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## こくごのもり

小学低学年の児童を対象に国語の楽しさを知ってもらおうと、イラストを多用してつくった問題で「毎日小学生新聞」に長期連載。

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年のくれ・年のはじめをあらわす言葉をかこみましょう。

指導・元世田谷区立  
小学校教諭  
高橋 伸子  
イラスト・奈良 恵

年のくれ  
年のはじめ

答えはP22にあります。

# Technical Intern Trainees' Mate

January 2020 Winter Edition

## JITCO Japanese Essay Contest

### ~Introducing a Winning Essay from the Past ("My Second Family")~

Every year, JITCO holds a Japanese Essay Contest and seeks entries from all technical intern trainees and trainees. Calls for entries are usually announced in early April, and after a strict screening process, awards are presented to the winning entries in October. A booklet of prize-winning essays is also presented to all applicants.

Below, we introduce an essay that received the first highest prize in the 2018 Japanese Essay Contest as an example of what kind of essays are being entered. The original essay as written in Japanese by the technical intern trainee is printed on page 2.

First Highest Prize in the 2018 Japanese Essay Contest

#### My Second Family

Nguyen Thi Kim Linh

We began our relationship two years ago. The date I arrived in Japan for the first time in 2016 marks our anniversary. On that day, we promised to do our best together no matter what was in store for us going forward. I thought a lot of good things would happen and we would have a lot of fun times together. In reality, however, I faced many more troubles than I imagined, and there were times I felt sad, frightened, or so weary that I felt like quitting. At times like these, I always heard a voice in my mind that stopped me from acting on how I felt. Re-thinking that it would be wrong of me to quit my training over a minor reason, we continued our relationship. You are probably wondering by now who I am talking about. The answer is someone named 'Japan.'

"Why do you call this someone 'Japan,'" you may ask. This is because I have many friends here, as well as people I consider my brothers, sisters, father and mother, and many other people who stay close to me. I do not know what else to call these people. Before I realized it, Japan had become my second family.

Many things happen when I am with my family. There are both happy times and sad times.

One of my saddest moments was when my superiors at my company were transferred to another area. Managing us 80 technical intern trainees must have been extremely difficult, but my two superiors took care of us every day as though they were our fathers. I am grateful to them from the bottom of my heart. Two members of my family are no longer here with me. That is what is most sad to me.

I have many happy stories. I feel happy when I go in to work daily and see everyone hard at work. The women I see working hard every day are my emotional mainstay.

I make it a point to smile even when I am exhausted from my daily work or when communal life in the dorm becomes bothersome. My hobby is to make people around me laugh. I was told that sadness is reduced by half when sharing it, and happiness is doubled when sharing it, and I believe this is so. Everything, including sad and happy moments, depends on how you think of it.

Flowers bloom along the roadside in spring, verdant plants grow thick in summer, the mountains are dyed red in autumn, and beautiful snowflakes fall from the sky in winter. Infinite colors surround my second family. I will never forget these sceneries. I have fallen in love with this place called Japan.

Everyone changes with time. I have probably also changed from two years ago. I hope I have matured some. Having met my second family, I feel the me today can rise up to any challenge. I will fly toward the blue sky. This is the springtime of my life.

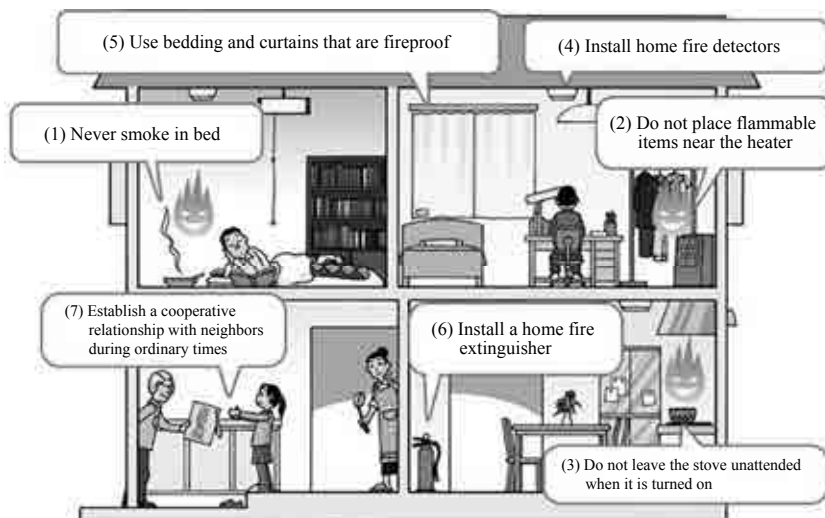
Nguyen Thi Kim Linh, go for it!

The Japanese Essay Contest receives numerous promising entries every year. The application guidelines for the contest in 2020, which marks the 28th contest, are planned to be announced in early February on JITCO's website. We look forward to your entry!

## Be Careful Not to Cause a Fire!

Winter in Japan is a season when the air is dry and fires are prone to occur. According to a survey by the Fire and Disaster Management Agency of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications, the top five causes of building fires in 2018 were the stove, cigarette, arson, heater, and wiring equipment. All of you technical intern trainees probably also cook and use the heater in your dormitory. Here we introduce seven tips for preventing house fires as cited from the Public Relations Online site of the Government of Japan. Please take this occasion to review these tips and be careful not to cause a fire.

### 7 Tips for Preventing Residential Fires



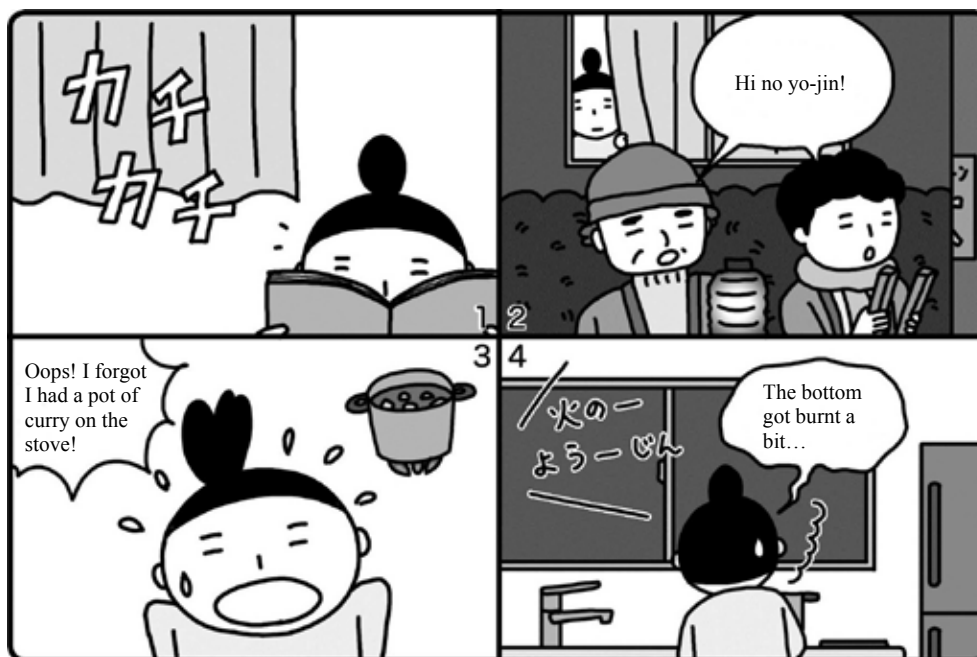
If, however, a fire breaks out, what should you do? Fire stations everywhere instruct people to take the following actions:

- ✓ Call out in a loud voice or set off the emergency alarm to warn people in the vicinity. People nearby should promptly call 119. When the operator responds and asks if it is a fire or medical emergency, say “Kaji desu” (It is a fire).
- ✓ If the fire has not reached the ceiling yet, use the extinguisher to put it out.
- ✓ When evacuating, close all windows and doors to prevent the flow of air from feeding the fire.

Needless to say, it is also important to ensure your own safety. To be able to promptly take the above actions when an emergency actually occurs and to escape in time, you should take regular precautions such as by participating in emergency drills.

### Let's Learn about Japanese Feelings through Manga

— Hi no Yojin (Beware of Fire) —



#### Ms. Marui had a close call

Winter is when fires are most apt to occur because open flames are used frequently and the air is dry. Throughout Japan, there is a custom of patrolling the neighborhood while clapping wooden sticks and calling out “Hi no yojin!” to alert people to the risk of fire. Naturally, of course, you should beware of fire not only during the winter but also throughout the entire year.





年の暮れが近づきました。年納めや新年の準備の中で、いつもの休みとは違う「あらたまる」行事のあるのが冬休みでしょう。

年の暮れ、年の瀬、歳末、大みそか、除夜と年の夜（どちらも大みそかの夜）など、多くの言葉とともに、今年を無事に過ごせたことをよろこびたいですね。

Cuối năm đang lại gần. Để chuẩn bị cho dịp cuối năm và đầu năm, chắc hẳn có nhiều việc mới mẻ vì vậy dịp nghỉ Đông cũng là thời điểm khác với các dịp nghỉ khác đúng không các bạn.

Cứ độ cuối năm ta lại gặp nhiều từ tiếng Nhật như: 年の暮れ- Toshinokure, nghĩa là cuối năm, 年の瀬- toshinose, nghĩa là giai đoạn bận nhất trong năm, 歳末- saimatsu, cũng có nghĩa là cuối năm, 大みそか=ohmisoka, nghĩa là tất niên, 除夜-joya, nghĩa là đêm trừ tịch, tức giao thừa và 年の夜- toshinoyo, cũng có nghĩa là giao thừa. Chúc tất cả các bạn một năm mới bình an vô sự.

临近年末，在年终和新年的准备过程中，和平常的休假不同，有「更新」之意的节庆活动的才是寒假吧。

年の暮れ、年の瀬、歳末、大みそか、除夜和年の夜（都是除夕的晚上）等，和这么多的词汇一起来庆祝今年平安地度过吧。

Papalapit na ang katapusan ng taon. Sa panahon ng taunang bayaran at paghahanda para sa Bagong Taon, ang mga piyesta opisyal sa winter ay mayroong "bagong" kaganapan na naiiba sa karaniwang mga piyesta opisyal. May mga salitang "年の暮れ=toshinokure", "年の瀬=toshinose", "歳末=saimatsu", "大みそか=ōmisoka", "除夜=joya" at "年の夜=toshinoyo" (lahat ng ito ay ang gabi bago sumapit ang bagong taon), at iba pa at kasabay ng mga salitang ito ay nais nating ipaalam na ikatutuwa natin na matapos ang taon ng ligtas sa anuman.

Akhir tahun sudah semakin dekat. Di tengah pekerjaan akhir tahun dan persiapan tahun baru, terdapat acara "menjadi baru" yang berbeda dengan liburan biasa, yaitu liburan musim dingin.

Dengan banyak ucapan seperti 年の暮れ, 年の瀬, 歳末, 大みそか, 除夜 dan 年の夜 (keduanya merupakan malam tahun baru), kita ingin bersyukur karena telah melewati tahun ini dengan selamat.

ใกล้จะสิ้นปลายปีแล้ว ในระหว่างการปิดท้ายปีและเตรียมพร้อมสำหรับปีใหม่ เทศกาลแห่ง "การเปลี่ยนแปลง" ทำให้วันหยุดในฤดูหนาวแตกต่างจากวันหยุดทั่วไป

พร้อมกับหลากหลายคำที่ใช้เรียกคืนส่งท้ายปีเก่า 年の暮れ, 年の瀬, 歳末, 大みそか, 除夜 และ 年の夜 (ทุกคำล้วนหมายถึงคืนวันสิ้นปี) เป็นคืน ช่วงเป็นเวลาที่นำอินดีที่เราสามารถข้ามผ่านปีนี้ได้โดยสวัสดิภาพ

ចុងឆ្នាំជិតចូលមកដល់ហើយ។ ថ្ងៃឈប់សម្រាកដូចមានព្រឹត្តិការណ៍«ចាប់ផ្តើមជាថ្មី» ដែលខុសគ្នាពីថ្ងៃឈប់សម្រាកធម្មតា ហើយក៏ជាអំឡុងពេលនៃការបញ្ចប់ការងារឆ្នាំចាស់ និងការរៀបចំសម្រាប់ឆ្នាំថ្មី ផងដែរ។ ខ្ញុំរីករាយណាស់ដែលអាចឆ្លងមួយឆ្នាំនេះដោយសុខសប្បាយ ដែលថ្ងៃឆ្លងឆ្នាំ គេអាចប្រើពាក្យនិយាយជាច្រើនដូចជា 年の暮れ、年の瀬、歳末、大みそか、除夜 និង 年の夜 (ទាំងអស់នេះសុទ្ធតែមានន័យថាឈប់ថ្ងៃឆ្លងឆ្នាំ) ។

နှစ်ကုန်ခါနီးပါပြီ။ နှစ်ဟောင်းမှာ လက်ဝဲသတ်စရာတွေ၊ နှစ်သစ်အတွက် ပြင်ဆင်စရာတွေနဲ့ ပုံမှန် အားလပ်ရက်တွေနဲ့ မတူဘဲ "အသစ်ကူးပြောင်းမှု" ဝုံးတမ်းစဉ်လာ လုပ်စရာတွေရှိတဲ့ ဆောင်းရာသီ အားလပ်ရက် ဖြစ်ပါတယ်။

年の暮れ、年の瀬、歳末、大みそか、除夜 年としの夜よ (နှစ်ခုစလုံး နှစ်သစ်ကူးည) လို စကားလုံးတွေနဲ့ နှစ်သစ်မှာ အေးချမ်းစွာနေထိုင်နိုင်တာ မင်္ဂလာပါ။

Хуучин оноо үдэх сүүлийн өдрүүд дөхөж байна. Хуучин оноо үдэх болон шинэ оноо угтах бэлтгэлээ базаах энэ үе бол ердийн амралтаас өөр бөгөөд “Шинээр эхлүүлэх” зүйлстэйгээрэй ялгаатай нь өвлийн амралтын онцлог биз ээ.

年の暮れ、年の瀬、歳末、大みそか、除夜 болон 年の夜 (Аль аль нь “Хуучин оноо үдэх сүүлчийн орой”) гэх мэт олон үг хэллэгийн хамт, үдэж буй оноо эсэн мэнд өнгөрөөж чадсандаа баярлацгаа.

The end of the year is just around the corner. Among the preparations for bidding farewell to the old year and ushering in the new, you may notice that winter vacation is full of “formal” events, unlike other holidays.

By reflecting back on your year along with words of the season such as 年の暮れ, 年の瀬, 歳末, 大みそか, 除夜 and 年の夜 (both referring to New Year’s Eve), we hope you are filled with a warm feeling of having spent the year safely without incident.

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