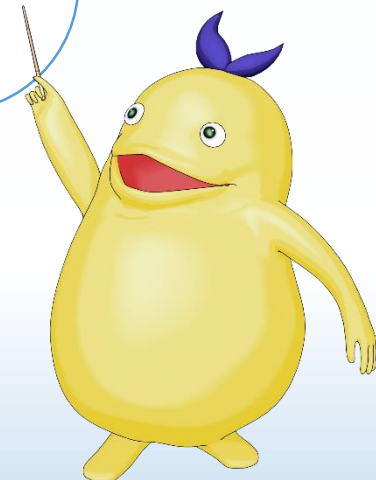


# Japanese Annual Events Quiz



What is the name of the postcards that people send as a greeting for New Year's Day?

- ① nengajō
- ② shochū mimai
- ③ kanchū mimai
- ④ mochū hagaki



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- ① nengajō
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- ④ mochū hagaki



# What do people say or write as a greeting in the New Year?

① yoi otoshi o

② akemashite omedetō gozaimasu

③ osewa ni natte orimasu

④ ogenki desu ka



# What do people say or write as a greeting in the New Year?

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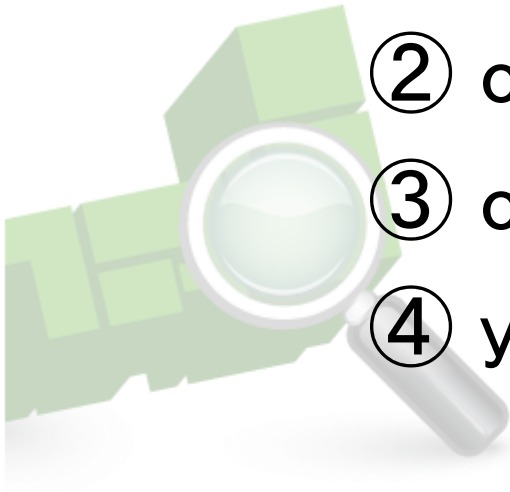
What do people say when they say  
goodbye to someone at the end of  
the year?

① akemashite omedetō gozaimasu

② ogenki de

③ otsukaresama deshita

④ yoi otoshi o



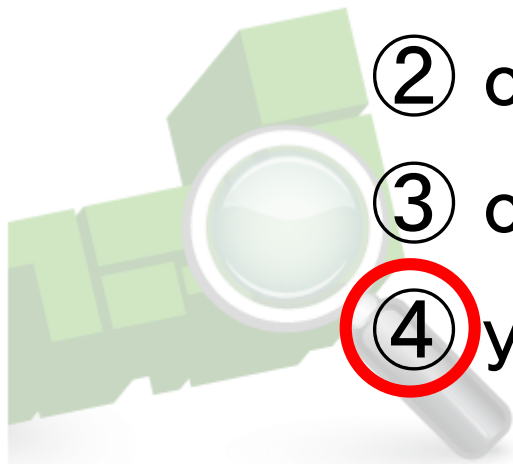
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② ogenki de

③ otsukaresama deshita

④ yoi otoshi o



What do people call it when they visit shrines and temples for the first time in the New Year?

- ① orē mairi
- ② hatsumōde
- ③ omiya mairi
- ④ ohyakudo mairi



What do people call it when they visit shrines and temples for the first time in the New Year?

① orē mairi

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③ omiya mairi

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What is the dish that people eat in the New Year called?



- ① jūbako ryōri
- ② shōjin ryōri
- ③ osechi ryōri
- ④ orizume

What is the dish that people eat in the New Year called?



① jūbako ryōri

② shōjin ryōri

③ osechi ryōri

④ orizume

What is name of the New Year's dish in which rice cakes are cooked in soup?



- ① ozōni
- ② oshiruko
- ③ botamochi
- ④ agemochi

What is name of the New Year's dish in which rice cakes are cooked in soup?



- ① ozōni
- ② oshiruko
- ③ botamochi
- ④ agemochi

What is the name of the decorative rice cake of the New Year?



- ① hishi mochi
- ② maru mochi
- ③ kusa mochi
- ④ kagami mochi

What is the name of the decorative rice cake of the New Year?



- ① hishi mochi
- ② maru mochi
- ③ kusa mochi
- ④ kagami mochi

What is the money that people give children in the New Year called?

- ① okozukai
- ② otoshidama
- ③ odachin
- ④ oiwaikin



What is the money that people give children in the New Year called?

① okozukai

② otoshidama

③ odachin

④ oiwaikin



What is the name of the decoration at the entrance of a home in the New Year?



- ① kadomatsu
- ② sasakazari
- ③ shimenawa
- ④ taimatsu

What is the name of the decoration at the entrance of a home in the New Year?



- ① kadomatsu
- ② sasakazari
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# In what month is Coming-of-Age Day?

- ① January
- ② February
- ③ March
- ④ April



# In what month is Coming-of-Age Day?

- ① January
- ② February
- ③ March
- ④ April



# What do people generally do at Coming-of-Age ceremonies?

- ① visit a shrine and undergo a purification ceremony
- ② go to a hotel or restaurant and drink alcohol
- ③ gather in a municipal facility and listen to people in high position
- ④ visit a municipal office and submit an “adult registration”



# What do people generally do at Coming-of-Age ceremonies?

- ① visit a shrine and undergo a purification ceremony
- ② go to a hotel or restaurant and drink alcohol
- ③ gather in a municipal facility and listen to people in high position
- ④ visit a municipal office and submit an “adult registration”



Which of the following do people throw on February 3, the day of Setsubun, while shouting "Oni wa soto, fuku wa uchi [Fortune in and demons out]"?

- ① candy
- ② rice cakes
- ③ rice
- ④ beans



Which of the following do people throw on February 3, the day of Setsubun, while shouting “Oni wa soto, fuku wa uchi [Fortune in and demons out]”?

- ① candy
- ② rice cakes
- ③ rice
- ④ beans



Which of the following do people eat on February 3, the day of Setsubun, while facing the lucky direction of the year?

①



②



③



④



Which of the following do people eat on February 3, the day of Setsubun, while facing the lucky direction of the year?

①



②



③



④



# Who gives what to whom in Japan on Valentine's Day?

- ① chocolate, from men to women
- ② chocolate, from women to men
- ③ candy, from women to men
- ④ candy, from men to women



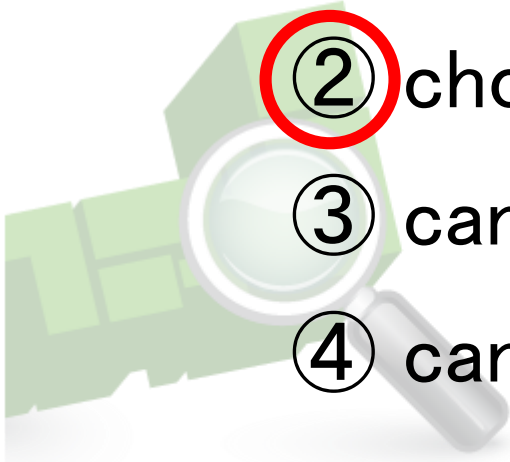
# Who gives what to whom in Japan on Valentine's Day?

① chocolate, from men to women

② chocolate, from women to men

③ candy, from women to men

④ candy, from men to women



What is another name for the Doll Festival on March 3? It is “( ) no Sekku [Seasonal Festival of \_].”

①

桜  
さくら



Sakura [Cherry blossoms]

②

桃  
もも



Momo [Peach]

③

梅  
うめ



Ume [Plum]

④

菊  
きく



Kiku [Chrysanthemum]

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Momo [Peach]

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梅  
うめ



Ume [Plum]

④

菊  
きく



Kiku [Chrysanthemum]

Which of the following is a confection that people eat on the Doll Festival day of March 3?

①



②



③



④



Which of the following is a confection that people eat on the Doll Festival day of March 3?

①



②



③



④



What do people say happens if they leave dolls of the Doll Festival displayed after March 3?

- ① lose money
- ② catch a cold
- ③ marry late
- ④ one's eyes go bad



What do people say happens if they leave dolls of the Doll Festival displayed after March 3?

- ① lose money
- ② catch a cold
- ③ marry late
- ④ one's eyes go bad



Hishi-mochi, which is a decoration for the Doll Festival on March 3, is a three-colored rice cake. Which colors does it have?

- ① white, pink and brown
- ② white, yellow and green
- ③ white, yellow and brown
- ④ white, green and pink



Hishi-mochi, which is a decoration for the Doll Festival on March 3, is a three-colored rice cake. Which colors does it have?

- ① white, pink and brown
- ② white, yellow and green
- ③ white, yellow and brown
- ④ white, green and pink



On March 14, men give women presents in return for their Valentine's present. What do people call this day?

- ① Pink Day
- ② White Day
- ③ Orange Day
- ④ Black Day



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- ① Pink Day
- ② White Day
- ③ Orange Day
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Which of the following does a girl receive from a boy she likes after the graduation ceremony?

- ① button of a school uniform
- ② name tag
- ③ handkerchief
- ④ wristwatch



Which of the following does a girl receive from a boy she likes after the graduation ceremony?

- ① button of a school uniform
- ② name tag
- ③ handkerchief
- ④ wristwatch



In what month do most schools have an entrance ceremony in Japan?

- ① January
- ② April
- ③ June
- ④ September



In what month do most schools have an entrance ceremony in Japan?

- ① January
- ② April
- ③ June
- ④ September



Which flower do people usually view in "ohanami"?

- ① cherry blossoms
- ② peach
- ③ ume plum
- ④ chrysanthemum



Which flower do people usually view in "ohanami"?

- ① cherry blossoms
- ② peach
- ③ ume plum
- ④ chrysanthemum



What is the name of the holiday period that includes a number of national holidays from the end of April to the beginning of May?

- ① Happy Week
- ② Miracle Week
- ③ Golden Week
- ④ Diamond Week



What is the name of the holiday period that includes a number of national holidays from the end of April to the beginning of May?



- ① Happy Week
- ② Miracle Week
- ③ Golden Week
- ④ Diamond Week

# What do people put in a bath on Tango no Sekku (Children's Day) on May 5?

①

ゆず



yuzu citrus

②

笹  
ささ



bamboo leaf

③

ひのき



cypress

④

しょうぶ



iris

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yuzu citrus

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bamboo leaf

③

ひのき



cypress

④

しょうぶ



iris

Which one of these confections do people eat on Tango no Sekku (Children's Day) on May 5?

①



②



③



④



Which one of these confections do people eat on Tango no Sekku (Children's Day) on May 5?

①



②



③



④



Families who have boys make a carp-shaped decoration for Tango no Sekku (Children's Day) on May 5. What do they call it?



- ① koi nagashi
- ② koi nobori
- ③ koi matoi
- ④ koi kazari

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- ① koi nagashi
- ② koi nobori
- ③ koi matoi
- ④ koi kazari

Which one of these plants do people display with decorations for the Star Festival on July 7?

①

竹  
たけ



bamboo

②

松  
まつ



pine

③

さくら



cherry blossoms

④

かえて



maple

Which one of these plants do people display with decorations for the Star Festival on July 7?

①

竹  
たけ



bamboo

②

松  
まつ



pine

③

さくら



cherry blossoms

④

かえて



maple

What is the name of the paper on which people write their wishes and which are used as decorations for the Star Festival on July 7?

- ① tanzaku
- ② etegami
- ③ warabanshi
- ④ hanafuda



What is the name of the paper on which people write their wishes and which are used as decorations for the Star Festival on July 7?

- ① tanzaku
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- ③ warabanshi
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What are the names of the stars called  
“Orihime” and “Hikoboshi,” respectively,  
in the Star Festival?

- ① Deneb and Altair
- ② Vega and Altair
- ③ Vega and Sirius
- ④ Deneb and Sirius



What are the names of the stars called  
“Orihime” and “Hikoboshi,” respectively,  
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① Deneb and Altair

② Vega and Altair

③ Vega and Sirius

④ Deneb and Sirius

This is a decoration used only during the Obon period. What animal does it depict?



- ① cow and boar
- ② sheep and tiger
- ③ cow and horse
- ④ pig and tiger

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- ① cow and boar
- ② sheep and tiger
- ③ cow and horse
- ④ pig and tiger

Among farewell bonfires held at the end of the Obon period, Gozan no Okuribi Bonfire Festival in Kyoto is famous for a character made by the fire. What character is it?

① 山 [mountain]

② 天 [sky]

③ 火 [fire]

④ 大 [big]



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① 山 [mountain]

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④ 大 [big]



Which one of the following plants is used as decoration for “moon viewing” in autumn?

①

かえて



maple

②

はぎ



bush clover

③

いちょう



gingko

④

すすき



silver grass

Which one of the following plants is used as decoration for “moon viewing” in autumn?

①

かえて



maple

②

はぎ



bush clover

③

いちょう



gingko

④

すすき



silver grass

Which one of the following Japanese sweets is offered in “moon viewing”?

①

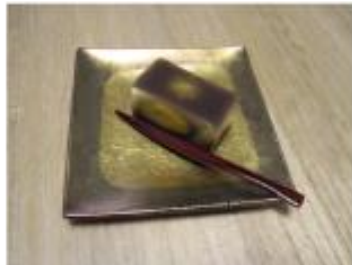
まんじゅう



manjū [steamed  
bean-paste bun]

②

ようかん



yōkan [sweet  
bean jelly]

③

だんご



dango  
[dumpling]

④

草もち



kusa mochi [yomogi  
mugwort rice cake]

Which one of the following Japanese sweets is offered in “moon viewing”?

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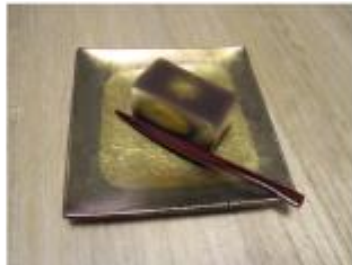
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③

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dango  
[dumpling]

④

草もち



kusa mochi [yomogi  
mugwort rice cake]

# What is it called when people enjoy viewing the autumn leaves?

- ① momiji-gari
- ② momiji-mi
- ③ momiji-mairi
- ④ momiji-mōde



What is it called when people enjoy viewing the autumn leaves?

- ① momiji-gari
- ② momiji-mi
- ③ momiji-mairi
- ④ momiji-mōde



Which one of these confections do people eat in the Seven-Five-Three Festival?

①

さくらもち



②

千歳あめ

ちとせ



③

柏もち

かしわ



④

おはぎ



Which one of these confections do people eat in the Seven-Five-Three Festival?

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かしわ



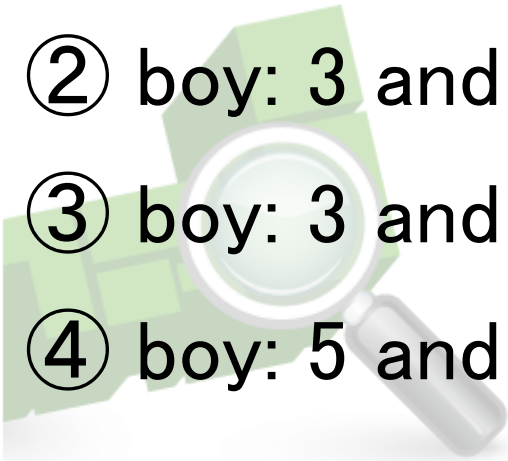
④

おはぎ



In the Seven-Five-Three Festival, boys and girls are celebrated at different ages. Which of the following are the correct ages?

- ① boy: 3 and 5 years old, girl: 3 and 7 years old
- ② boy: 3 and 7 years old, girl: 3 and 5 years old
- ③ boy: 3 and 5 years old, girl: 5 and 7 years old
- ④ boy: 5 and 7 years old, girl: 3 and 5 years old



In the Seven-Five-Three Festival, boys and girls are celebrated at different ages. Which of the following are the correct ages?

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- ② boy: 3 and 7 years old, girl: 3 and 5 years old
- ③ boy: 3 and 5 years old, girl: 5 and 7 years old
- ④ boy: 5 and 7 years old, girl: 3 and 5 years old

Japanese people often give gifts in summer to their bosses, customers or those who have been indebted to them. What is it called?

- ① ochūgen
- ② osēbo
- ③ onenshi
- ④ okokorozuke



Japanese people often give gifts in summer to their bosses, customers or those who have been indebted to them. What is it called?

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Japanese people often give gifts at the end of the year to their bosses, customers or those who have been indebted to them. What is it called?

- ① onenshi
- ② ochūgen
- ③ okokorozuke
- ④ osēbo



Japanese people often give gifts at the end of the year to their bosses, customers or those who have been indebted to them. What is it called?

① onenshi

② ochūgen

③ okokorozuke

④ osēbo



# When is the national holiday in Christmas in Japan?

- ① December 24 and 25
- ② December 25 and 26
- ③ December 25 only
- ④ no Christmas holiday



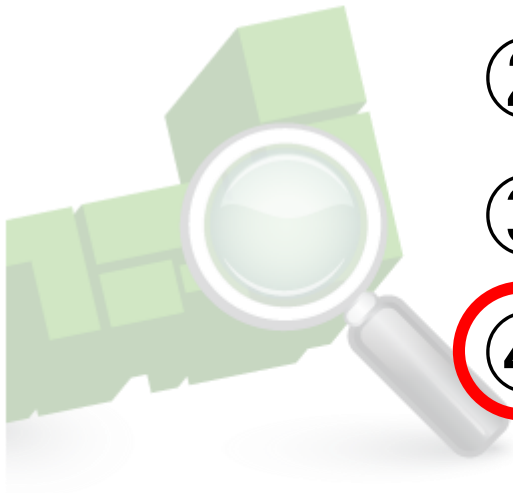
# When is the national holiday in Christmas in Japan?

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What is a party that company colleagues or friends have together at the end of the year called?

- ① shūnenkai
- ② hansēkai
- ③ bōnenkai
- ④ shinnenkai



What is a party that company colleagues or friends have together at the end of the year called?

① shūnenkai

② hansēkai

③ bōnenkai

④ shinnenkai



How many times in total do people strike the bells of a temple as December 31 changes to January 1, a custom that is called “Joya no Kane [Bell-tolling of New Year’s Eve]”?

- ① 12 times
- ② 88 times
- ③ 108 times
- ④ 365 times



How many times in total do people strike the bells of a temple as December 31 changes to January 1, a custom that is called “Joya no Kane [Bell-tolling of New Year’s Eve]”?

- ① 12 times
- ② 88 times
- ③ 108 times
- ④ 365 times



# What is the day of December 31 called?

- ① shiwasu
- ② ōmisoka
- ③ toshi no se
- ④ gantan



# What is the day of December 31 called?

- ① shiwasu
- ② ōmisoka
- ③ toshi no se
- ④ gantan



# What do people eat in Japan on December 31?

- ① soba [buckwheat noodle]
- ② mochi rice cake
- ③ sushi
- ④ okayu rice porridge



# What do people eat in Japan on December 31?

- ① soba [buckwheat noodle]
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What do people call the day that becomes a holiday if the official holiday falls on a Sunday?

- ① daitai kyūjitsu
- ② yokujitsu kyūjitsu
- ③ furikae kyūjitsu
- ④ renzoku kyūjitsu



What do people call the day that becomes a holiday if the official holiday falls on a Sunday?



- ① daitai kyūjitsu
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- ③ furikae kyūjitsu
- ④ renzoku kyūjitsu

# What is the year that has 366 days called?

- ① uruoudoshi
- ② uruudoshi
- ③ ururudoshi
- ④ urushidoshi



# What is the year that has 366 days called?

① uruoudoshi

② uruudoshi

③ ururudoshi

④ urushidoshi



Which of the following would not be found in the seven vegetables rice porridge eaten on January 7th?

- ① turnips
- ② carrots
- ③ Japanese radishes
- ④ Japanese parseley



Which of the following would not be found in the seven vegetables rice porridge eaten on January 7th?

① turnips

② carrots

③ Japanese radishes

④ Japanese parseley



What is the term for the chocolate given to the person you really like on Valentine's Day?

- ① Honmē choco
- ② Honki choco
- ③ Honshin choco
- ④ Hontō choco



What is the term for the chocolate given to the person you really like on Valentine's Day?

- ① Honmē choco
- ② Honki choco
- ③ Honshin choco
- ④ Hontō choco



This expression describes two important events in Japan Fill in the blank.

“\_\_\_\_\_ and shōgatsu (New Year).”

- ① nenmatsu
- ② Hanami
- ③ Kodomo no hi
- ④ Bon



This expression describes two important events in Japan Fill in the blank.

“\_\_\_\_\_ and shōgatsu (New Year).”

① nenmatsu

② Hanami

③ Kodomo no hi

④ Bon



What is it called to drink with friends  
and work colleagues to cool down during  
the summer?

① Nekki barai

② Iyake barai

③ Shoki barai

④ Kēki barai



What is it called to drink with friends  
and work colleagues to cool down during  
the summer?

① Nekki barai

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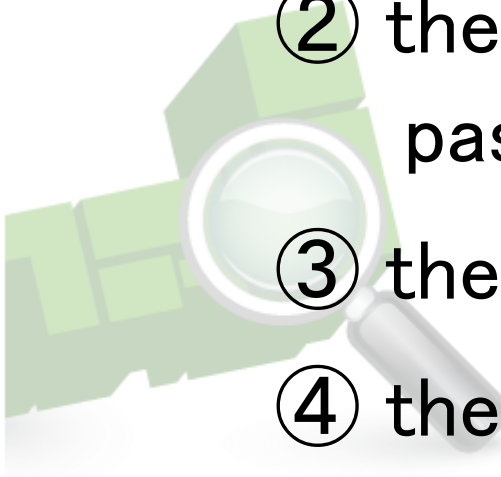
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④ Kēki barai

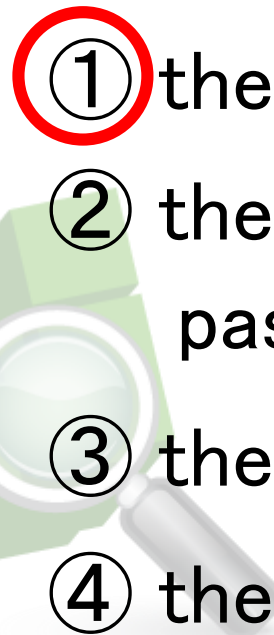


“Shōwa Day” is on April 29th. What does it commemorate?

- ① the Emperor Shōwa’s birthday
- ② the day when the Emperor Shōwa passed away
- ③ the day when Shōwa period started
- ④ the day when Shōwa period ended

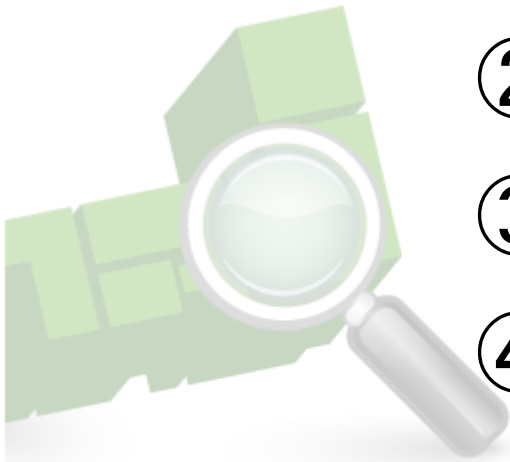


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  - ② the day when the Emperor Shōwa passed away
  - ③ the day when Shōwa period started
  - ④ the day when Shōwa period ended

At a “potato digging” in autumn, what kind of potatoes are usually dug up?

- ① white potatoes
- ② sweet potatoes
- ③ Japanese yams
- ④ taros



At a “potato digging” in autumn, what kind of potatoes are usually dug up?

① white potatoes

② sweet potatoes

③ Japanese yams

④ taros

