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Level 2 – 30th October 2025

Japan's legendary sushi chef still working at 100

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2510/251030-sushi-chef-jiro-ono-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/2510/251030-sushi-chef-jiro-ono-2.html>

A sushi chef in Japan is continuing in his job, even though he just became 100. His name is Jiro Ono. He celebrated his 100th birthday this week. He is one of 4,380 people in Tokyo who have become or will be 100 this year. Mr Ono spoke to Tokyo governor Yuriko Koike. She asked him about his secret to a long and healthy life. He replied, "To work." He said: "Even at 100 years old, I'll try to work if possible. I believe the best medicine is to work." He told Ms Koike: "I plan to keep going for about five more years." Ono said he has no plans to retire from his job.

Jiro Ono was born in 1925. He started working when he was seven. Eighteen years later, he moved to Tokyo. He worked in a sushi bar. He qualified as a sushi chef in 1951 and opened his own restaurant in 1965. It was a tiny 10-seat place in a rich area of Tokyo called Ginza. He spent many years trying to make the perfect sushi. He was rewarded when he received three stars in the Michelin Guide. In 2011, a movie was made about him called "Jiro Dreams of Sushi". In the film, he said: "I haven't reached perfection yet. I'll continue to climb and try to reach the top."

Sources: <https://mainichi.jp/english/articles/20251027/p2g/00m/0na/029000c>
<https://www.ntv.co.jp/englishnews/articles/2021k54mx8uq7ondgmhl.html>
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jiro_Ono

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2510/251030-sushi-chef-jiro-ono-2.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. even though he just | a. from his job |
| 2. He celebrated | b. of 4,380 people |
| 3. He is one | c. is to work |
| 4. his secret to a long | d. became 100 |
| 5. I'll try to work if | e. going |
| 6. I believe the best medicine | f. his 100th birthday |
| 7. I plan to keep | g. possible |
| 8. he has no plans to retire | h. and healthy life |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. He started working | a. yet |
| 2. he moved | b. the top |
| 3. He qualified | c. seat place |
| 4. It was a tiny 10- | d. when he was seven |
| 5. He spent many years trying to make | e. to climb |
| 6. I haven't reached perfection | f. the perfect sushi |
| 7. I'll continue | g. to Tokyo |
| 8. try to reach | h. as a sushi chef |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2510/251030-sushi-chef-jiro-ono-2.html>

A sushi chef in Japan (1) _____ his job, even though he just became 100. His name is Jiro Ono. (2) _____ 100th birthday this week. He is one of 4,380 people in Tokyo who (3) _____ will be 100 this year. Mr Ono spoke to Tokyo governor Yuriko Koike. She asked him about his secret to a (4) _____ life. He replied, "To work." He said: "Even at 100 years old, I'll try to work if possible. I believe the (5) _____ to work." He told Ms Koike: "I plan to keep going for about five more years." Ono said he has no (6) _____ from his job.

Jiro Ono was born in 1925. He (7) _____ he was seven. Eighteen years later, he moved to Tokyo. He worked in a sushi bar. He (8) _____ sushi chef in 1951 and opened his own restaurant in 1965. It was a tiny 10-seat place in (9) _____ of Tokyo called Ginza. He spent many years trying to make the perfect sushi. He was rewarded when he (10) _____ in the Michelin Guide. In 2011, a movie was made about him called "Jiro Dreams of Sushi". In the film, he said: "I haven't (11) _____. I'll continue to (12) _____ to reach the top."

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2510/251030-sushi-chef-jiro-ono-2.html>

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SUSHI SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2510/251030-sushi-chef-jiro-ono-2.html>

Write five GOOD questions about sushi 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/2510/251030-sushi-chef-jiro-ono-2.html>

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

[illegible]