



Japan's Newest Holiday: A Day for Mountains

Read the story. 英文を読もう。

Class _____

No. _____

Name _____

① Japan has a holiday just for mountains. It is called Yama no Hi, or Mountain Day, and it comes every year on August 11. It is also the newest national holiday in Japan. The first Mountain Day was in 2016.



② Why mountains? About two thirds of Japan is covered by forest, and most of it grows on

mountains. Rain and snow fall on the mountains and slowly become rivers. Mountains give people clean water, wood, and fresh air. The law says the day is for getting close to mountains and thanking them for their gifts.

③ The date has a sad story behind it. At first, many lawmakers wanted August 12. But on August 12, 1985, a Japan Airlines plane crashed into a mountain in Gunma. In that accident, 520 people died. So the lawmakers chose the day before, August 11.

④ Mountain Day comes in the middle of summer, so it is a great time to go hiking. The trails on Mount Fuji are open only in summer. Many climbers walk up at night and wait at the top for the sunrise. People call this sunrise goraike. But mountains can be dangerous, and every year thousands of hikers need help. Many of them get lost.

⑤ Mountain Day is also the start of summer vacation for many workers. Trains and highways get very busy as families go back to their hometowns for Obon. In 2020 and 2021, the holiday moved for the Tokyo Olympics. Now it is back on August 11, waiting for you and your hiking boots.

Words 単語

national holiday 国民の祝日

newest いちばん新しい

forest 森、森林

gift 贈り物、恵み

lawmaker 国会議員、立法者

crash 墜落する、衝突する／墜落事故

hiking 山歩き、ハイキング

trail 登山道、山道

sunrise 日の出

dangerous 危険な

hometown ふるさと、生まれ育った町

get lost 道に迷う



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) Mount Fuji is the tallest mountain in Japan. (B) Mountain Day is a new holiday to enjoy and thank mountains.
- (C) Japan Airlines started a new holiday in 2016. (D) Obon is the most important summer holiday in Japan.

2. When was the first Mountain Day?

- (A) In 1985. (B) In 2014.
- (C) In 2020. (D) In 2016.

3. Why didn't the lawmakers choose August 12?

- (A) Because a plane crashed into a mountain on that day in 1985. (B) Because August 12 is already Marine Day.
- (C) Because schools are open on August 12. (D) Because Mount Fuji closes on August 12.

4. How much of Japan is covered by forest?

- (A) About one tenth. (B) About two thirds.
- (C) About one half. (D) Almost all of it.

5. In paragraph 4, what does "goraiko" mean?

- (A) A mountain hut. (B) A summer vacation.
- (C) The sunrise seen from a mountain top. (D) A trail on Mount Fuji.

6. Which sentence matches the reading?

- (A) Mountain Day is always on a Monday. (B) Mount Fuji is open all year.
- (C) The holiday did not move for the Olympics. (D) Many people travel to their hometowns around Mountain Day.

7. Why might trains be very crowded on August 10?

- (A) Because many people start traveling for their summer vacation. (B) Because everyone must climb Mount Fuji on August 10.
- (C) Because the trains stop running on Mountain Day. (D) Because August 10 is the newest holiday.

8. In the dialogue, where is Haruto going tomorrow?

- (A) To Mount Fuji with Emily's family. (B) To his hometown for Obon.
- (C) To Mount Takao with his brother. (D) To a shoe store to buy boots.

True or False? 正しいければ T、ちがえば F に○

- Mountain Day is on August 11. T / F
- Mountain Day started more than 100 years ago. T / F
- At first, many lawmakers wanted August 12. T / F
- The trails on Mount Fuji are open all year. T / F
- Many people start their Obon vacation around Mountain Day. T / F
- Mountain Day is always on a Monday. 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。



●

● mountain



●

● rice ball



●

● tent



●

● tree



●

● boots



●

● compass



●

● sunrise



●

● backpack

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

1. F O S R E T

2. I U M S T M

3. T R I A L

4. I L B M C

5. S N R S I U E

6. I O Y L H A D

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

walk

holiday

slowly

winter

water

snow

balls

lost

forest

morning

Mountain

ocean

map

Mika's First Mountain Day

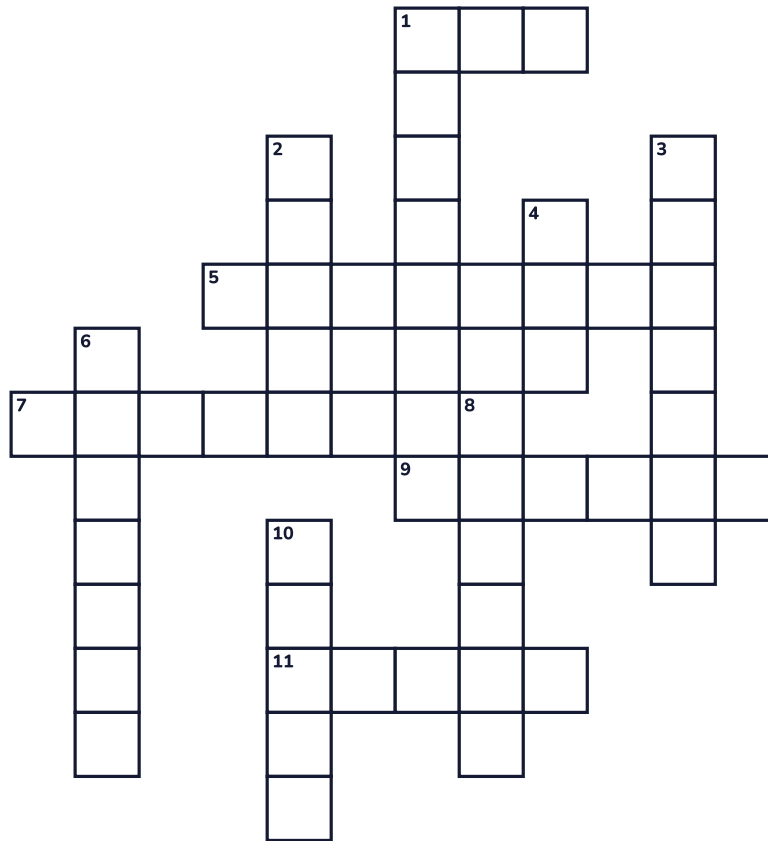
On August 11, Mika and her dad got up at four in the (1) _____. It was (2) _____ Day, a national (3) _____ in Japan. They took a train to the mountain and started to (4) _____ up the trail. The air was cool, and the (5) _____ was full of birds. Dad checked the (6) _____ at every corner, so they did not get (7) _____. At the top, they ate rice (8) _____ and drank cold (9) _____. "Thank you, mountain," Mika said. Then they walked down (10) _____ and safely.



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 small house where climbers sleep at night. (3)
- 5 A very high hill. Fuji is one. (8)
- 7 A big place with many trees. (6)
- 9 The eighth month of the year. (6)
- 11 A small path in the mountains. (5)

Down ↓

- 1 Walking for fun in nature. (6)
- 2 Strong shoes for walking on rocks. (5)
- 3 The time in the morning when the sun comes up. (7)
- 4 A paper that shows roads and places. (3)
- 6 A day when people do not go to work. (7)
- 8 The highest point of a mountain. (6)
- 10 You drink this when you are thirsty. (5)



Word Search

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

Class _____ No. _____ Name _____

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

Find these words! 13

- ☐ AUGUST
- ☐ BOOTS
- ☐ CLIMB
- ☐ FOREST
- ☐ HIKING
- ☐ HUT
- ☐ MAP
- ☐ MOUNTAIN
- ☐ RIVER
- ☐ SUMMIT
- ☐ SUNRISE
- ☐ TRAIL
- ☐ TREE

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。

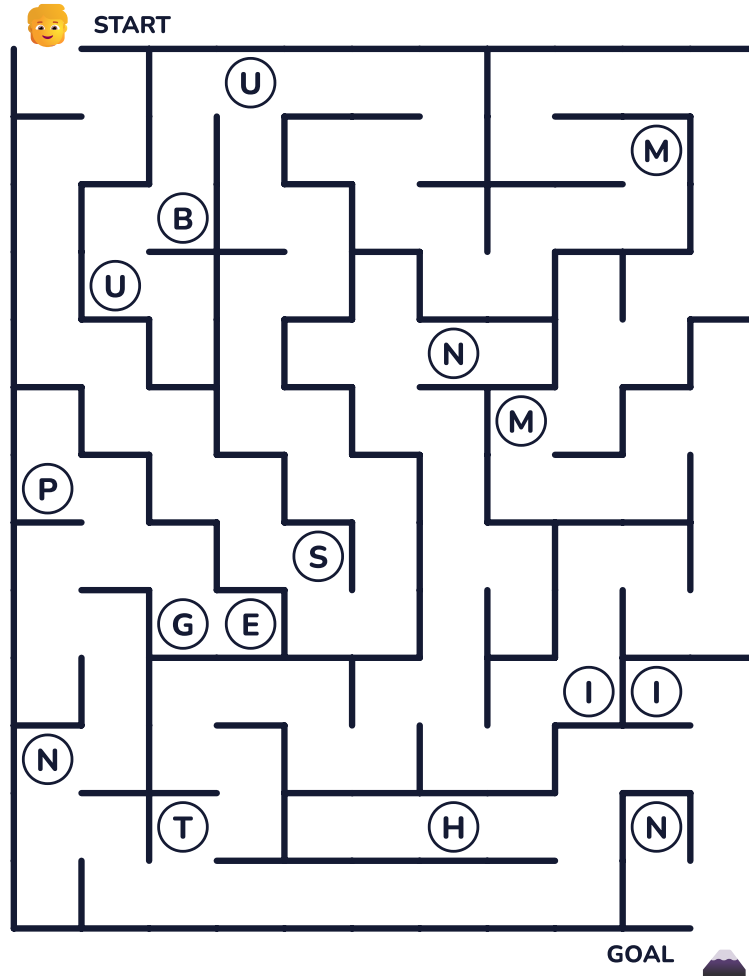


✳ 😊 ✂ + ⚓ ♣ ✉ ♪ ☾ ✉ ♪ + ✳ ✂ ♠ + ★



Help Ken reach the summit!

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. 11 / Day / is / Mountain / on / August .

2. the / in / holiday / It / Japan / is / newest .

3. clean / water / for / thank / We / mountains .

4. summer / people / Fuji / Many / Mount / in / climb .

5. a / lost / you / Take / so / do / map / get / not .



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

Find someone who ...	Name
... has climbed Mount Fuji	
... has seen a sunrise from a mountain	
... likes mountains better than the sea	
... has stayed in a mountain hut	
... knows the date of Mountain Day	
... can name three mountains in Japan	
... has eaten a rice ball on a mountain	
... knows the English word for 頂上	

Let's Write! 英語で書いてみよう。

On Mountain Day, I want to go to _____ because _____.

Mountains give us _____. I want to say thank you for _____.

If I made a new holiday in June, I would call it _____ 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 _____



mountain



tree



boots



backpack

