. What will Ethan probably do tonight?

- (A) He will cook fish at home.
- (B) He will eat yakiniku with Aoi.
- (C) He will go to a meat museum.
- (D) He will wait until February 9.

True or False? 正しいければ T、ちがえば F に○

The 29th of every month is Meat Day in Japan.

T / F

Meat Day is a national holiday.

T / F

February 9 is a meat day, too.

T / F

In 675, people were told not to eat deer.

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。



●

● chicken



●

● fire



●

● deer



●

● pig



●

● meat



●

● cow

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

shop

winter

nine

pork

number

beef

29th

yakiniku

fish

Meat Day Dinner

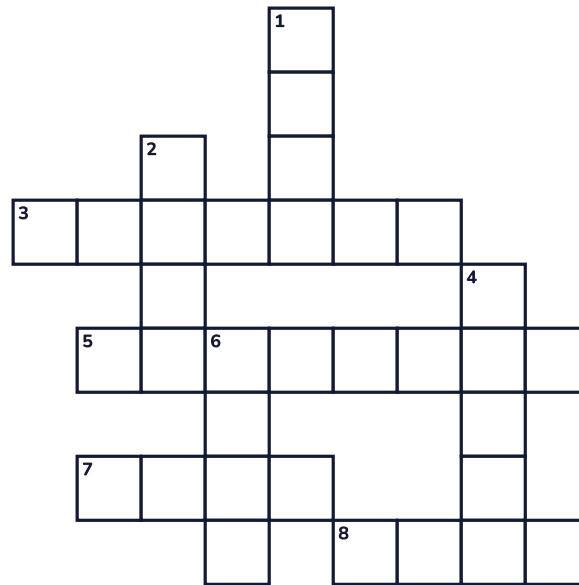
Today is the (1) _____. It is Meat Day in Japan. Taro goes to the (2) _____ with his father. The (3) _____ is on sale. They also buy some (4) _____ and vegetables. At night, the family has (5) _____ at home. Taro says, "Two and (6) _____ make niku. I love this (7) _____ game!"



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 →

- 3** A bird. Its eggs are good for breakfast. (7)
5 The shortest month of the year. (8)
7 A wild animal with long legs. Some have antlers. (4)
8 Things are cheap at the shop. There is a _____. (4)

Down ↓

- 1** Meat from a pig. (4)
2 The number after eight. (4)
4 To cook food over a fire. (5)
6 Meat from a cow. (4)



Word Search

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

Class _____ No. _____ Name _____

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

Find these words! 10

- ☐ BEEF
- ☐ BOAR
- ☐ CHICKEN
- ☐ DEER
- ☐ GRILL
- ☐ MEAT
- ☐ NINE
- ☐ PORK
- ☐ SALE
- ☐ TWO

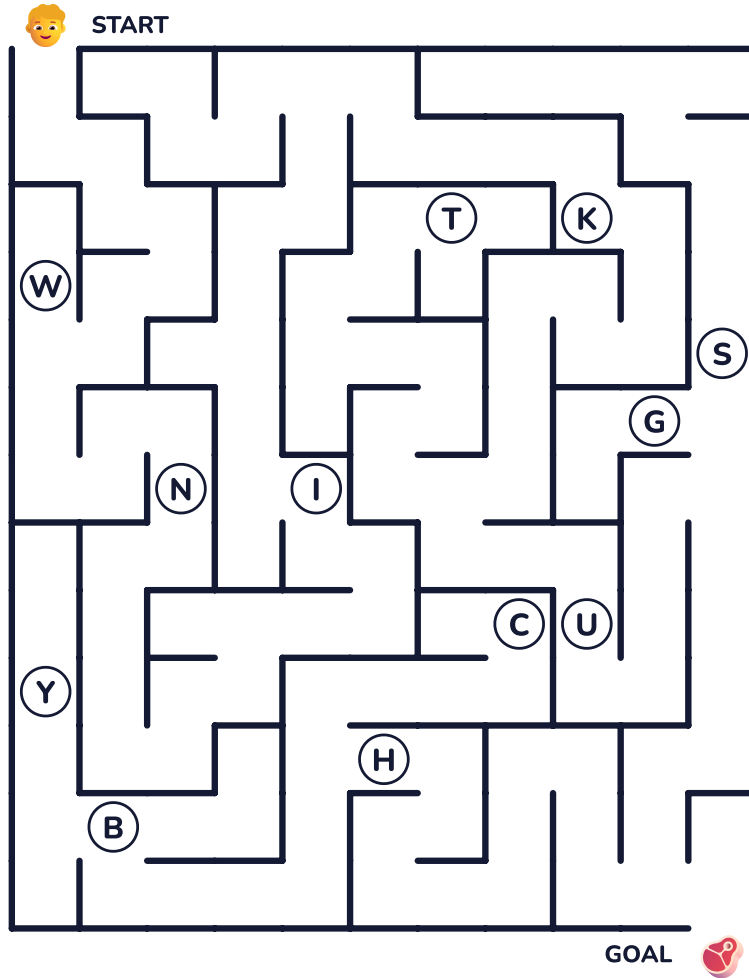


Maze & Sentences

Class _____ No. _____ Name _____

Help Taro get to the yakiniku table!

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。

My favorite meat dish is _____ because _____.

If I made a new number day, it would be _____ 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 _____



meat



cow



pig



chicken



deer

Draw your Meat Day (Niku no Hi)! 肉の日（2月9日・毎月29日）の絵を描こう。