



Rarer Than Gold

Read the story. 英文を読もう。

Class _____ No. _____ Name _____

① In September 2026, many people in Japan had five days off in a row, from Saturday to Wednesday. Trains and airports were crowded. Some families went to hot springs, and others visited their grandparents. People call this long break Silver Week.



音声を聞こう

② The name is a play on Golden Week, the famous spring holidays. In the 1950s, a movie company made the name Golden Week to sell more movie tickets. It also tried the name Silver Week for some holidays in autumn. But at that time, almost nobody used it. For more than 50 years, the name was almost forgotten.

③ So why did the name come back? There are two national holidays in September: Respect for the Aged Day and Autumn Equinox Day. A Japanese rule says that a day between two national holidays also becomes a holiday. In 2009, there was only one day between the two holidays. With the weekend, people got five days off for the first time. In 2008, a survey asked people to name this new holiday, and Silver Week came first.

④ This does not happen every year, because the dates of the holidays move a little. The date of Autumn Equinox Day is decided in February of the year before. After 2026, the next five-day Silver Week will probably come in 2032. So when it comes, people plan their trips months early. Silver is not as shiny as gold, but this silver is much harder to find.

Words 単語

in a row 続けて、連続で**crowded** 混雑した**break** 休み、休けい**play on** ～をもじったもの、しゃれ**equinox** 春分・秋分**national holiday** 国民の祝日**probably** たぶん、おそらく**shiny** ぴかぴかの、輝く



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) A famous movie from the 1950s
- (B) How to make silver jewelry
- (C) Silver Week, a long holiday in September
- (D) Golden Week in China

2. Who first made the name Golden Week?

- (A) A movie company
- (B) The government
- (C) A train company
- (D) A TV station

3. Why can people get five days off in some years?

- (A) Because schools add extra holidays
- (B) Because a day between two national holidays becomes a holiday
- (C) Because the emperor's birthday is in September
- (D) Because everyone takes a paid holiday

4. What does the last sentence mean?

- (A) Silver is more expensive than gold.
- (B) People cannot find silver in Japan.
- (C) Golden Week is shorter than Silver Week.
- (D) A five-day Silver Week comes less often than Golden Week.

5. In the dialogue, why is Yui going to her grandparents' house?

- (A) Because they live near the sea
- (B) Because it is a holiday for older people
- (C) Because her school is closed for a month
- (D) Because Tom told her to go

True or False? 正しいければ T、ちがえば F に○

- | | |
|---|-------|
| Silver Week has five days off every year. | T / F |
| A movie company first made the name Golden Week. | T / F |
| In 2026, Silver Week was from September 19 to 23. | T / F |
| Silver Week is in May. | 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。



●

● leaf



●

● suitcase



●

● hot spring



●

● silver



●

● train



●

● gold

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

red

snowman

beach

July

days

home

away

Grandma

September

train

Five Days Off

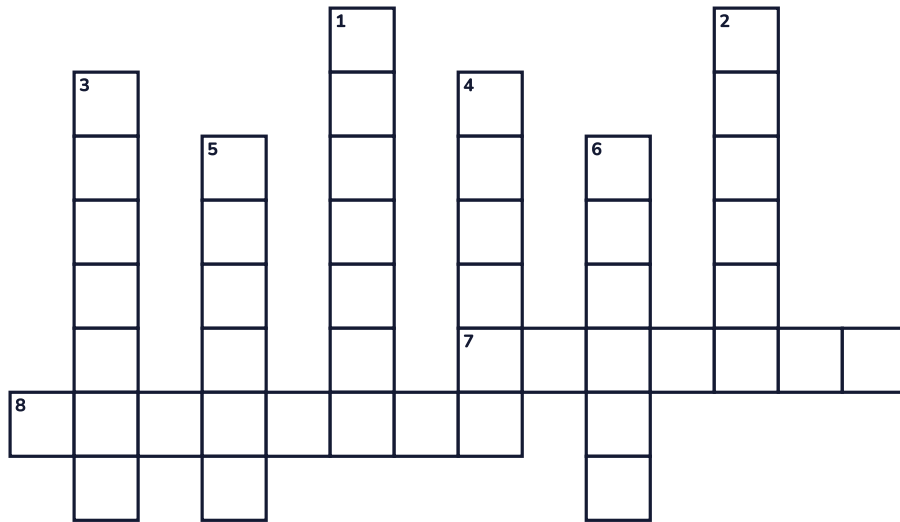
This (1) _____, we had five (2) _____ off in a row. On Saturday, we took a (3) _____ to the mountains. The trees were turning (4) _____. On Monday, it was Respect for the Aged Day, so we visited (5) _____. She made rice balls for us. On Wednesday, we came (6) _____. Dad said, "The next five-day holiday is six years (7) _____!"



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 →

- 7** A day when day and night are almost the same length. (7)
- 8** It shows the days, weeks and months of the year. (8)

Down ↓

- 1** Saturday and Sunday. (7)
- 2** Made of gold, or the color of gold. (6)
- 3** A day with no school or work. (7)
- 4** A shiny gray metal. It comes second after gold. (6)
- 5** To go to another place for fun. (6)
- 6** The season after summer. Leaves turn red. (6)



Word Search

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

Class _____ No. _____ Name _____

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

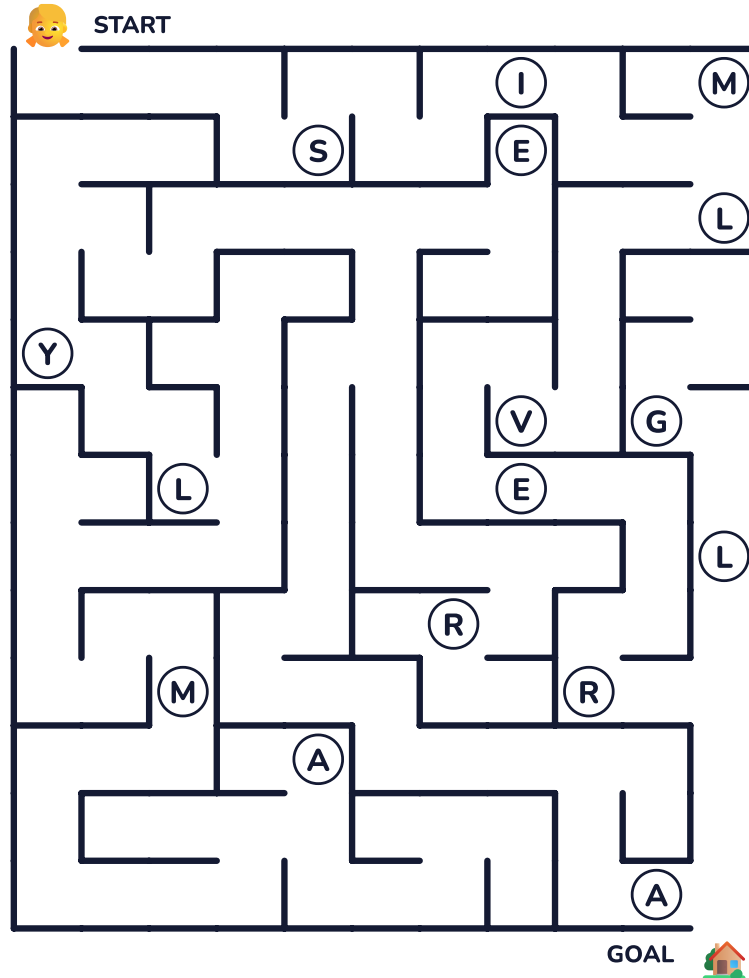
Find these words! 10

- ☐ AUTUMN
- ☐ CALENDAR
- ☐ EQUINOX
- ☐ GOLDEN
- ☐ HOLIDAY
- ☐ REST
- ☐ SILVER
- ☐ TRAIN
- ☐ TRAVEL
- ☐ WEEKEND



Help Yui get to her grandparents' house!

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 had five days off in a row, I would _____ because _____.

If I could make a new national holiday, it would be _____ Day 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 _____



silver



gold



train



leaf



hot spring

Draw your Silver Week! シルバーウィークの絵を描こう。