



A Day for New Adults

Read the story. 英文を読もう。

Class _____ No. _____ Name _____

① On the second Monday of January, young people in bright kimono fill the streets of Japan. It is Coming of Age Day, or Seijin no Hi. On this national holiday, towns hold ceremonies for young people who are becoming adults.



音声を聞こう

② The idea started in 1946, just one year after the war. Japan was poor, and many young people felt lost. In a small town called Warabi, near Tokyo, a local youth group held a festival to give them hope. Life was still hard, and men wore plain wartime clothes while women wore work pants. The idea spread across the country, and in 1948 Japan made it a national holiday.

③ At first, the holiday was always on January 15. Some people say this date was chosen because of genpuku, an old ceremony for boys. In 2000, the holiday moved to the second Monday of January. Now people can enjoy a three-day weekend.

④ Many women wear furisode, a kimono with very long sleeves. Many men wear suits, and some wear hakama, a traditional kimono skirt. After the ceremony, old classmates meet again, take photos, and talk for hours. For many people, it feels like a big class reunion.

⑤ In 2022, the legal adult age in Japan changed from 20 to 18. But many towns still invite 20-year-olds, because most 18-year-olds are busy with exams. Some towns now call the event a gathering for twenty-year-olds. And one rule did not change at all. In Japan, you still have to wait until 20 for your first glass of sake.

Words 単語

adult 大人

ceremony 式、儀式

come of age 大人になる、成年に達する

national holiday 国民の祝日

sleeve 袖

traditional 伝統的な

invite 招待する

legal 法律上の、合法の

classmate 同級生

hope 希望

spread 広まる

celebrate 祝う



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) Coming of Age Day is a holiday to celebrate young people becoming adults.
- (B) Coming of Age Day is a festival for children under 10.
- (C) Coming of Age Day started in Brazil.
- (D) Coming of Age Day is only for people who drink sake.

2. When did the idea of the ceremony start?

- (A) In 1876
- (B) In 2000
- (C) In 2022
- (D) In 1946

3. Why did the youth group in Warabi hold a festival?

- (A) To sell kimono
- (B) To give young people hope
- (C) To start a new school
- (D) To celebrate the New Year

4. What happened to the holiday in 2000?

- (A) It moved to the second Monday of January.
- (B) It moved to May.
- (C) It stopped being a holiday.
- (D) It became a two-week holiday.

5. In paragraph 2, 'felt lost' means:

- (A) could not find the station
- (B) felt hungry
- (C) did not know what to do or hope for
- (D) were very happy

6. Which is true according to the reading?

- (A) Men must wear furisode.
- (B) Many towns still invite 20-year-olds.
- (C) The holiday is always on January 15 now.
- (D) Old classmates never meet after the ceremony.

7. What can we guess about a 19-year-old in Japan today?

- (A) They are not adults by law.
- (B) They can drink sake.
- (C) They are adults by law, but they cannot drink sake.
- (D) They cannot go to any ceremony.

8. In the dialogue, how old is Aoi's sister?

- (A) 15
- (B) 18
- (C) 19
- (D) 20

True or False? 正しいければ T、ちがえば F に○

- | | |
|---|-------|
| Coming of Age Day is in January. | T / F |
| The first ceremony idea started in Osaka in 1990. | T / F |
| Furisode is a kimono with long sleeves. | T / F |
| In Japan, people can drink sake at 18. | T / F |
| The holiday was on January 15 before 2000. | T / F |
| Every town holds the ceremony for 18-year-olds. | 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。



●

● kimono



●

● camera



●

● microphone



●

● flowers



●

● school



●

● calendar



●

● tie



●

● birthday cake

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

1. D A T U L

2. S V E L E E

3. I I T V E N

4. L L G E A

5. H E O P

6. M N Y R E E C O

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

ceremony

homework

adult

summer

Day

photos

sleeves

party

classmates

beautiful

swimsuit

kimono

morning

Mika's Big Day

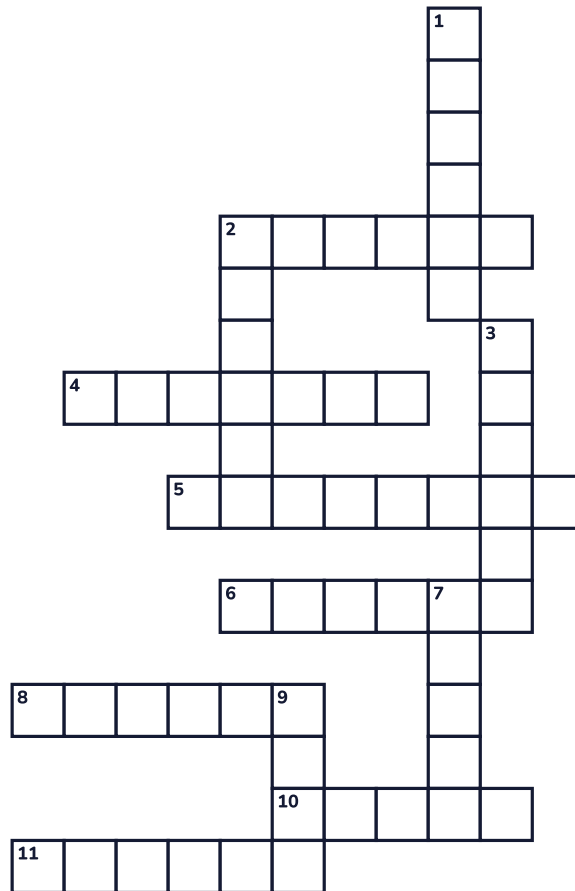
Today is Coming of Age (1) _____. Mika got up at four in the (2) _____. She went to a beauty salon and put on a red (3) _____ with very long (4) _____. Her grandmother cried and said, "You look (5) _____!" At the (6) _____, the mayor gave a short speech. After that, Mika saw her old (7) _____ from junior high school. They took a lot of (8) _____ together. In the evening, her family had a small (9) _____. Now Mika feels like an (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 →

- 2 A person you like and trust. (6)
- 4 The month of this holiday. (7)
- 5 A formal event, like a wedding or a graduation. (8)
- 6 The holiday is on the second one of this day of the week. (6)
- 8 A talk in front of many people. (6)
- 10 A picture you take with a camera. (5)
- 11 The part of a shirt that covers your arm. (6)

Down ↓

- 1 Traditional Japanese clothing with wide sleeves. (6)
- 2 The time that will come after now. (6)
- 3 Many towns still invite people of this age. (6)
- 7 A grown-up person, not a child. (5)
- 9 A good feeling about the future. (4)



Word Search

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

Class _____ No. _____ Name _____

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

Find these words! 14

- ☐ ADULT
- ☐ CEREMONY
- ☐ FRIEND
- ☐ FUTURE
- ☐ HAKAMA
- ☐ HOPE
- ☐ JANUARY
- ☐ KIMONO
- ☐ MONDAY
- ☐ PHOTO
- ☐ SLEEVE
- ☐ SPEECH
- ☐ SUIT
- ☐ TWENTY

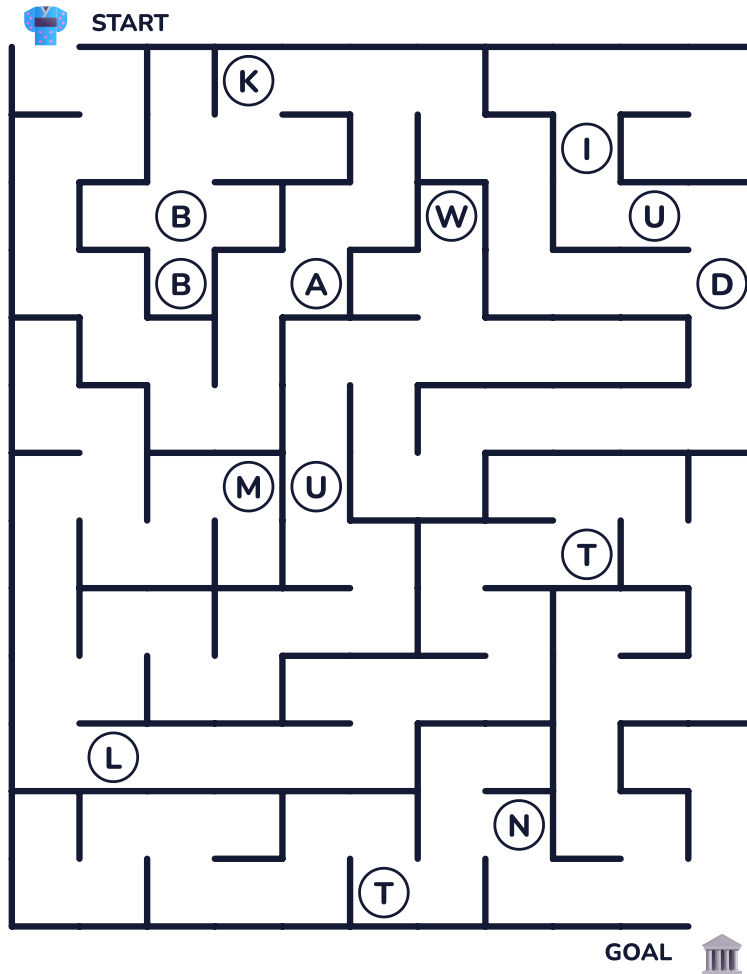
Secret Code 暗号を解こう！記号を文字に直すと、メッセージが出てくるよ。





Help Mika get to the ceremony on time!

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. January / Day / Age / in / Coming / is / of .

2. Many / with / long / women / kimono / sleeves / wear .

3. The / age / now / 18 / is / legal / adult .

4. my / ceremony / old / I / after / met / classmates / the .

5. in / started / small / idea / The / town / a .



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

Find someone who ...	Name
... has worn a kimono	
... knows the date of Coming of Age Day this year	
... has an older brother or sister who went to the ceremony	
... can explain furisode in English	
... knows the legal adult age in Japan	
... likes taking photos with friends	
... has a dream for the future	
... can name a coming-of-age custom in another country	

Let's Write! 英語で書いてみよう。

When I become an adult, I want to _____.

I think an adult is a person who _____.

At my ceremony, I want to wear _____ 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 _____



kimono



camera



flowers



microphone

