

Explore the World - Traveling to Japan

3-Minute Podcast with Cathoven

**EXPLORE THE
WORLD**

**TRAVELING TO
JAPAN**

**B1
ENGLISH
LISTENING**



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Transcript



Listening Material

Traveling to Japan is an exciting experience for many people. Japan has a rich culture. When you visit Japan, there are many things you can do and see. You can explore beautiful temples and shrines. These places offer a glimpse into Japan's history. They are usually calm and peaceful. Trying Japanese food is another important part of the trip. Sushi, ramen, and tempura are very popular. Each region in Japan has its own special dishes. It's fun to try different foods in different places. Don't forget to use chopsticks! Another interesting aspect is Japan's technology. Tokyo, the capital city, is famous for its modern buildings. You can see the latest gadgets and electronics. There are also many clean and efficient trains. They make traveling around the country easy. Japanese culture values respect and politeness. When you enter someone's home, you should take off your shoes. Bowing is a common way to greet people. Understanding these customs will make your trip more enjoyable. Finally, you should definitely experience a traditional tea ceremony. It is an important cultural activity in Japan. The ceremony is slow and thoughtful. It gives you a chance to relax and reflect. Overall, Japan offers a unique blend of traditional and modern experiences.

CEFR Level Card

This CEFR Level Card was Assessed with Cathoven's CEFR Checker.

The tool is publicly available at <https://nexthub.cathoven.com/cefr?lessons>

General Level: B1.8

Vocabulary: B1.4

Verb Form: A1.2

Clause: A2.0

Prosody: B2.4

Phrases and Idioms

Lemma	Count	Sentences
take off	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• When you enter someone's home, you should take off your shoes.

Listening Comprehension Exercises

True / False

1. Exploring temples and shrines in Japan provides insight into the country's peaceful present culture.
2. Japan's culinary experiences include tasting regional specialties and using chopsticks.
3. Tokyo is not known for its technological advancements and modern infrastructure.
4. Observing cultural customs, like taking off shoes in homes and bowing, enriches the travel experience in Japan.
5. A traditional tea ceremony in Japan is a fast-paced and casual activity.

Multiple Choice

1. What activity offers a glimpse into Japan's history?
 - A. Using chopsticks
 - B. Exploring beautiful temples and shrines
 - C. Riding clean and efficient trains
 - D. Trying Japanese food

2. Why is it fun to try different foods in different places in Japan?
 - A. Because each place has a famous chef
 - B. Because each region has its own special dishes
 - C. Because only certain foods are served in specific places
 - D. Because you need to use chopsticks

3. Which city is famous for its modern buildings and latest gadgets?
 - A. Kyoto
 - B. Hiroshima
 - C. Tokyo
 - D. Osaka

4. What is a common way to greet people in Japan?
 - A. Giving a high-five
 - B. Shaking hands
 - C. Bowing
 - D. Hugging

5. Why should you experience a traditional tea ceremony in Japan?
 - A. It helps you learn karate
 - B. It is very quick and modern
 - C. It gives you a chance to relax and reflect
 - D. It is a good way to meet celebrities

Short Answer

1. What traditional activity is described as slow and thoughtful in Japan?
2. Why do you need to take off your shoes when entering someone's home in Japan?
3. What makes traveling around Japan easy?
4. How does Tokyo reflect Japan's technological advancements?
5. What dining activity is suggested for experiencing different regional specialties in Japan?

Exercise Answers

True / False Answers

1. Answer: False

Explanation: Temples and shrines provide insight into Japan's history, not its present culture. The peacefulness refers to the environment, not the modern culture.

Answer location: "These places offer a glimpse into Japan's history. They are usually calm and peaceful."

2. Answer: True

Explanation: The text mentions regional special dishes and the importance of using chopsticks.

Answer location: "Each region in Japan has its own special dishes. It's fun to try different foods in different places. Don't forget to use chopsticks!"

3. Answer: False

Explanation: Tokyo is famous for its modern infrastructure and technological advancements.

Answer location: "Tokyo, the capital city, is famous for its modern buildings. You can see the latest gadgets and electronics."

4. Answer: True

Explanation: Respecting cultural customs like taking off shoes and bowing can enhance the travel experience.

Answer location: "Japanese culture values respect and politeness. When you enter someone's home, you should take off your shoes. Bowing is a common way to greet people. Understanding these customs will make your trip more enjoyable."

5. Answer: False

Explanation: The tea ceremony is described as slow and thoughtful, not fast-paced and casual.

Answer location: "The ceremony is slow and thoughtful. It gives you a chance to relax and reflect."

Multiple Choice Answers

1. Answer: B

Explanation: Exploring temples and shrines helps you learn about Japan's rich historical background.

Answer location: "You can explore beautiful temples and shrines. These places offer a glimpse into Japan's history."

2. Answer: B

Explanation: Different regions in Japan have unique dishes, making the culinary experience diverse and enjoyable.

Answer location: "Each region in Japan has its own special dishes. It's fun to try different foods in different places."

3. Answer: C

Explanation: Tokyo is known for its advanced technology and modern architecture.

Answer location: "Tokyo, the capital city, is famous for its modern buildings. You can see the latest gadgets and electronics."

4. Answer: C

Explanation: Bowing is a traditional greeting in Japan, reflecting respect and politeness.

Answer location: "Bowing is a common way to greet people."

5. Answer: C

Explanation: The traditional tea ceremony is a mindful practice that allows participants to relax and reflect.

Answer location: "The ceremony is slow and thoughtful. It gives you a chance to relax and reflect."

Short Answer Answers

1. Answer: Tea ceremony.

Explanation: The text describes the traditional tea ceremony in Japan as slow and thoughtful, providing relaxation and reflection.

Answer location: "Finally, you should definitely experience a traditional tea ceremony. It is an important cultural activity in Japan. The ceremony is slow and thoughtful. It gives you a chance to relax and reflect."

2. Answer: Respect and politeness.

Explanation: Taking off shoes when entering someone's home in Japan is a practice rooted in their cultural values of respect and politeness.

Answer location: "Japanese culture values respect and politeness. When you enter someone's home, you should take off your shoes."

3. Answer: Clean and efficient trains.

Explanation: The presence of clean and efficient trains simplifies traveling around Japan, as stated in the text.

Answer location: "There are also many clean and efficient trains. They make traveling around the country easy."

4. Answer: Modern buildings and latest gadgets.

Explanation: Tokyo showcases Japan's technological prowess through its modern architecture and cutting-edge gadgets.

Answer location: "Tokyo, the capital city, is famous for its modern buildings. You can see the latest gadgets and electronics."

5. Answer: Trying different foods in different places.

Explanation: The text recommends trying various regional foods to enjoy Japan's diverse culinary specialties.

Answer location: "Each region in Japan has its own special dishes. It's fun to try different foods in different places."

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Questions 🔑 💬 📍 📄

1. Why do adult cats meow?

A. To scare away predators
B. To communicate with each other
C. To express dominance
D. To communicate with humans

Answer: D
Explanation: Adult cats meow primarily to communicate with humans, not with each other.
Answer location: "But domesticated cats have learned that we humans are suckers for their meows and adapted to use it to get what they want from us."

2. At what stage do cats stop meowing to communicate with each other?

A. When they are adults
B. After being domesticated
C. As soon as they are born
D. Before they are weaned

Answer: A
Explanation: Cats stop meowing to communicate with each other once they reach adulthood.
Answer location: "as adults, however, cats don't actually meow at each other to communicate."