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## Level 6 – 20th February, 2019

### Japan to recognize Ainu indigenous people for first time

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1902/190220-ainu.html>

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**Please try Levels 4 and 5 (they are easier).**

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# THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1902/190220-ainu.html>

The Japanese government has introduced a bill to recognize the country's ethnic Ainu minority group as an "indigenous" people. It is the first time for Japan's government to do this. It comes after decades of lobbying and campaigning by Ainu people to be recognized. The Ainu are an indigenous people of Japan originating in Japan's northern island of Hokkaido, north-eastern Honshu, and islands between Japan and Russia. Their official number today is around 25,000, but many observers estimate a more accurate figure to be around 200,000. Many Ainu have been completely assimilated into Japanese society and have no knowledge of their ancestry or historical roots, traditions and culture.

The Japan Today website wrote about the hardships the Ainu have faced. It said: "The Ainu people...have long suffered the effects of a policy of forced assimilation, and while discrimination has receded gradually, income and education gaps with the rest of Japan persist." Japan's government spoke about the importance of passing the new legislation. It said: "It is important to protect the honor and dignity of the Ainu people and to hand those down to the next generation to realize a vibrant society with diverse values." Ainu spokesman Tadashi Kato said: "It feels like we woke up now from a truly deep sleep....It will lead to building a society where we cohabit together. We think this is the first step."

Sources: <https://japantoday.com/category/politics/japan-to-recognise-indigenous-ainu-people-for-first-time>  
<https://qz.com/1551496/who-are-the-indigenous-ainu-people-of-japan/>  
[https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/asia\\_pacific/japan-prepares-law-to-finally-recognize-and-protect-its-indigenous-ainu-people/2019/02/15/2c85a0d8-3113-11e9-ac6c-14eea99d5e24\\_story.html](https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/asia_pacific/japan-prepares-law-to-finally-recognize-and-protect-its-indigenous-ainu-people/2019/02/15/2c85a0d8-3113-11e9-ac6c-14eea99d5e24_story.html)

# WARM-UPS

**1. AINU PEOPLE:** Students walk around the class and talk to other students about Ainu people. 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?

government / bill / ethnic / lobbying / island / observers / accurate / ancestry / roots  
hardships / suffered / discrimination / education / legislation / dignity / diverse / sleep

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

**3. LAND:** Students A **strongly** believe indigenous people should get their land back; Students B **strongly** believe they shouldn't. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

**4. INDIGENOUS PEOPLE:** What do you know about these people? What do you want to know? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	What You Know About Them	What You Want To Know
Ainu		
Inuit		
Yazidi		
Tuareg		
Maori		
Shaman		

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

**6. BUILD A SOCIETY:** Rank these with your partner. Put the best ways to build a society at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- education
- strong police
- equality
- healthcare
- jobs
- patriotism
- tolerance
- low taxes

# VOCABULARY MATCHING

## Paragraph 1

- |              |   |
|--------------|---|
| 1. bill      | a. The smaller number or part, especially a number that is less than half the whole number. |
| 2. recognize | b. Seeking to influence a politician or public official on an issue.                        |
| 3. ethnic    | c. A draft of a proposed law presented to parliament for discussion.                        |
| 4. minority  | d. The origin or background of a person, family or people.                                  |
| 5. lobbying  | e. Acknowledge the existence, validity, or legality of something or someone.                |
| 6. accurate  | f. Relating to national and cultural origins.   |
| 7. ancestry  | g. Correct in all details; exact.   |

## Paragraph 2

- |                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| 8. assimilation | h. Live together.   |
| 9. receded      | i. The absorption integration of people, ideas, or culture into a wider society or culture. |
| 10. persist     | j. Went or moved back or further away from a previous position.                             |
| 11. dignity     | k. Full of energy and enthusiasm.   |
| 12. vibrant     | l. The state or quality of being worthy of honor or respect.                                |
| 13. diverse     | m. Continue firmly in an opinion or a course of action in spite of difficulty.              |
| 14. cohabit     | n. Showing a great deal of variety; very different.   |

# BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1902/190220-ainu.html>

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

- a. The Japanese government has passed a bill to recognize the Ainu. **T / F**
- b. The Ainu have campaigned for centuries to be recognized. **T / F**
- c. There are officially around 25,000 Ainu in Japan today. **T / F**
- d. Most Ainu are experts on their ancestry and history. **T / F**
- e. A website wrote about the hardships the Ainu faced. **T / F**
- f. There are still income gaps between the Ainu and Japanese. **T / F**
- g. Japan's government said it wanted to realize a vibrant society. **T / F**
- h. An Ainu spokesman said he now wanted to sleep deeply. **T / F**

## 2. SYNONYM MATCH:

Match the following synonyms. The words in **bold** are from the news article.

- |                       |                 |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| 1. <b>bill</b>        | a. went back    |
| 2. <b>ethnic</b>      | b. fighting     |
| 3. <b>campaigning</b> | c. honestly     |
| 4. <b>originating</b> | d. misery       |
| 5. <b>accurate</b>    | e. self-respect |
| 6. <b>hardship</b>    | f. draft law    |
| 7. <b>receded</b>     | g. precise      |
| 8. <b>dignity</b>     | h. lively       |
| 9. <b>vibrant</b>     | i. cultural     |
| 10. <b>truly</b>      | j. starting     |

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

- |  |                        |
|--|------------------------|
| 1. The Japanese government has         | a. society             |
| 2. the country's ethnic Ainu           | b. accurate figure     |
| 3. It comes after decades              | c. or historical roots |
| 4. observers estimate a more           | d. of lobbying         |
| 5. have no knowledge of their ancestry | e. introduced a bill   |
| 6. the hardships the Ainu              | f. sleep               |
| 7. discrimination has receded          | g. of the Ainu people  |
| 8. protect the honor and dignity       | h. minority group      |
| 9. a vibrant                           | i. have faced          |
| 10. a truly deep                       | j. gradually           |

# GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1902/190220-ainu.html>

The Japanese government has introduced a (1) \_\_\_\_\_ to recognize the country's ethnic Ainu (2) \_\_\_\_\_ group as an "indigenous" people. It is the first time for Japan's government to do this. It comes after decades of (3) \_\_\_\_\_ and campaigning by Ainu people to be recognized. The Ainu are an indigenous people of Japan (4) \_\_\_\_\_ in Japan's northern island of Hokkaido, north-eastern Honshu, and islands between Japan and Russia. Their official (5) \_\_\_\_\_ today is around 25,000, but many observers estimate a more (6) \_\_\_\_\_ figure to be around 200,000. Many Ainu have been completely (7) \_\_\_\_\_ into Japanese society and have no knowledge of their (8) \_\_\_\_\_ or historical roots, traditions and culture.

*number*  
*minority*  
*ancestry*  
*originating*  
*assimilated*  
*bill*  
*lobbying*  
*accurate*

The Japan Today website wrote about the (9) \_\_\_\_\_ the Ainu have faced. It said: "The Ainu people...have (10) \_\_\_\_\_ suffered the effects of a policy of forced assimilation, and while discrimination has receded (11) \_\_\_\_\_, income and education gaps with the rest of Japan persist." Japan's government spoke about the importance of (12) \_\_\_\_\_ the new legislation. It said: "It is important to protect the honor and (13) \_\_\_\_\_ of the Ainu people and to hand those down to the next generation to realize a (14) \_\_\_\_\_ society with diverse values." Ainu spokesman Tadashi Kato said: "It feels like we woke up now from a (15) \_\_\_\_\_ deep sleep....It will lead to building a society where we cohabit together. We think this is the first (16) \_\_\_\_\_."

*long*  
*dignity*  
*step*  
*hardships*  
*truly*  
*passing*  
*gradually*  
*vibrant*

# LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1902/190220-ainu.html>

- 1) introduced a bill to recognize the country's ethnic Ainu \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. minority groups
  - b. minority grouped
  - c. minority grouping
  - d. minority group
- 2) It comes after decades of \_\_\_\_\_ campaigning
  - a. lobby in and
  - b. lobbying in and
  - c. lob binning and
  - d. lobbying and
- 3) The Ainu are an indigenous people of Japan \_\_\_\_\_ Japan's northern island
  - a. originating in
  - b. originate in in
  - c. origin mating in
  - d. original thing in
- 4) number today is around 25,000, but many observers estimate a more \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. accurately figure
  - b. accurate figure
  - c. accurate figures
  - d. accurately figured
- 5) have no knowledge of their ancestry or historical roots, \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. tradition and cultures
  - b. traditions and cultures
  - c. traditions and culture
  - d. tradition and culture
- 6) The Japan Today website wrote about the hardships the Ainu \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. have faced
  - b. have paced
  - c. have raced
  - d. have laced
- 7) The Ainu people...have long suffered the effects of a policy of \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. forced as similar nation
  - b. forced a similar nation
  - c. forced assimilation
  - d. forced as immolation
- 8) gradually, income and education gaps with the rest of \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. Japan persistently
  - b. Japan persisted
  - c. Japan persists
  - d. Japan persist
- 9) hand those down to the next generation to realize a vibrant society with \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. reverse valued
  - b. converse values
  - c. inverse valued
  - d. diverse values
- 10) It will lead to building a society where we \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. cohabited together
  - b. cohabit together
  - c. cohabits together
  - d. cohabiting together

# LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1902/190220-ainu.html>

The Japanese government has introduced a (1) \_\_\_\_\_ the country's ethnic Ainu minority group as an "indigenous" people. It is the first time for Japan's government to do this. It (2) \_\_\_\_\_ of lobbying (3) \_\_\_\_\_ Ainu people to be recognized. The Ainu are an indigenous people of Japan originating in Japan's northern island of Hokkaido, north-eastern Honshu, and islands between Japan and Russia. Their (4) \_\_\_\_\_ is around 25,000, but many observers estimate a more (5) \_\_\_\_\_ be around 200,000. Many Ainu have been completely assimilated into Japanese society and have no knowledge of their ancestry (6) \_\_\_\_\_, traditions and culture.

The Japan Today website wrote (7) \_\_\_\_\_ the Ainu have faced. It said: "The Ainu people...have long suffered (8) \_\_\_\_\_ a policy of forced assimilation, and while discrimination has receded gradually, income and education gaps with the rest (9) \_\_\_\_\_." Japan's government spoke about the importance of passing the new legislation. It said: "It is important to protect the (10) \_\_\_\_\_ of the Ainu people and to hand those down to the next generation to realize a vibrant society (11) \_\_\_\_\_." Ainu spokesman Tadashi Kato said: "It feels like we woke up now from a truly deep sleep....It will lead to building a society where we cohabit together. We think (12) \_\_\_\_\_ first step."

# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1902/190220-ainu.html>

1. What has the Japanese government introduced?
2. For how long have the Ainu been lobbying the Japanese government?
3. What is the official number of Ainu in Japan?
4. How many Ainu do many observers say there are (unofficially)?
5. What did the article say the Ainu have no knowledge of?
6. What did the Japan Today website write about?
7. What kinds of gaps between the Ainu and other Japanese persist?
8. What did the government say it is important to protect?
9. Who is Tadashi Kato?
10. What did Tadashi Kato say the Ainu had woken up from?

# MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1902/190220-ainu.html>

- 1) What has the Japanese government introduced?
  - a) a new law
  - b) a bill
  - c) a fine
  - d) a scheme
- 2) For how long have the Ainu been lobbying the Japanese government?
  - a) 37 years
  - b) centuries
  - c) generations
  - d) decades
- 3) What is the official number of Ainu in Japan?
  - a) around 25,000
  - b) exactly 25,000
  - c) just fewer than 25,000
  - d) just over 25,000
- 4) How many Ainu do many observers say there are (unofficially)?
  - a) exactly 200,000
  - b) just fewer than 200,000
  - c) around 200,000
  - d) just over 200,000
- 5) What did the article say the Ainu have no knowledge of?
  - a) hardship
  - b) their ancestry
  - c) Hokkaido
  - d) government bills
- 6) What did the Japan Today website write about?
  - a) the Ainu's hardship
  - b) Hokkaido
  - c) the Japanese population
  - d) the history of the Ainu
- 7) What kinds of gaps between the Ainu and other Japanese persist?
  - a) gaps in height
  - b) age gaps
  - c) income and education gaps
  - d) hardship gaps
- 8) What did the government say it is important to protect?
  - a) the honor and dignity of the Ainu
  - b) Hokkaido
  - c) Ainu songs
  - d) laws
- 9) Who is Tadashi Kato?
  - a) an Ainu spokesman
  - b) Japan's Ainu minister
  - c) a journalist
  - d) a historian
- 10) What did Tadashi Kato say the Ainu had woken up from?
  - a) a horrible nightmare
  - b) a wonderful dream
  - c) winter
  - d) a truly deep sleep

# ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1902/190220-ainu.html>

## **Role A – Education**

You think education is the best way to build a society. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their ways. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): strong police force, patriotism or low tax.

## **Role B – A Strong Police Force**

You think a strong police force is the best way to build a society. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their ways. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): education, patriotism or low tax.

## **Role C – Patriotism**

You think patriotism is the best way to build a society. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their ways. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): strong police force, education or low tax.

## **Role D – Low Tax**

You think low tax is the best way to build a society. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their ways. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): strong police force, patriotism or education.

# AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1902/190220-ainu.html>

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

<b>ethnic</b>	<b>minority</b>
---------------	-----------------

- 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"><li>• introduced</li><li>• decades</li><li>• originating</li><li>• official</li><li>• accurate</li><li>• roots</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• faced</li><li>• effects</li><li>• rest</li><li>• important</li><li>• values</li><li>• together</li></ul>
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# INDIGENOUS PEOPLE SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1902/190220-ainu.html>

Write five GOOD questions about indigenous people 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.

# INDIGENOUS PEOPLE 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 'ethnic'?
3. What is the ethnic make-up of your country?
4. What do you think of your country's minorities?
5. What do you know about the Ainu?
6. How can we help indigenous people?
7. What do you know about indigenous people around the world?
8. How proud are you of your roots?
9. How proud are you of your country's culture?
10. What are the best things about Japanese culture?

*Japan to recognize Ainu indigenous people for first time – 20th February, 2019*  
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# INDIGENOUS PEOPLE 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 'indigenous'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. What hardships do you think the Ainu faced?
15. What do you think of forced assimilation?
16. How important is it for a country to be vibrant and diverse?
17. What will you hand down to the next generation?
18. What is the most important thing in building a society?
19. What are the next steps for the Ainu?
20. What questions would you like to ask an Ainu person?

# 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/1902/190220-ainu.html>

The Japanese government has introduced a (1) \_\_\_\_\_ to recognize the country's ethnic Ainu (2) \_\_\_\_\_ group as an "indigenous" people. It is the first time for Japan's government to do this. It comes after decades of (3) \_\_\_\_\_ and campaigning by Ainu people to be recognized. The Ainu are an indigenous people of Japan originating in Japan's northern island (4) \_\_\_\_\_ Hokkaido, north-eastern Honshu, and islands between Japan and Russia. Their official number today is around 25,000, but many observers estimate a more accurate (5) \_\_\_\_\_ to be around 200,000. Many Ainu have been completely assimilated into Japanese society and have no knowledge of their ancestry or historical (6) \_\_\_\_\_, traditions and culture.

The Japan Today website wrote about the (7) \_\_\_\_\_ the Ainu have faced. It said: "The Ainu people...have long suffered the effects (8) \_\_\_\_\_ a policy of forced assimilation, and while discrimination has receded gradually, income and education gaps with the rest of Japan (9) \_\_\_\_\_." Japan's government spoke about the importance of passing the new legislation. It said: "It is important to protect the honor and dignity of the Ainu people and to (10) \_\_\_\_\_ those down to the next generation to realize a vibrant society with diverse values." Ainu spokesman Tadashi Kato said: "It feels like we woke up now from a (11) \_\_\_\_\_ deep sleep....It will lead to building a society where we cohabit together. We think this is the first (12) \_\_\_\_\_."

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

- |     |              |              |              |               |
|-----|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| 1.  | (a) bill     | (b) bell     | (c) ball     | (d) bail      |
| 2.  | (a) minor    | (b) miner    | (c) minority | (d) minaret   |
| 3.  | (a) lobbying | (b) loping   | (c) lobbying | (d) lopping   |
| 4.  | (a) as       | (b) to       | (c) at       | (d) of        |
| 5.  | (a) figure   | (b) numeral  | (c) ratio    | (d) value     |
| 6.  | (a) stems    | (b) roots    | (c) branches | (d) leaves    |
| 7.  | (a) hardline | (b) hardware | (c) hardly   | (d) hardships |
| 8.  | (a) as       | (b) of       | (c) at       | (d) to        |
| 9.  | (a) pest     | (b) purist   | (c) persist  | (d) preset    |
| 10. | (a) face     | (b) step     | (c) head     | (d) hand      |
| 11. | (a) truant   | (b) truism   | (c) truth    | (d) truly     |
| 12. | (a) ladder   | (b) step     | (c) stair    | (d) escalator |

# SPELLING

## Paragraph 1

1. the country's ethnic Ainu mntoiiry group
2. after decades of lbnyigbo
3. agrnongiiit in Japan's northern island
4. a more acaeurtc figure
5. completely aidleamssti
6. knowledge of their tcasenyr

## Paragraph 2

7. daihhersp the Ainu have faced
8. sniitoidncami has receded gradually
9. passing the new oelasntigi
10. the honor and dgntiyi of the Ainu
11. realize a nibrva society
12. dieersv values

# PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1902/190220-ainu.html>

**Number these lines in the correct order.**

- ( ) spokesman Tadashi Kato said: "It feels like we woke up now from a truly deep sleep....It will lead to
- ( ) those down to the next generation to realize a vibrant society with diverse values." Ainu
- ( ) knowledge of their ancestry or historical roots, traditions and culture.
- ( ) and campaigning by Ainu people to be recognized. The Ainu are an indigenous people of Japan originating
- ( ) legislation. It said: "It is important to protect the honor and dignity of the Ainu people and to hand
- ( ) The Japan Today website wrote about the hardships the Ainu have faced. It said: "The Ainu people...have long suffered the
- ( ) figure to be around 200,000. Many Ainu have been completely assimilated into Japanese society and have no
- ( **1** ) The Japanese government has introduced a bill to recognize the country's ethnic Ainu minority group as an "indigenous"
- ( ) gaps with the rest of Japan persist." Japan's government spoke about the importance of passing the new
- ( ) effects of a policy of forced assimilation, and while discrimination has receded gradually, income and education
- ( ) building a society where we cohabit together. We think this is the first step."
- ( ) in Japan's northern island of Hokkaido, north-eastern Honshu, and islands between Japan and Russia. Their official
- ( ) number today is around 25,000, but many observers estimate a more accurate
- ( ) people. It is the first time for Japan's government to do this. It comes after decades of lobbying

# PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1902/190220-ainu.html>

1. ethnic recognize country's bill the A Ainu . to
2. government . It first time is for Japan's the
3. recognized . Campaigning Ainu people to be by
4. more figure to around be A accurate 200,000 .
5. have society . Ainu Japanese completely into been assimilated
6. the people The long have effects . suffered Ainu
7. of the with gaps Japan Education rest persist .
8. importance About the legislation . of passing the new
9. generation . down next the Hand those to
10. from deep We truly woke up a sleep .

# CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1902/190220-ainu.html>

The Japanese government has introduced a *bell / bill* to recognize the country's *ethnic / ethnicity* Ainu minority group as an "indigenous" people. It is the first time for Japan's government to *do / done* this. It comes after decades of *lobbying / lobbing* and campaigning by Ainu people to be *recognized / recognition*. The Ainu are an indigenous people of Japan *paginating / originating* in Japan's northern island of Hokkaido, north-eastern Honshu, and islands *among / between* Japan and Russia. Their official number today is around 25,000, but many *observers / lookers* estimate a more accurate *figure / numeral* to be around 200,000. Many Ainu have been completely assimilated into Japanese society and have no knowledge of their ancestry or historical *stems / roots*, traditions and culture.

The Japan Today website wrote about the *hardcopy / hardships* the Ainu have faced. It said: "The Ainu people...have long suffered the *affects / effects* of a policy of forced *maximization / assimilation*, and while discrimination has receded *gradual / gradually*, income and education gaps with the *rest / calm* of Japan persist." Japan's government spoke about the importance *of / at* passing the new legislation. It said: "It is important to protect the *honor / honest* and dignity of the Ainu people and to hand those down to the next generation to realize a *vibrant / vagrant* society with diverse values." Ainu spokesman Tadashi Kato said: "It feels like we woke up now from a *truth / truly* deep sleep....It will lead to building a society where we cohabit together. We think this is the first *step / stair*."

**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/1902/190220-ainu.html>

The Japanese government has introduced a bill to recognize the country's ethnic Ainu minority groups as "indigenous" people. It is the first time for Japan's government to do this. It comes after decades of lobbying and campaigning by Ainu people to be recognized. The Ainu are indigenous people of Japan originating in Japan's northern island of Hokkaido, north of the main islands between Japan and Russia. There are about 25,000, but many are serving as migrant workers for about 200,000. Many Ainu have been completely assimilated into Japanese society and have no knowledge of their ancestry or their roots, traditions and culture.

The Japanese Today website wrote about the headlines: "The Ainu people... have long suffered the effects of the policy of forced assimilation, and while discrimination has reduced gradually, it remains with the rest of Japan present." Japan's government spokesman said that the importance of recognizing the indigenous people and their rights is a priority. It said: "It is important to protect the human and dignity of the Ainu people and to hand this down to the next generation to realize vibrant society with diversity values." A spokesman said: "It feels like we are now finally deep sleep... It will lead to building a society where we can coexist together. We thank this as the first step."

# PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1902/190220-ainu.html>

the japanese government has introduced a bill to recognize the countrys ethnic ainu minority group as an indigenous people it is the first time for japans government to do this it comes after decades of lobbying and campaigning by ainu people to be recognized the ainu are an indigenous people of japan originating in japans northern island of hokkaido northeastern honshu and islands between japan and russia their official number today is around 25000 but many observers estimate a more accurate figure to be around 200000 many ainu have been completely assimilated into japanese society and have no knowledge of their ancestry or historical roots traditions and culture

the japan today website wrote about the hardships the ainu have faced it said the ainu people have long suffered the effects of a policy of forced assimilation and while discrimination has receded gradually income and education gaps with the rest of japan persist japans government spoke about the importance of passing the new legislation it said it is important to protect the honor and dignity of the ainu people and to hand those down to the next generation to realize a vibrant society with diverse values ainu spokesman tadashi kato said it feels like we woke up now from a truly deep sleep it will lead to building a society where we cohabit together we think this is the first step"

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1902/190220-ainu.html>

The Japanese government has introduced a bill to recognize the country's ethnic Ainu minority group as an "indigenous" people. It is the first time for Japan's government to do this. It comes after decades of lobbying and campaigning by Ainu people to be recognized. The Ainu are an indigenous people of Japan originating in Japan's northern island of Hokkaido, north-eastern Honshu, and islands between Japan and Russia. Their official number today is around 25,000, but many observers estimate a more accurate figure to be around 200,000. Many Ainu have been completely assimilated into Japanese society and have no knowledge of their ancestry or historical roots, traditions and culture. The Japan Today website wrote about the hardship the Ainu have faced. It said: "The Ainu people... have long suffered the effects of a policy of forced assimilation, and while discrimination has receded gradually, income and education gaps with the rest of Japan persist." Japan's government spoke about the importance of passing the new legislation. It said: "It is important to protect the honor and dignity of the Ainu people and to hand those down to the next generation to realize a vibrant society with diverse values." Ainu spokesman Tadashi Kato said: "It feels like we woke up now from a truly deep sleep.... It will lead to building a society where we cohabit together. We think this is the first step."





# 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. AINU:** Make a poster about the Ainu. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

**4. INDIGENOUS PEOPLE:** Write a magazine article about indigenous people getting their land back. 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 indigenous people. Ask him/her three questions about them. Give him/her three of your ideas on how to help indigenous people more. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

# ANSWERS

## VOCABULARY (p.4)

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

## TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

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

## SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

- |                |                 |
|----------------|-----------------|
| 1. bill        | a. draft law    |
| 2. ethnic      | b. cultural     |
| 3. campaigning | c. fighting     |
| 4. originating | d. starting     |
| 5. accurate    | e. precise      |
| 6. hardship    | f. misery       |
| 7. receded     | g. went back    |
| 8. dignity     | h. self-respect |
| 9. vibrant     | i. lively       |
| 10. truly      | j. honestly     |

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

1. A bill
2. Decades
3. Around 25,000
4. Around 200,000
5. Their ancestry or historical roots, traditions and culture
6. The Ainu's hardship
7. Income and education gaps
8. The honor and dignity of the Ainu
9. An Ainu spokesman
10. A truly deep sleep

## WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.20)

1. A bill to recognize the country's ethnic Ainu.
2. It is the first time for Japan's government.
3. Campaigning by Ainu people to be recognized.
4. A more accurate figure to be around 200,000.
5. Ainu have been completely assimilated into Japanese society.
6. The Ainu people have long suffered the effects.
7. Education gaps with the rest of Japan persist.
8. About the importance of passing the new legislation.
9. Hand those down to the next generation.
10. We woke up from a truly deep sleep.

## MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

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

## ALL OTHER EXERCISES

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