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Level 3 – 11th December, 2018

Japan prepares for many foreign workers

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1812/181211-foreign-workers.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 1 and 2 (they are easier).

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THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1812/181211-foreign-workers.html>

Japan is changing its immigration policy because it needs workers. Japan is an aging society. This means it does not have enough workers to work in many jobs. Japan's government has decided to allow many workers from other countries into the country to help fill the jobs. Japan's Prime Minister Shinzo Abe said his government will meet on December 28 to approve the plan. If the plan is approved, it will become law on April 1. The new law would allow up to 345,000 foreign workers to help with labor shortages. Many of these workers will work in the construction, fishing, healthcare and agriculture industries. They will be largely low-skilled workers and will need to pass a Japanese language test.

Japan's Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga said on Saturday that Japan had to change and allow more foreign workers in to help the economy. He said: "If Japan simply continued along the same path, we would find ourselves in a very difficult situation." He also said the government would make sure the foreign workers can quickly adjust to life in smaller Japanese cities and towns. He said: "We want to ensure they have the right environment in which to live and work." Japanese people are having fewer children. The fertility rate is now only 1.4 children per woman. The rate should be 2.1 for Japan to have enough Japanese workers. Japan's population is already dropping by about 400,000 people a year.

Sources: <https://asia.nikkei.com/Spotlight/Japan-Immigration/Japan-prepares-support-for-incoming-foreign-workers>
https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/japan-passes-controversial-new-immigration-bill-to-attract-foreign-workers/2018/12/07/a76d8420-f9f3-11e8-863a-8972120646e0_story.html
<https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2018/12/08/national/japan-passes-law-opening-door-foreign-labor-experts-warn-challenges-ahead/>

WARM-UPS

1. FOREIGN WORKERS: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about foreign workers. Change partners often and share your findings.

2. CHAT: In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

immigration / policy / aging / society / workers / country / plan / law / language / test
Saturday / economy / path / difficult situation / cities and towns / fertility / population

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

3. IMMIGRATION: Students A **strongly** believe immigration is a good thing; Students B **strongly** believe immigration isn't. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. MORE WORKERS: How can a government increase the number of workers it has? Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of these things. Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	Advantages	Disadvantages
Raise retirement age		
Foreign workers		
Robots		
Lower minimum working age		
Stop emigration		
Overseas call centers		

5. SOCIETY: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "society". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

6. INDUSTRIES: Rank these with your partner. Put the best industries to work in at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Construction
- Fishing
- Healthcare
- Agriculture
- I.T.
- Tourism
- Education
- Oil

VOCABULARY MATCHING

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| 1. immigration | a. Let someone enter a place or go in a particular direction. |
| 2. policy | b. The action of coming to live permanently in a foreign country. |
| 3. allow | c. Say yes or agree to or accept as being OK. |
| 4. approve | d. Workers, especially those who work with their hands. |
| 5. labor | e. A course of action by a government, party, business, or individual. |
| 6. shortages | f. The farming of fruit and vegetables and the keeping of animals to provide food, wool, and other products. |
| 7. agriculture | g. Situations in which there is not enough of something that is needed. |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| 8. economy | h. The course or direction in which a person or thing is moving. |
| 9. path | i. The ability of men and woman to create children. |
| 10. adjust | j. The money and things of a country or region, especially in terms of the making and using of goods and services. |
| 11. ensure | k. Change or move something slightly to get the appearance or result we want. |
| 12. fertility | l. A measure, quantity, or frequency, usually one measured against some other quantity or measure. |
| 13. rate | m. Make certain that something will happen. |
| 14. population | n. All the people who live in a particular town, area, or country. |

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1812/181211-foreign-workers.html>

1. TRUE / FALSE: Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

- a. Japan is changing its policy towards immigration. **T / F**
- b. Japan does not have enough workers because too many citizens are old. **T / F**
- c. A new immigration plan would not become law until 2020. **T / F**
- d. Workers from overseas must pass a Japanese language test. **T / F**
- e. A government secretary said Japan must change or face difficulties. **T / F**
- f. Foreign workers will not receive help to adjust to life in Japan's cities. **T / F**
- g. The fertility rate in Japan is 2.1 children per woman. **T / F**
- h. The article says Japan's fertility rate needs to be 1.4. **T / F**

2. SYNONYM MATCH: (The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1. policy | a. accepted |
| 2. aging | b. mainly |
| 3. enough | c. a smaller number |
| 4. approved | d. sufficient |
| 5. largely | e. route |
| 6. change | f. strategy |
| 7. path | g. falling |
| 8. foreign | h. adjust |
| 9. fewer | i. overseas |
| 10. dropping | j. maturing |

3. PHRASE MATCH: (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------|
| 1. changing its immigration policy | a. to 345,000 foreign workers |
| 2. Japan is an aging | b. children per woman |
| 3. his government will meet on December 28 | c. quickly adjust |
| 4. The new law would allow up | d. skilled workers |
| 5. They will be largely low- | e. to approve the plan |
| 6. Japan simply continued | f. dropping |
| 7. make sure the foreign workers can | g. because it needs workers |
| 8. right environment in | h. along the same path |
| 9. The fertility rate is now only 1.4 | i. which to live and work |
| 10. Japan's population is already | j. society |

GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1812/181211-foreign-workers.html>

Japan is changing its immigration (1) _____ because it needs workers. Japan is an (2) _____ society. This means it does not have enough workers to work in many jobs. Japan's government has decided to (3) _____ many workers from other countries into the country to help (4) _____ the jobs. Japan's Prime Minister Shinzo Abe said his government will meet on December 28 to approve the plan. If the plan is (5) _____, it will become law on April 1. The new law would allow up to 345,000 foreign workers to help with labor (6) _____. Many of these workers will work in the construction, fishing, healthcare and agriculture (7) _____. They will be (8) _____ low-skilled workers and will need to pass a Japanese language test.

allow
shortages
largely
policy
fill
industries
aging
approved

Japan's Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga said on Saturday that Japan had to change and allow more foreign workers in to help the (9) _____. He said: "If Japan simply continued along the same path, we would (10) _____ ourselves in a very difficult situation." He also said the government would make (11) _____ the foreign workers can quickly adjust to (12) _____ in smaller Japanese cities and towns. He said: "We want to ensure they have the right environment in (13) _____ to live and work." Japanese people are having fewer children. The (14) _____ rate is now only 1.4 children per woman. The rate should be 2.1 for Japan to have (15) _____ Japanese workers. Japan's (16) _____ is already dropping by about 400,000 people a year.

sure
which
population
economy
enough
find
life
fertility

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1812/181211-foreign-workers.html>

- 1) Japan is changing its immigration policy because _____
 - a. it needless workers
 - b. it kneads workers
 - c. it knees workers
 - d. it needs workers
- 2) This means it does not have enough workers to _____ jobs
 - a. working many
 - b. work in many
 - c. were kin many
 - d. wore kin many
- 3) The new law would allow up to 345,000 foreign workers to _____ shortages
 - a. help within labor
 - b. help with labor
 - c. help without labor
 - d. help wither labor
- 4) workers will work in the construction, fishing, healthcare and _____
 - a. agriculture in dust tries
 - b. agriculture industrialise
 - c. agriculture industrials
 - d. agriculture industries
- 5) They will be largely low-_____
 - a. skilled worker
 - b. skilled works are
 - c. skilled work are
 - d. skilled workers
- 6) Japan had to change and allow more foreign workers in to help _____
 - a. the economical
 - b. the economies
 - c. the economy
 - d. the economise
- 7) If Japan simply continued along _____
 - a. the sane path
 - b. this aim path
 - c. thus aim path
 - d. the same path
- 8) He also said the government would make sure the foreign workers _____
 - a. can quickly adjusts
 - b. can quickly adjust
 - c. can quickly adjusted
 - d. can quickly adjustable
- 9) He said: "We want to ensure they have the _____"
 - a. rightly environment
 - b. rights environmental
 - c. right environment
 - d. right environmental
- 10) The rate should be 2.1 for Japan to have _____ workers
 - a. enough Japanese
 - b. a naff Japanese
 - c. though Japanese
 - d. in ought Japanese

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1812/181211-foreign-workers.html>

Japan is changing its immigration policy (1) _____ workers. Japan is an aging society. This means it does not have enough workers to (2) _____ jobs. Japan's government has decided to allow many workers from other countries into the country to help (3) _____. Japan's Prime Minister Shinzo Abe said his government will meet on December 28 to (4) _____. If the plan is approved, it will become law on April 1. The new law would allow up to 345,000 foreign workers to help (5) _____. Many of these workers will work in the construction, fishing, healthcare and agriculture industries. They will be largely low-skilled workers and will (6) _____ a Japanese language test.

Japan's Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga said on Saturday that Japan (7) _____ and allow more foreign workers in to help the economy. He said: "If Japan simply continued along (8) _____, we would find ourselves in a very difficult situation." He also said the government would make sure the foreign workers can quickly (9) _____ in smaller Japanese cities and towns. He said: "We want to ensure they have the right environment in (10) _____ and work." Japanese people are having fewer children. The (11) _____ now only 1.4 children per woman. The rate should be 2.1 for Japan to have enough Japanese workers. Japan's population is already (12) _____ 400,000 people a year.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1812/181211-foreign-workers.html>

1. Why is Japan changing its immigration policy?
2. When will the government meet to approve a plan?
3. Up to how many foreign workers might be allowed to work in Japan?
4. What kind of workers will the foreign workers be?
5. What kind of test will the workers need to pass?
6. What did Japan's Chief Cabinet Secretary say Japan had to do?
7. What kind of situation would Japan be in if it followed the same path?
8. What does Japan want to ensure foreign workers have?
9. What is the current fertility rate in Japan?
10. By how much is Japan's population reducing in size each year?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1812/181211-foreign-workers.html>

- 1) Why is Japan changing its immigration policy?
 - a) international rules
 - b) it needs more workers
 - c) it wants stricter regulations
 - d) to help poorer people
- 2) When will the government meet to approve a plan?
 - a) December 25
 - b) December 27
 - c) December 29
 - d) December 28
- 3) Up to how many foreign workers might be allowed to work in Japan?
 - a) 354,000
 - b) 534,000
 - c) 345,000
 - d) 435,000
- 4) What kind of workers will the foreign workers be?
 - a) low-skilled workers
 - b) white-collar workers
 - c) university graduates
 - d) European
- 5) What kind of test will the workers need to pass?
 - a) a logic test
 - b) a language test
 - c) a Japanese history test
 - d) a Japanese culture test
- 6) What did Japan's Chief Cabinet Secretary say Japan had to do?
 - a) change
 - b) relax
 - c) compete
 - d) stop
- 7) What kind of situation would Japan be in if it followed the same path?
 - a) a good situation
 - b) the same situation
 - c) a difficult situation
 - d) a better situation
- 8) What does Japan want to ensure foreign workers have?
 - a) the right environment
 - b) workers' rights
 - c) lots of cash
 - d) a place to stay
- 9) What is the current fertility rate in Japan?
 - a) 1.1 children per woman
 - b) 1.2 children per woman
 - c) 1.3 children per woman
 - d) 1.4 children per woman
- 10) By how much is Japan's population reducing in size each year?
 - a) just over 400,000
 - b) exactly 400,000
 - c) about 400,000
 - d) just under 400,000

ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1812/181211-foreign-workers.html>

Role A – Fishing

You think fishing is the best industry to work in. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their industries. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): healthcare, I.T. or oil.

Role B – Healthcare

You think healthcare is the best industry to work in. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their industries. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): fishing, I.T. or oil.

Role C – I.T.

You think I.T. is the best industry to work in. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their industries. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): healthcare, fishing or oil.

Role D – Oil

You think oil is the best industry to work in. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their industries. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): healthcare, I.T. or fishing.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1812/181211-foreign-workers.html>

1. WORD SEARCH: Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'foreign' and 'worker'.

foreign	worker

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS: Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

3. GAP FILL: In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

4. VOCABULARY: Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

5. TEST EACH OTHER: Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• society• other• fill• 28• fishing• pass	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• economy• path• situation• quickly• fertility• dropping
--	---

FOREIGN WORKERS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1812/181211-foreign-workers.html>

Write five GOOD questions about foreign workers in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

FOREIGN WORKERS DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. What did you think when you read the headline?
2. What images are in your mind when you hear the word 'foreign'?
3. What kind of immigration policy does your country have?
4. What do you think of working abroad?
5. What workers does your country need?
6. What foreign workers are there in your country?
7. What are the advantages of foreign workers?
8. How would 345,000 foreign workers affect your country?
9. What are the negatives of having foreign workers?
10. Should foreign workers have to speak the language?

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FOREIGN WORKERS DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

11. Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
12. What do you think of when you hear the word 'worker'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. Would you like to work in another country?
15. What difficulties do foreign workers have?
16. Would you rather work in a town or city?
17. How can Japan increase its population?
18. How can Japan solve its labor shortage?
19. What would the best thing be about working in Japan?
20. What questions would you like to ask Japan's Prime Minister?

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____
- 4. _____
- 5. _____
- 6. _____

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DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____
- 4. _____
- 5. _____
- 6. _____

LANGUAGE - CLOZE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1812/181211-foreign-workers.html>

Japan is changing its immigration (1) _____ because it needs workers. Japan is an aging society. This (2) _____ it does not have enough workers to work in many jobs. Japan's government has decided to allow many workers from other countries into the country to help (3) _____ the jobs. Japan's Prime Minister Shinzo Abe said his government will meet on December 28 to (4) _____ the plan. If the plan is approved, it will become law on April 1. The new law would allow (5) _____ to 345,000 foreign workers to help with labor shortages. Many of these workers will work in the construction, fishing, healthcare and agriculture industries. They will be (6) _____ low-skilled workers and will need to pass a Japanese language test.

Japan's Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga said on Saturday that Japan had to (7) _____ and allow more foreign workers in to help the economy. He said: "If Japan simply continued along the same (8) _____, we would find ourselves in a very difficult situation." He also said the government would make sure the foreign workers can quickly (9) _____ to life in smaller Japanese cities and towns. He said: "We want to ensure they have the right environment (10) _____ which to live and work." Japanese people are having fewer children. The (11) _____ rate is now only 1.4 children per woman. The rate should be 2.1 for Japan to have enough Japanese workers. Japan's population is (12) _____ dropping by about 400,000 people a year.

Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- | | | | | |
|-----|--------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|
| 1. | (a) politics | (b) politeness | (c) policing | (d) policy |
| 2. | (a) meanies | (b) meanings | (c) meaning | (d) means |
| 3. | (a) filling | (b) fill | (c) filler | (d) file |
| 4. | (a) compost | (b) reply | (c) approve | (d) premier |
| 5. | (a) rise | (b) higher | (c) up | (d) increase |
| 6. | (a) largely | (b) biggest | (c) huge | (d) inflated |
| 7. | (a) chance | (b) change | (c) charge | (d) chart |
| 8. | (a) path | (b) street | (c) avenue | (d) expressway |
| 9. | (a) benefit | (b) adjust | (c) liberty | (d) business |
| 10. | (a) on | (b) at | (c) in | (d) by |
| 11. | (a) utility | (b) ability | (c) fertility | (d) civility |
| 12. | (a) but | (b) although | (c) however | (d) already |

SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1812/181211-foreign-workers.html>

Paragraph 1

1. Japan is changing its immigration ipoycl
2. Japan is an aging csetyoi
3. If the plan is vpaoeprd
4. to help with labor srtesaohg
5. healthcare and agriculture dirnstsuie
6. They will be largely low-leklids workers

Paragraph 2

7. Japan's chief cabinet rctsyaeer
8. in a very difficult niasituto
9. foreign workers can quickly datjus to life
10. We want to snreue they have the right environment
11. The iilttfrye rate is now only 1.4
12. Japan's ltpooipanu is already dropping

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1812/181211-foreign-workers.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () Japan's Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga said on Saturday that Japan had to change and allow more foreign workers in
- () work in the construction, fishing, healthcare and agriculture industries. They will be largely low-
- () law would allow up to 345,000 foreign workers to help with labor shortages. Many of these workers will
- () environment in which to live and work." Japanese people are having fewer children. The fertility rate is now
- () skilled workers and will need to pass a Japanese language test.
- () enough workers to work in many jobs. Japan's government has decided to allow many workers from other
- () to help the economy. He said: "If Japan simply continued along the same path, we would find ourselves in a very difficult
- () Japanese cities and towns. He said: "We want to ensure they have the right
- () countries into the country to help fill the jobs. Japan's Prime Minister Shinzo Abe said his government will
- () meet on December 28 to approve the plan. If the plan is approved, it will become law on April 1. The new
- (**1**) Japan is changing its immigration policy because it needs workers. Japan is an aging society. This means it does not have
- () situation." He also said the government would make sure the foreign workers can quickly adjust to life in smaller
- () population is already dropping by about 400,000 people a year.
- () only 1.4 children per woman. The rate should be 2.1 for Japan to have enough Japanese workers. Japan's

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1812/181211-foreign-workers.html>

1. workers . because it needs its policy Changing immigration
2. workers . This does means not it have enough
3. Meet on plan . approve to 28 the December
4. approved, If is will it law . it become
5. to pass Japanese need will They test . language a
6. Allow Japan . help workers foreign to in more
7. a difficult would ourselves in find We situation .
8. life adjust Quickly in to cities . Japanese smaller
9. environment live . right in Have the which to
10. is 400,000 . Japan's population about by dropping already

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1812/181211-foreign-workers.html>

Japan is *changing* / *changed* its immigration policy because it needs workers. Japan is an *age* / *aging* society. This means it does not have enough workers to work in *many* / *much* jobs. Japan's government has decided to *allow* / *allowance* many workers from other countries into the country to help *filling* / *fill* the jobs. Japan's Prime Minister Shinzo Abe said his government will *encounter* / *meet* on December 28 to approve the plan. If the plan is approved, it will *becoming* / *become* law on April 1. The new law would allow up to 345,000 foreign workers to help *with* / *within* labor shortages. Many of these workers will work *on* / *in* the construction, fishing, healthcare and agriculture *industries* / *industry*. They will be largely low-skilled workers and will need to *pass* / *passed* a Japanese language test.

Japan's Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga said on Saturday that Japan had to *changing* / *change* and allow more foreign workers in to help the economy. He said: "If Japan *simple* / *simply* continued along the same path, we would find *ourselves* / *yourselves* in a very difficult situation." He also said the government would *make* / *take* sure the foreign workers can *quickly* / *quick* adjust to life in smaller Japanese cities and *town* / *towns*. He said: "We want to ensure they have the *left* / *right* environment in which to live and work." Japanese people are *having* / *doing* fewer children. The fertility rate is now only 1.4 children per woman. The rate should *have* / *be* 2.1 for Japan to have enough Japanese workers. Japan's population is already *drop* / *dropping* by about 400,000 people a year.

Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct.

INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1812/181211-foreign-workers.html>

J_p_n _s c h_n g_n g _t s _m m_g r_t__ n p_l_c y
b_c__ s__ t n__ d s w_r k_r s . J_p_n _s _n _g_n g
s_c__ t y . T h_s m__ n s _t d__ s n_t h_v_ _n__ g
h w_r k_r s t_ w_r k _n m_n y j_b s . J_p_n 's
g_v_r n m_n t h_s d_c_d_d t_ l_l_w m_n y w_r k_r s
f_r_m _t h_r c__ n t r__ s _n t_ t h_ c__ n t r y t_ h_l
p f_l_l t h_ j_b s . J_p_n 's P_r_m_ M_n_s t_r S_h_n
z_ A b_ s__ d h_s g_v_r n m_n t w_l_l m__ t _n
D_c_m b_r 28 t_ _p p_r_v_ t h_ p_l_n . I f t h_ p_l_n
_s _p p_r_v_d , _t w_l_l b_c_m_ l_w _n A p_r_l 1 .
T h_ n_w l_w w__ l_d l_l_w _p t_ 3 4 5 , 0 0 0
f_r__ g n w_r k_r s t_ h_l p w_t h l_b_r s h_r t_g_s
. M_n y _f t h_s w_r k_r s w_l_l w_r k _n t h_ c_n
s t r_c t__ n , f_s h_n g , h__ l t h c_r _n d _g r_c_l
t_r _n d_s t r__ s . T h_y w_l_l b_ l_r g_l y l_w - s
k_l_l_d w_r k_r s _n d w_l_l n__ d t_ p_s s _
J_p_n_s_ l_n g__ g_ t_s t .

J_p_n 's C h__ f C_b_n_t S_c r_t_r y Y_s h_h_d_
S_g_ s__ d _n S_t_r d_y t h_t J_p_n h_d t_ c_h_n
g_ _n d l_l_w m_r_ f_r__ g n w_r k_r s _n t_ h_l p
t h_ c_n m_y . H_ s__ d : " I f J_p_n s_m p_l y c_n
t_n__ d l_n g t h_ s_m p_t h , w_ w__ l_d f_n d __
r_s_l_v_s _n _v_r y d_f f_c_l t s_t__ t__ n . " H__ l
s_ s__ d t h_ g_v_r n m_n t w__ l_d m_k_ s_r_ t h_
f_r__ g n w_r k_r s c_n q__ c_k_l y _d_j_s t t_ l_f_ _n
s_m_l_l_r J_p_n_s_ c_t__ s _n d t_w_n s . H_ s__ d :
" W_ w_n t t_ _n s_r_ t h_y h_v_ t h_ r_g_h_t _n
v_r_n m_n t _n w_h_c_h t_ l_v_ _n d w_r k . "
J_p_n_s_ p__ p_l_ _r_ h_v_n g f_w_r c_h_l_d_r_n . T h_
f_r_t_l_t_y r_t_ _s n_w _n l_y 1 . 4 c_h_l_d_r_n p_r
w_m_n . T h_ r_t_ s h__ l_d b_ 2 . 1 f_r J_p_n t_
h_v_ _n__ g h J_p_n_s_ w_r k_r s . J_p_n 's p_p_l_t__
n _s _l_r__ d_y d_r_p_p_n g b_y _b__ t 4 0 0 , 0 0 0
p__ p_l_ _ y__ r .

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1812/181211-foreign-workers.html>

japan is changing its immigration policy because it needs workers. japan is an aging society. this means it does not have enough workers to work in many jobs. japan's government has decided to allow many workers from other countries into the country to help fill the jobs. japan's prime minister shinzo abe said his government will meet on december 28 to approve the plan. if the plan is approved, it will become law on april 1. the new law would allow up to 345,000 foreign workers to help with labor shortages. many of these workers will work in the construction, fishing, healthcare and agriculture industries. they will be largely low-skilled workers and will need to pass a japanese language test.

japan's chief cabinet secretary yoshihide suga said on saturday that japan had to change and allow more foreign workers in to help the economy. he said: "if japan simply continued along the same path, we would find ourselves in a very difficult situation." he also said the government would make sure the foreign workers can quickly adjust to life in smaller japanese cities and towns. he said: "we want to ensure they have the right environment in which to live and work." japanese people are having fewer children. the fertility rate is now only 1.4 children per woman. the rate should be 2.1 for japan to have enough japanese workers. japan's population is already dropping by about 400,000 people a year.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1812/181211-foreign-workers.html>

Japan is changing its immigration policy because it needs workers. Japan is an aging society. This means it does not have enough workers to work in many jobs. Japan's government has decided to allow many workers from other countries into the country to help fill the jobs. Japan's Prime Minister Shinzo Abe said his government will meet on December 28 to approve the plan. If the plan is approved, it will become law on April 1. The new law would allow up to 345,000 foreign workers to help with labor shortages. Many of these workers will work in the construction, fishing, health care and agriculture industries. They will be largely low-skilled workers and will need to pass a Japanese language test. Japan's Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga said on Saturday that Japan had to change and allow more foreign workers into help the economy. He said: "If Japan simply continued along the same path, we would find ourselves in a very difficult situation." He also said the government would make sure the foreign workers can quickly adjust to life in smaller Japanese cities and towns. He said: "We want to ensure they have the right environment in which to live and work." Japanese people are having fewer children. The fertility rate is now only 1.4 children per woman. The rate should be 2.1 for Japan to have enough Japanese workers. Japan's population is already dropping by about 400,000 people a year.

HOMework

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. INTERNET: Search the Internet and find out more about this news story. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. FOREIGN WORKERS: Make a poster about foreign workers. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. WORKING OVERSEAS: Write a magazine article about everyone being able to work anywhere in the world. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against this.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

5. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT? Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

6. LETTER: Write a letter to an expert on foreign workers. Ask him/her three questions about them. Give him/her three of your opinions on foreign workers. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

VOCABULARY (p.4)

1. b 2. e 3. a 4. c 5. d 6. g 7. f
8. j 9. h 10. k 11. m 12. i 13. l 14. n

TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

- a T b T c F d T e T f F g F h F

SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

- | | |
|--------------|---------------------|
| 1. policy | a. strategy |
| 2. aging | b. maturing |
| 3. enough | c. sufficient |
| 4. approved | d. accepted |
| 5. largely | e. mainly |
| 6. change | f. adjust |
| 7. path | g. route |
| 8. foreign | h. overseas |
| 9. fewer | i. a smaller number |
| 10. dropping | j. falling |

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

1. It needs workers
2. December 28
3. 345,000
4. Low-skilled
5. A Japanese language test
6. Change
7. A difficult situation
8. The right environment in which to live and work
9. 1.4 children per woman
10. By about 400,000

WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.20)

1. Changing its immigration policy because it needs workers.
2. This means it does not have enough workers.
3. Meet on December 28 to approve the plan.
4. If it is approved, it will become law.
5. They will need to pass a Japanese language test.
6. Allow more foreign workers in to help Japan.
7. We would find ourselves in a difficult situation.
8. Quickly adjust to life in smaller Japanese cities.
9. Have the right environment in which to live.
10. Japan's population is already dropping by about 400,000.

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

1. b 2. d 3. c 4. a 5. b 6. a 7. c 8. a 9. d 10. c

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.
(It's good for your English ;-)