

LESSON NOTES

Culture Class: Essential Japanese Vocabulary S1 #23

Natural Disasters

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KANJI

1. What are five natural disasters that can happen in Japan?
2. 1. 地震
3. 2. 津波
4. 3. 台風
5. 4. 雪崩
6. 5. 集中豪雨

KANA

1. What are five natural disasters that can happen in Japan?
2. 1. じしん
3. 2. つなみ
4. 3. たいふう
5. 4. なだれ
6. 5. しゅうちゅうごう

ROMANIZATION

1. What are five natural disasters that can happen in Japan?

CONT'D OVER

2. 1. jishin
3. 2. tsunami
4. 3. taifū
5. 4. nadare
6. 5. shūchūgōu

ENGLISH

1. What are five natural disasters that can happen in Japan?
2. 1. earthquake
3. 2. tsunami / seismic sea wave
4. 3. typhoon
5. 4. avalanche
6. 5. cloudburst

VOCABULARY

Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English
雪崩	なだれ	nadare	avalanche
集中豪雨	しゅうちゅうごうう	shūchūgōu	torrential rains
地震	じしん	jishin	earthquake

津波	つなみ	tsunami	tsunami, seismic sea wave
台風	たいふう	taifū	typhoon

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>冬と春の間は、天気予報で雪崩に対する注意を呼びかけます。 <i>fuyu to haru no aida wa, tenki yohō de nadare ni taisuru chūi o yobikakemasu.</i></p> <p>During winter and spring, weather forecasters often call people's attention to avalanches.</p>	<p>日本では、台風や梅雨前線の影響で集中豪雨に襲われることがよくあります。 <i>nihon dewa, taifū ya baiu zensen no eikyō de shūchū gōu ni osowarerukoto ga yoku arimasu.</i></p> <p>Typhoons and fronts of rain often bring about cloudbusts in Japan.</p>
<p>日本の子供は、学校の避難訓練で、地震の際に身を守る方法を学びます。 <i>nihon no kodomo wa, gakkō no hinan kunren de, jishin no sai ni mi o mamoru hōhō o manabimasu.</i></p> <p>Japanese school children have periodic earthquake drills to teach them how to protect themselves in the event of an earthquake.</p>	<p>昨日、地震がありました。 <i>Kinō, jishin ga arimashita.</i></p> <p>We had an earthquake last night.</p>
<p>2011年3月、北日本では地震の後に巨大津波が押し寄せ、多くの命が失われました。 <i>nesen jūichi nen san gatsu, kita nihon dewa jishin no ato ni kyodai tsunami ga oshiyose, ōkuno inochi ga ushinaware mashita.</i></p> <p>tsunami destroyed several cities in North Japan, and thousands of people lost their lives.</p>	<p>この地震による津波の心配はありません。 <i>Kono jishin ni yoru tsunami no shinpai wa arimasen.</i></p> <p>There's no threat of a tsunami resulting from this earthquake.</p>
<p>台風が上陸すると、交通機関がまひします。 <i>taifū ga jōriku suruto, kōtsūkikan ga mahi shimasu.</i></p> <p>When typhoons move across Japan, public transportation cannot function properly.</p>	<p>台風で、木が倒れた。 <i>Taifū de ki ga taoreta.</i></p> <p>A tree fell over due to the typhoon.</p>

GRAMMAR

What are five natural disasters that can happen in Japan?

1. 地震
2. 津波
3. 台風
4. 雪崩
5. 集中豪雨

CULTURAL INSIGHT

1. earthquake

Since Japan is located above several oceanic plates and has active faults, earthquakes are quite a common occurrence all over the country. One of the biggest and the most recent was the Great East Japan Earthquake, which happened in March 2011

2. tsunami / seismic sea wave

When earthquakes happen near or under the ocean, a tsunami often follows soon afterwards. Due to the fact that Japan is surrounded by ocean, tsunamis are part of the "set" that comes with an earthquake that people have to be reminded to be wary of.

3. typhoon

Typhoons often occur on the sea in the south of Japan. Typhoons often hit Japan at autumn time, passing through the more northern islands of Japan.

4. avalanche

Mountainous terrain dominates over 70% of Japan's land. People enjoy visiting mountain areas throughout the year, but during the winter and spring mountaineers may encounter avalanches.

5. cloudburst

There are several reasons behind torrential rains in Japan, including typhoons and seasonal rain fronts. During the summer, torrential rains can also happen due to cumulonimbus clouds.