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**Level 1 – 1st May, 2019**

## Japan has a new emperor

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1905/190501-japanese-emperor-1.html>

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**Please try Levels 0, 2 and 3. They are (a little) harder.**

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# THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1905/190501-japanese-emperor-1.html>

Japan's emperor has abdicated for the first time in 200 years. Emperor Akihito, 85, was emperor for 30 years. He stepped down because of his health. He has been slowing down recently and had some health scares. He thinks his son, Naruhito, is better able to carry out the emperor's duties. People will remember Emperor Akihito for his personal touch. He always visited people after earthquakes, tsunami and other disasters.

Emperor Naruhito, 59, became the 126th emperor of the world's oldest monarchy. He spent two years at Oxford University. His wife, the new Empress Masako, studied at Harvard University. In a ceremony, Naruhito received a sacred sword, a jewel and official seals that are thousands of years old. The ceremony was in the middle of a ten-day Japanese holiday. Millions of Japanese people watched the historic event on their TVs and smartphones.

Sources: <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2019/04/29/national/japans-peaceful-heisei-era-leaves-legacy-change-growth-tragedy/>  
<https://www.scmp.com/week-asia/explained/article/3008145/japans-emperor-akihito-abdicates-and-crown-prince-naruhito>  
<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/04/29/world/asia/japan-emperor-women.html>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1905/190501-japanese-emperor-1.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                                 |                         |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. abdicated for the first time | a. the emperor's duties |
| 2. He stepped down because      | b. after earthquakes    |
| 3. He has been slowing          | c. of his health        |
| 4. health                       | d. other disasters      |
| 5. better able to carry out     | e. down recently        |
| 6. his personal                 | f. scares               |
| 7. He always visited people     | g. in 200 years         |
| 8. tsunami and                  | h. touch                |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                                 |                         |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Emperor Naruhito, 59, became | a. at Oxford University |
| 2. the world's oldest           | b. event                |
| 3. He spent two years           | c. day Japanese holiday |
| 4. seals that are thousands     | d. and smartphones      |
| 5. in the middle of a ten-      | e. the 126th emperor    |
| 6. Millions of                  | f. of years old         |
| 7. watched the historic         | g. monarchy             |
| 8. on their TVs                 | h. Japanese people      |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1905/190501-japanese-emperor-1.html>

Japan's emperor (1) \_\_\_\_\_ the first time in 200 years. Emperor Akihito, 85, (2) \_\_\_\_\_ 30 years. He stepped down (3) \_\_\_\_\_ health. He has been slowing down recently and (4) \_\_\_\_\_ scares. He thinks his son, Naruhito, is better able to carry out the emperor's duties. (5) \_\_\_\_\_ Emperor Akihito for his personal touch. He always visited people after earthquakes, (6) \_\_\_\_\_ disasters.

Emperor Naruhito, 59, (7) \_\_\_\_\_ emperor of the world's oldest monarchy. He (8) \_\_\_\_\_ at Oxford University. His wife, the new Empress Masako, studied at Harvard University. (9) \_\_\_\_\_, Naruhito received a sacred sword, a jewel and (10) \_\_\_\_\_ are thousands of years old. The ceremony was (11) \_\_\_\_\_ of a ten-day Japanese holiday. Millions of Japanese people watched the (12) \_\_\_\_\_ their TVs and smartphones.

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1905/190501-japanese-emperor-1.html>

Japan's emperor has abdicated for the first time in 200 years. Emperor Akihito, 85, was emperor for 30 years. He stepped down because of his health. He has been slowing down recently and had some health scares. He thinks his son, Naruhito, is better able to carry out the emperor's duties. People will remember Emperor Akihito for his personal touch. He always visits people after earthquakes, tsunamis and other disasters. Emperor Naruhito, 59, became the 126th emperor of the world's oldest monarchy. He spent two years at Oxford University. His wife, the new Empress Masako, studied at Harvard University. In a ceremony, Naruhito received a sacred sword, a jewel and official seals that are thousands of years old. The ceremony was in the middle of a ten-day Japanese holiday. Millions of Japanese people watched the historic event on their TVs and smartphones.

# JAPAN SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1905/190501-japanese-emperor-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about Japan 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) \_\_\_\_\_

