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Level 0 – 28th December, 2018

Japan chooses 'disaster' to describe 2018

FREE online quizzes, mp3 listening and more for this lesson here:

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1812/181228-disaster-0.html>

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Please try Levels 1, 2 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1812/181228-disaster-0.html>

This year is nearly over. Was it a great year? Japanese people have chosen the *kanji* (Chinese character) they think describes 2018. They chose the *kanji*, "disaster". This was because there were natural disasters in 2018. Japan had typhoons, earthquakes, heavy rains, and a deadly heatwave. These killed hundreds of people.

Japanese people have voted for a word of the year since 1995. The *kanji* "peace" was second this year. Last year, "north" won because of North Korea's nuclear tests. The world also had disasters. There were wildfires, hurricanes and tsunami. There were wars in Syria and Yemen. People want next year's *kanji* to be "happiness".

Sources: [https://japantoday.com/category/national/\(disaster\)-chosen-as-kanji-character-best-representing-2018](https://japantoday.com/category/national/(disaster)-chosen-as-kanji-character-best-representing-2018)
<https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2018/12/12/national/kanji-year-meaning-disaster-symbolizes-2018-amid-natural-human-calamities/>
<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-6495315/Japan-selects-Chinese-disaster-character-symbol-2018-following-natural-disasters.html>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1812/181228-disaster-0.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. This year is nearly | a. "disaster" |
| 2. Was it a great | b. heatwave |
| 3. Chinese | c. rains |
| 4. They chose the <i>kanji</i> , | d. of people |
| 5. there were natural | e. over |
| 6. heavy | f. disasters in 2018 |
| 7. a deadly | g. character |
| 8. These killed hundreds | h. year? |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|---|----------------------|
| 1. Japanese people have | a. tests |
| 2. a word of | b. and tsunami |
| 3. The <i>kanji</i> "peace" was second | c. to be "happiness" |
| 4. North Korea's nuclear | d. voted |
| 5. The world also | e. the year |
| 6. wildfires, hurricanes | f. and Yemen |
| 7. wars in Syria | g. had disasters |
| 8. People want next year's <i>kanji</i> | h. this year |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1812/181228-disaster-0.html>

This year (1) _____ . Was it a great year?

Japanese people (2) _____ *kanji* (Chinese character) they (3) _____ . They chose the *kanji*,

"disaster". This was because (4) _____ disasters

in 2018. Japan had typhoons, earthquakes,

(5) _____ a deadly heatwave. These killed

(6) _____ .

Japanese people have voted (7) _____ of the year

since 1995. The *kanji* "peace" (8) _____ year.

Last year, "north" (9) _____ North Korea's

nuclear tests. The world (10) _____ . There were

wildfires, hurricanes and tsunami. There

(11) _____ Syria and Yemen. People want next

year's *kanji* (12) _____ .

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1812/181228-disaster-0.html>

This year is nearly over. Was it a great year? Japanese people have chosen the *kanji* (Chinese character) they think describes 2018. They chose the *kanji*, "disaster". This was because there were natural disasters in 2018. Japan had typhoons, earthquakes, heavy rains, and a deadly heatwave. These killed hundreds of people. Japanese people have voted for a word for the years since 1995. The *kanji* "peace" was second this year. Last year, "north" won because of North Korea's nuclear tests. The world also had disasters. There were wildfires, hurricanes and tsunamis. There were wars in Syria and Yemen. People want next year's *kanji* to be "happiness".

DISASTER SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1812/181228-disaster-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about disaster 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.

WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

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WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

