

1 聞き取り問題

次の英語の会話が2回放送されるのを聞いて、問題用紙の指示に従って答える。

Aki : Bob, where did you go last Sunday?

Bob : I went to Kyoto and walked along the streets to visit some old famous temples and shrines. At a gift shop, I bought a T-shirt with one big kanji on the back. Kanji looks very cool to me. After that, I went to a restaurant to try some Japanese food.

Aki : What did you eat, Bob?

Bob : Tempura. It was really good. Next time, I will also try sushi and sukiyaki.

Aki : That's good. You are very interested in Japanese food, aren't you Bob?

Bob : Yes. I know that now a lot of people in the world are interested in Japan. When they come to Japan, they will enjoy sightseeing, Japanese food, and

Aki : And shopping! These are very popular things among foreign tourists in Japan, right?

Bob : Yes, but there are other different kinds of things foreign people want to do in Japan. Some tourists love to visit small towns or villages, which are far from a big city. Of course they are not as famous as Kyoto or Tokyo, but they have a lot of attractions for foreign visitors. For example, some visitors want to join a local festival with Japanese people who live in the village. For the tourists from foreign countries, it is a very exciting experience to do something with Japanese people.

Aki : Do you have any other examples of the things foreign people want to do in Japan?

Bob : Some tourists want to experience everyday life in Japan or try something unique to Japan. For example, they want to try sleeping on tatami with a futon, making Japanese dinner or wearing yukata after taking a Japanese style bath. Even practicing zazen early in the morning is also popular.

Aki : Such things are not special for Japanese people, but they look unique to people from other countries, don't they?

Bob : Right, and other tourists are more interested in Japanese pop culture like anime and manga than shopping or sightseeing. Many guidebooks don't tell a lot about usual Japanese life-style or pop culture because this is not often seen in famous tourist places or tourist routes. So, it is often difficult to get information about such things. Foreign tourists usually get the information from other tourists' blogs on the Internet before they come to Japan.

Aki : You mean that different people have different reasons to visit Japan?

Bob : You are right, Aki. A lot of foreign people are very interested in Japan because Japanese culture is unique and special for people from other countries. Japan has many different kinds of wonderful and interesting things, and sometimes Japanese people don't even know it. If you learn more about your own culture and understand it better, you can show more about it to people from other countries. It will help foreign tourists to enjoy their visit to Japan more. If you show foreign people how to make and eat sushi in a Japanese manner, for example, they will become more interested in sushi and then enjoy it more.

Aki : Oh, I'm afraid I don't know about sushi very well. I should learn more about Japanese culture.

Bob : Good luck!