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Level 2 – 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-2.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 1 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1812/181228-disaster-2.html>

This year is nearly over. For some people it was a great year, and for other people it wasn't. In Japan, an organization asked people for the word they thought described 2018. The winner was the word "disaster". The *kanji* (Chinese character) that people chose means "disaster or misfortune". The organization said this because of the many natural disasters in Japan in 2018. Japan was hit by typhoons, earthquakes, heavy rains, and a killer heatwave. Hundreds of people lost their lives in these disasters. Many roads and homes were destroyed.

The organization is the Japan *Kanji* Aptitude Testing Foundation. It has found a "word of the year" annually since 1995. This year, 193,214 people chose a word. The second most popular word was "peace". Last year, "north" was the winner, because of tensions over North Korea's nuclear tests. The world was also hit by natural disasters, including wildfires, hurricanes and tsunami. Wars also raged in Syria and Yemen. There was also a lot of suffering because of immigration - people trying to move to other countries to find a better life. People hope next year's word will 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-2.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. This year is nearly | a. rains |
| 2. For some people it was a | b. character |
| 3. the word they thought | c. lost their lives |
| 4. Chinese | d. great year |
| 5. the many natural disasters | e. heatwave |
| 6. heavy | f. described 2018 |
| 7. a killer | g. over |
| 8. Hundreds of people | h. in Japan |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. annually | a. of immigration |
| 2. tensions over North Korea's | b. life |
| 3. The world was also hit | c. Syria and Yemen |
| 4. Wars also raged in | d. be "happiness" |
| 5. a lot of suffering because | e. by natural disasters |
| 6. people trying to move | f. since 1995 |
| 7. find a better | g. to other countries |
| 8. next year's word will | h. nuclear tests |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1812/181228-disaster-2.html>

This year (1) _____. For some people it was a great year, and (2) _____ it wasn't. In Japan, an organization asked people for the word they thought described 2018. The winner (3) _____ "disaster". The *kanji* (Chinese character) that (4) _____ "disaster or misfortune". The organization said this because of the many natural disasters in Japan in 2018. Japan (5) _____ typhoons, earthquakes, heavy rains, and a killer heatwave. Hundreds of people (6) _____ in these disasters. Many roads and homes were destroyed.

The organization is the Japan *Kanji* Aptitude Testing Foundation. It has found a "word of the year" (7) _____. This year, 193,214 people (8) _____. The second most popular word was "peace". Last year, "north" was the winner, because (9) _____ North Korea's nuclear tests. The world was (10) _____ natural disasters, including wildfires, hurricanes and tsunami. Wars also raged in Syria and Yemen. There was also (11) _____ suffering because of immigration - people trying to move to other countries to find a better life. People (12) _____ word will be "happiness".

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1812/181228-disaster-2.html>

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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) _____

WRITING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1812/181228-disaster-2.html>

Write about **disaster** for 10 minutes. Read and talk about your partner's paper.
