

Pre-Reading Activities

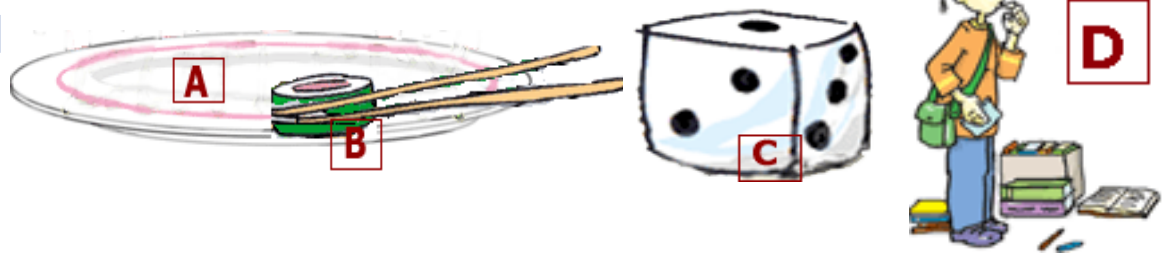
A: Vocabulary

Look at the words below. Write the meaning of the words in your language next to the words. Then check your dictionary to see if you were correct.

- exam (examination) _____
- entrance exam _____
- high school _____
- test _____

2. Match the words with the pictures. Write the letter of the picture beside the word.

- chopsticks
- dice
- plate
- student



B: Discussion

Work in pairs. Answer the questions.

1. In your country do students take an entrance exam for high school?
2. What do students do in an entrance exam for high school? (What kind of tests do they have?)
3. Can you use chopsticks?
4. If the answer is 'yes', can you pick up a dice with chopsticks?

Reading Activities

A: Complete The Summary

Read Part One of today's article. Fill the gaps in the sentence below.

A Japanese _____ will have a _____ test in the school's entrance examinations.

Part 1

Japan school has chopstick test

Wed Jan 10 (Reuters) - A high school in Japan is going to have a chopstick test in its entrance exams.

The Hisatagakuen Sasebo Girls' High School in western Japan is going to ask students to do a test with chopsticks. The test will take ten minutes and students will use chopsticks to move things like marbles and dice from one plate to another. Students will use 6-sided chopsticks in the test.

Japanese worry that Japanese children can't use chopsticks very well, Katsushi Hisato, the school's vice principal said.

"If they do well on all other subjects [in the entrance exam] they won't fail the exam just because they have problems using chopsticks," he said. (Continued.../)

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Meanings: principal - the person who is in charge of a school (the vice principal is less important than the principal of a school)

B: Comprehension

Answer these questions. Use **Part One** of the article on page one.

1. What is the name of the school?
2. Where is the school?
3. What will the students pick up with chopsticks?
4. What do Japanese worry about?
5. What is the name of the vice-principal of the school?

C: Reading For Meaning

Read **Part Two**. Answer the questions. Choose the best answer for each question.

Part 2

Japan school has chopstick test

(Continued.../.) Hisato said the Japanese spirit is very important to the school. **Tea ceremony** and flower arranging are also important at the school.

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Meanings: **tea ceremony** - making the drink, tea in a special way done at important times)

1. Spirit in the sentence from the article means...
 - a. strong feelings that people from one country have.
 - b. a ghost.
2. Arranging in this sentence from the article means...
 - a. growing flowers.
 - b. placing flowers in a special way.

D: Check Your Understanding

Match the questions with the right answers. (Be careful! There are two extra answers.)

Questions

1. What is a school in Japan going to give students?
2. What is the school going to ask students to do?
3. How long is the test going to take?
4. Are students who fail the chopstick test going to fail the entrance exam?
5. What kind of chopsticks are students are going to use in the test?

Answers

- a. They are going to use chopsticks with six sides.
- b. They are going to give students a chopstick test.
- c. They are going to give students a teamaking test.
- d. They are going to ask students to move marbles from one plate to another plate.
- e. No, they aren't going to fail if they do well in other parts of the exam.
- f. Yes, they are going to fail the entrance exam.
- g. The test is going to take ten minutes.

Post-Reading Activities

You may do one or more of these.

A: Do A Test

Have your own chopsticks or fork and knife test! Find some things for other people to move. Then test other students. Find out how long they take and who is best at moving things from plate to plate.

B: Brainstorming

Work in small groups. Think of a test. The test should test something about your culture. Write the rules for the test.

C: Language

We can use **am/is/are going to** when we are talking about things we are going to do at a future time - something that we have decided to do before this moment.

Use **am/is/are + going** to in the gaps below.

1. I _____ my friend Yumie's house tonight.
2. We _____ get ready for the chopstick test.
3. Yumie's mother _____ give us the test.
4. Yumie's mother _____ help us hold our chopsticks.
5. We _____ pick up marbles and dice and move them.
6. For the entrance exam all the students _____ use six sided chopsticks, but we _____ use ordinary chopsticks for our test at Yumie's house.

TEACHERS' NOTES AND ANSWER KEY

Pre-Reading Activities

A: Vocabulary - Answers

2. chopsticks - b, dice - c, plate - a, student - d.

B: Discussion - Notes

4. For this question, you may like to bring chopsticks and some different small objects to school and ask students to demonstrate their skills with chopsticks.

Reading Activities

A: Complete The Summary - Answers

A Japanese high school will have a chopstick test in the school's entrance examinations.

B: Comprehension - Notes

You may like to tell students that six-sided chopsticks are supposed to be easier to use than ordinary ones.

B: Comprehension - Answers

1. Hisatagakuen Sasebo Girls' High School, 2. western Japan, 3. marbles, dice etc., 4. That Japanese children can't use chopsticks very well, 5. Katsushi Hisato.

C: Reading For Meaning - Answers

1. a, 2. b.

D: Check Your Understanding

1. b, 2. d, 3. g, 4. e, 5. a. (Extra answers: c, f.)

Post-Reading Activities

C: Language - Answers

1. am going to, 2. are going to, 3. is going to, 4. is going to, 5. are going to, 6. are going to, are going to.

