

Lesson 1

Visiting a Japanese House

WARM UP ACTIVITY

1. What do you know about Japanese people?
2. Do they live differently from us?

- 1 If you go into a house in Japan, you must remember to take off your shoes. They may damage the fine **straw mats** that cover the floors. These straw mats are called *tatami*.
- 2 The rooms in most Japanese houses have sliding doors instead of walls. You must pull one of these doors left or right if you want to go into a room.
- 3 The room you **enter** will usually be a large one. In

straw *n.* a long plant that grows in wet land

mat *n.* a covering for the floor

enter *v.* to go into

the **middle** of the room, there may be a low table with small flat **cushions** around it. Many Japanese houses have no other **furniture** in their rooms. Perhaps you will see a pot of flowers or a long painting on one of the walls. They usually give their guests a small cup of green tea.

4 You may be surprised to see that there are no bedrooms. The Japanese **unroll** their beds and put them on the floor when they want to sleep.

5 Japanese people take a **bath** before their evening **meal**. Many houses have one large bath for the whole family. The water is usually very hot. But the Japanese like to have hot baths. After the bath, they put on a loose **robe** and eat their dinner.

middle <i>n.</i> center
cushion <i>n.</i> something you put under your head when you sleep
furniture <i>n.</i> chairs, tables, etc.
unroll <i>v.</i> to open
bath <i>n.</i> a small room for washing
meal <i>n.</i> breakfast, lunch, or dinner
robe <i>n.</i> a long shirt or dress

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A. COMPREHENSION CHECK

A₁. Write *T* for true and *F* for false sentences.

- 1. Tatami is a kind of covering for the floor.
- 2. You can push sliding doors back to enter the house.
- 3. There are many pieces of furniture in a Japanese house.
- 4. Japanese people have no bedrooms.
- 5. Japanese people take a bath before dinner.
- 6. You must take off your shoes when you leave a Japanese house.
- 7. Most Japanese houses have sliding doors.
- 8. There are many low tables in a Japanese room.
- 9. Japanese give large cups of green tea to their guests.

A₂. Choose the best answer.

1. When you enter a Japanese house, you should
 - a. cover the floor
 - b. wash your feet
 - c. damage the tatami
 - d. take off your shoes
2. When Japanese people are tired, they
 - a. go to their bedroom
 - b. sleep on the straw mats
 - c. sleep on small flat cushions
 - d. unroll their beds on the floor
3. We can understand from the passage that the style of Japanese life is
 - a. simple
 - b. difficult
 - c. tiring
 - d. exciting

A₃. Answer the following questions.

1. What is tatami?
2. Do we have sliding doors in Iran?
3. How do Japanese people receive their guests?
4. Why should you take off your shoes when you enter a Japanese house?
5. What do you usually find in the middle of the room in a Japanese house?
6. Where do you find cushions?
7. What do Japanese people put on after the bath?
8. What do they do then?

A₄. Compare the items of column I in Iran and Japan. Put (+) under “the same” if they are the same and under “different” if they are not.

Items	The same	Different
1. covering for the floor		
2. going into a house		
3. sliding doors		
4. drinking green tea		
5. bedrooms		
6. wearing loose robes		
7. low table		
8. cushions around the table		
9. taking a bath before dinner		

B. VOCABULARY

B₁. Find synonyms from the text for the following words.

1. pretty (1)
2. destroy (1)
3. recall (1)
4. wrap up (1)
5. possibly (3)
6. astonish (4)
7. entire (5)
8. wear (5)

B₂. Find antonyms from the passage for the following words.

1. out of (1)
2. forget (1)
3. put on; wear (1)
4. push; press (2)

- 5. high (3)
- 6. short (3)
- 7. host (3)
- 8. small (5)

B₃. Fill in the blanks with the words given.

**cushions – damage – enter – furniture
low – pull – straw**

Guests should take off their shoes when they a Japanese house. They do this not to the straw mats covering the floor. These mats are called tatami. They the sliding door to one side before entering the large room with a(an) table and small flat in the middle. Perhaps you are surprised to see that there are not so many pieces of in the room.

**B₄. Fill in the blanks with the words from the table.
Make changes if necessary.**

Verb	Noun	Adjective	Adverb
remember	remembrance	remembered	_____
damage	damage	damaging	_____
enter	entrance	entered	_____
furnish	furniture	furnished	_____

1. We need to buy some new for our rooms.
2. They didn't let us the library.
3. Let's look at the caused by the strong wind.
4. I don't my first day at primary school.
5. We tried to our rooms with new furniture.

C. GRAMMAR

C1. The Simple Present and Present Continuous Tenses

We use **simple present** (subject + simple form of the verb) for things that are always true, for repeated actions (always, often, sometimes, never), and for general facts about our lives.

Water **boils** at 100 degrees.

I always **boil** the kettle before I **make** the tea.

What do you do? = What is your job?

I'm a teacher.

In the positive form add an 's' to the base form (of the 3rd person singular).

If the verb ends in '-y' after consonant, change the '-y' to '-ies'.

I / You / We / They	eat lunch	at noon.
He / She / It	eat<u>s</u> lunch tr<u>ies</u> hard	at noon.

Use the helping verbs (**don't** and **doesn't**) with the base form of the verb to make negatives.

I / You / We / They	don't leave	at noon.
He / She / It	doesn't leave	at noon.

Use the helping verbs (**do** or **does**) with the base form of the verb in question forms.

Do	I / you / we / they	leave at noon?
Does	he / she / it	leave at noon?

We use **present continuous** (subject + am/is/are + the -ing form of the verb) for something that is happening now, for temporary situations, and to describe change, development, or progress.

The kettle **is boiling**.

What are you doing? = What are you really doing right now?

I'm teaching.

BE CAREFUL! *Some verbs are not used in the continuous form.*

C2. Verbs Not Normally Used in Continuous Form

The verbs in the list below are normally used in the simple form, because they refer to *states*, rather than actions:

List of common verbs normally used in simple form:

Senses / Perception: feel*, hear, see*, smell, taste

Opinion: assume, believe, consider, doubt, feel (= think), find (= consider), suppose, think*

Mental States: forget, imagine, know, mean, notice, recognize, remember, understand

Emotions / Desires: envy, fear, dislike, hate, hope, like, love, mind, prefer, regret, want, wish

Measurement: contain, cost, hold, measure, weigh

Others: look (= resemble), seem, be (*in most cases*), have (*when it means to possess*)*

Notes:

1. Perception verbs (see, hear, feel, taste, smell) are often used with 'can':
e.g. *I can see.*

2. *These verbs (feel, see, think, and have) may be used in the continuous form but with a different meaning.

Compare:

a. This coat **feels** nice and warm. (= your perception of the coat's qualities)

b. **John is feeling** much better now. (= his health is improving)

a. She **has** three dogs and a cat. (= possession)

b. **She is having** supper. (= She's eating)

Exercise 1. Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the verbs in parentheses.

Mr. Jones (wake) up at 6.00 a.m. in the morning. He (get) up at 6.15 am. He (go) to the bathroom. He (have) a shower. After his shower, he (have) a cup of coffee. Then he (brush) his teeth. He (eat) breakfast at about 7.00 am. After breakfast, he (read) the newspaper. Then he (go) to work. He usually (visit) friends, too.

Exercise 2. Write questions like the example.

Example: Jim can ride a bicycle.

Is he riding a bicycle now?

1. John can swim well.?
2. Homa can draw pictures.?
3. The students can speak English.?
4. I can play the piano.?
5. We can read and write.?
6. You can type.?
7. Vahid can play basketball.?

Exercise 3. Write the correct form of the verbs in parentheses.

1. Classes (begin) on the fifth of September.
2. The store (close) at 9 p.m.
3. She (not/think) like you.
4. He (get up) early on Saturdays.
5. The Sun's rays (take) eight minutes to reach the Earth.
6. They (not/live) in New York, they (live) in Boston.
7. We usually (take) the subway to college.
8. I (not/believe) in ghosts.
9. When (he arrive) home in the evenings?
10. How often (you go) to the cinema?

C3. Adverbs of Frequency

Some adverbs tell us how often something is done. These include: **always, constantly, continually, frequently, normally, occasionally, often, never, usually, rarely, regularly, seldom, sometimes, ...**

“I **always** do my homework on time.” In this sentence *always* shows us the frequency.

“She goes out **occasionally**.” In this sentence *occasionally* shows us the frequency.

Exercise 4. Add the adverbs in parentheses to the sentences.

1. The students speak English in class. (*often*)
2. They pay attention to the teacher. (*usually*)
3. Nima is at home. (*seldom*)
4. Our teachers are in the library. (*sometimes*)
5. I am late. (*rarely*)
6. Does Sara leave her classes early? (*never*)

7. I have tea with sugar. (*always*)
8. Does David put on a black jacket? (*usually*)
9. Mina doesn't come to school late. (*scarcely*)

C₄. Definite and Indefinite Articles

a = *indefinite article* (not a specific object, one of a number of the same objects) beginning with consonants

She has **a** dog.

I work in **a** factory.

an = *indefinite article* (not a specific object, one of a number of the same objects) beginning with vowels (a, e, i, o, u) sound.

Can I have **an** apple?

She is **an** English teacher.

the = *definite article* (a specific object that both the person speaking and the listener know)

The car over there is fast.

The teacher is very good, isn't he?

The first time you speak of something use 'a' or 'an', the next time you repeat that object use 'the'.

I live in **a** house. **The** house is quite old and has four bedrooms.

I ate in **a** Chinese restaurant. **The** restaurant was very good.

DO NOT use an article with **languages, mountains, states, provinces, lakes, and countries** except when the country is a collection of states such as "The United States, the Philippines, the Netherlands, the Islamic Republic of Iran."

He lives in **Washington** near **Mount Rainier**.

They live in **northern British Columbia**.

Use an article with **bodies of water, oceans and seas**:

This country borders on **the** Pacific Ocean.

DO NOT use an article when you are speaking about things in general:

I like **Russian tea**.

She likes **reading books**.

DO NOT use an article when you are speaking about **meals, places, and transport**:

He has **breakfast** at home.

I go to **university**.

Exercise 5. Fill in the blanks with *a, an, or the*, if necessary.

1. This coat was made by famous tailor.
2. Can you tell me how to get to bank from here?
3. city museum is closed today.
4. He is one of smartest people I know.
5. milk is good for you.
6. apple a day keeps doctor away.
7. Do you have dictionary that I can borrow?
8. This is easy question.
9. I have never seen UFO.
10. May I ask you question?

Exercise 6. Fill in the gaps. Use *a, an, or the* if necessary.

I am from Seattle, Washington. Seattle is city in United States. It is near border of Canada in northwest corner of the USA. I live in town called Olympia