

## Travel Plans

People are travelling again after the hiatus that was caused by COVID-19 lockdowns. Many people are using the money they saved while borders were closed to embark on their bucket list trips. However, others are more reluctant to dust off their passports. A travel report from a website analyzed 16,000 surveys from people in 15 different countries. The site found that 15 percent of South Koreans and 14 percent of both Chinese and Americans, "never want to travel again". The report stated that almost 35 percent of Japanese people said they never wanted to leave Japan to travel.

There are many reasons why Japanese people are unwilling to venture overseas. One is a new desire to explore the many culinary and cultural options Japan has to offer. Many people travelled domestically during the pandemic and fell in love with Japan's stunning nature and heritage. A tour guide was "constantly amazed" at her clients' reactions to seeing the sights of Kyoto. She said people were "so engrossed in their history and tradition". Other reasons to not travel abroad are the high cost as well as the desire to be more green. Some people also think spending money on nice hotels and restaurants in Japan is better than travelling overseas.

# Travel Plans

## Vocabulary Matching

### Paragraph 1

- |                |  |
|----------------|--|
| 1. hiatus      | a. A number of experiences that a person hopes to have during his or her lifetime. |
| 2. dust off    | b. Bring something out for use again after a long time.                            |
| 3. embark      | c. A pause or break in the continuity of an activity.                              |
| 4. bucket list | d. Begin a course of action or a journey.  |
| 5. reluctant   | e. Hesitant or unwilling to do something.  |

### Paragraph 2

- |              |  |
|--------------|--|
| 6. engrossed | h. Start a (often risky) journey or course of action.  |
| 7. venture   | i. Related to cooking.   |
| 8. culinary  | j. Put all of one's attention or interest on something.  |
| 9. stunning  | k. Valued objects and qualities such as historic buildings and cultural traditions that have been passed down from previous generations. |
| 10. heritage | l. Extremely impressive or attractive.   |

## True or False

- 1 The article says a hiatus caused coronavirus lockdowns.
- 2 A tour guide in Kyoto was amazed by the city's sights.
- 3 Chinese people were less reluctant to travel than South Koreans.
- 4 Some Japanese people wanted to spend money in Japan rather than going abroad.

## Reading Comprehension

- 1 What were closed that allowed people to save money?
- 2 Which country had the fewest percentage of people who were willing to travel overseas?
- 3 What kind of list was mentioned in paragraph one?
- 4 What did many Japanese people fall in love with again?

## Class Discussion

- 1 Would you like to travel abroad in the future?
- 2 Why do you think less Japanese people wanted to travel overseas than South Koreans, Chinese, or Americans?
- 3 Where in Japan would you like to travel to that has cultural value?