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Level 6 – 8th November, 2021

Japan to give children under 19 \$880 cash handout

FREE online quizzes, mp3 listening and more for this lesson here:

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2111/211108-cash-handout.html>

Contents

| | | | |
|--------------------------------|----|--|----|
| The Article | 2 | Discussion (Student-Created Qs) | 15 |
| Warm-Ups | 3 | Language Work (Cloze) | 16 |
| Vocabulary | 4 | Spelling | 17 |
| Before Reading / Listening | 5 | Put The Text Back Together | 18 |
| Gap Fill | 6 | Put The Words In The Right Order | 19 |
| Match The Sentences And Listen | 7 | Circle The Correct Word | 20 |
| Listening Gap Fill | 8 | Insert The Vowels (a, e, i, o, u) | 21 |
| Comprehension Questions | 9 | Punctuate The Text And Add Capitals | 22 |
| Multiple Choice - Quiz | 10 | Put A Slash (/) Where The Spaces Are | 23 |
| Role Play | 11 | Free Writing | 24 |
| After Reading / Listening | 12 | Academic Writing | 25 |
| Student Survey | 13 | Homework | 26 |
| Discussion (20 Questions) | 14 | Answers | 27 |

Please try Levels 4 and 5 (they are easier).

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THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2111/211108-cash-handout.html>

Japanese children may soon have smiles on their faces and money in their pockets. As part of a covid-19-related stimulus package, Japan's government is planning to give ¥100,000 (\$880) to all children under the age of 19. Around 20 million children, from newborns to 18-year-olds, will receive the one-time payment. The initiative is part of an election pledge from Japan's newly-elected Prime Minister. During campaigning, he vowed to help "people in need," such as part-time workers and families with small children. Officials say the money will be given regardless of the financial status of a child's family. All children in any one family will receive the cash. The plan is expected to cost around ¥2 trillion (\$17.6 billion).

The stimulus package is not without its critics. Many people have reservations about splurging so much money when Japan is burdened with so much debt. The country's debt is currently more than twice the size of its economy. Government sources argue the cash is available for the pandemic stimulus because of a surplus of funds from fiscal 2020. Skeptics are questioning the plan's logic. They said most recipients would not be going out to purchase high-cost items, dine in upmarket restaurants or take domestic holidays. It is predicted that much of the money will end up in savings accounts. However, mother of three Yuki Ono welcomed the plan. She said her children would benefit because they will buy new computers.

Sources: <https://the-japan-news.com/news/article/0007957410>
<https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2021/11/06/national/japan-ldp-cash-handout/>
<https://english.kyodonews.net/news/2021/11/37472f159862-breaking-news-japan-mulls-100000-yen-cash-handout-for-all-aged-18-or-younger.html>

WARM-UPS

1. CASH HANDOUTS: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about cash handouts. Change partners often and share your findings.

2. CHAT: In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

children / smiles / pockets / stimulus / newborns / payment / vow / part time / plan / critics / reservations / splurging / debt / pandemic / fiscal / dine / upmarket / benefit

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

3. CASH FOR KIDS: Students A **strongly** believe it's a great idea to give children cash to stimulate the economy; Students B **strongly** believe it isn't. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. STIMULUS: How would these things work to stimulate an economy? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

| | A Good Idea? | Effects on the Economy |
|-------------------------|--------------|------------------------|
| Giving cash to children | | |
| Giving cash to the poor | | |
| Tax cuts | | |
| Infrastructure spending | | |
| Restaurant vouchers | | |
| Investment in education | | |

5. POCKET: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "pocket". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

6. SPENDING: Rank these with your partner. Put the best things for children to spend their money on at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Toys
- Candy
- Books
- Music
- Sports gear
- A computer
- A bicycle
- Amusement parks

VOCABULARY MATCHING

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| 1. stimulus | a. Despite the current situation or circumstances. |
| 2. package | b. Of a child or animal recently or just born. |
| 3. newborn | c. A promise. |
| 4. initiative | d. A thing that starts activity or energy in someone or something. |
| 5. pledge | e. Promised to do a specified thing. |
| 6. vowed | f. A set of financial terms offered or agreed as a whole. |
| 7. regardless | g. An act or strategy to resolve a difficulty or improve a situation. |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| 8. reservation | h. A sum of money that is owed or due. |
| 9. splurging | i. An excess of income or assets, typically in a financial year. |
| 10. burdened | j. A person or thing that receives or is awarded something. |
| 11. debt | k. An act of spending money freely or extravagantly. |
| 12. surplus | l. Reasoning conducted or assessed according to strict principles of truth. |
| 13. logic | m. Loaded heavily with something (negative or bad). |
| 14. recipient | n. An expression of doubt qualifying overall approval of a plan or statement. |

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2111/211108-cash-handout.html>

1. TRUE / FALSE: Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

1. The article says Japanese children are always smiling. **T / F**
2. Newborn babies will not get the cash handout. **T / F**
3. The cash handouts are part of the Prime Minister's election promises. **T / F**
4. The handouts will cost ¥17.6 billion. **T / F**
5. Everyone in Japan thinks the handouts are a great idea. **T / F**
6. Japan's debt is twice the size of its economy. **T / F**
7. Japan had a surplus of funds in the last fiscal year. **T / F**
8. A mother said her children would buy new computers. **T / F**

2. SYNONYM MATCH: (The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| 1. soon | a. notwithstanding |
| 2. give | b. amount |
| 3. payment | c. embraced |
| 4. pledge | d. detractors |
| 5. regardless | e. bestow |
| 6. critics | f. eat |
| 7. surplus | g. promise |
| 8. dine | h. speculated |
| 9. predicted | i. before long |
| 10. welcomed | j. excess |

3. PHRASE MATCH: (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Japanese children may soon have | a. of the financial status |
| 2. As part of a covid-19- | b. with so much debt |
| 3. from newborns | c. election pledge |
| 4. The initiative is part of an | d. high-cost items |
| 5. regardless | e. smiles on their faces |
| 6. The stimulus package is not | f. accounts |
| 7. Japan is burdened | g. without its critics |
| 8. a surplus of funds from | h. related stimulus package |
| 9. purchase | i. fiscal 2020 |
| 10. end up in savings | j. to 18-year-olds |

GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2111/211108-cash-handout.html>

Japanese children may soon have smiles on their faces and money in their (1) _____. As part of a covid-19-related (2) _____ package, Japan's government is planning to give ¥100,000 (\$880) to all children under the age of 19. Around 20 million children, from (3) _____ to 18-year-olds, will receive the one-time payment. The (4) _____ is part of an election pledge from Japan's newly-elected Prime Minister. During campaigning, he (5) _____ to help "people in need," such as part-time workers and families with small children. Officials say the money will be given (6) _____ of the financial (7) _____ of a child's family. All children in any one family will receive the cash. The plan is (8) _____ to cost around ¥2 trillion (\$17.6 billion).

initiative
expected
stimulus
vowed
status
newborns
pockets
regardless

The stimulus package is not without its (9) _____. Many people have reservations about (10) _____ so much money when Japan is burdened with so much debt. The country's (11) _____ is currently more than twice the size of its economy. Government sources argue the cash is available for the pandemic stimulus because of a surplus of (12) _____ from fiscal 2020. Skeptics are questioning the plan's logic. They said most (13) _____ would not be going out to purchase high-cost items, dine in upmarket restaurants or take (14) _____ holidays. It is predicted that much of the money will end up in (15) _____ accounts. However, mother of three Yuki Ono welcomed the plan. She said her children would (16) _____ because they will buy new computers.

recipients
splurging
savings
critics
benefit
funds
debt
domestic

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2111/211108-cash-handout.html>

- 1) Japanese children may soon have smiles on their faces and money _____
 - a. on there pockets
 - b. in their pockets
 - c. in there pocket
 - d. in their pocket
- 2) As part of a covid-19-related _____
 - a. stimulate packs sage
 - b. stimulant pack age
 - c. stimulus package
 - d. stimulus packed age
- 3) Around 20 million children, from _____-year-olds
 - a. newborn to 18
 - b. newborns two 80
 - c. newborns too 18
 - d. newborns to 18
- 4) the one-time payment. The initiative is part of _____
 - a. an elect shun pledge
 - b. an election pledge
 - c. an elect shun badge
 - d. an election barge
- 5) Officials say the money will be given regardless of _____
 - a. the financially state us
 - b. the financial stats
 - c. the financial stay task
 - d. the financial status
- 6) without its critics. Many people have reservations about _____
 - a. sponging so much
 - b. splurging so much
 - c. expunging so much
 - d. surging so much
- 7) the cash is available for the pandemic stimulus because of a _____
 - a. sir plus of funds
 - b. surplus of funds
 - c. sure plus off ends
 - d. surplus offends
- 8) be going out to purchase high-cost items, _____ restaurants
 - a. dine in upmarket
 - b. dining upmarket
 - c. dye in an up market
 - d. dinning upmarket
- 9) It is predicted that much of the money will end up _____
 - a. in saving accounts
 - b. in savings account
 - c. in savings accounts
 - d. in saving account
- 10) However, mother of three Yuki Ono _____
 - a. welcome the plan
 - b. welcomes the plan
 - c. welcoming the plan
 - d. welcomed the plan

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2111/211108-cash-handout.html>

Japanese children may soon (1) _____ their faces and money (2) _____. As part of a covid-19-related stimulus package, Japan's government is planning to give ¥100,000 (\$880) to all children under the age of 19. Around 20 million children, from newborns to 18-year-olds, will receive the (3) _____. The initiative is part of an election pledge from Japan's newly-elected Prime Minister. During campaigning, he (4) _____ "people in need," such as part-time workers and families with small children. Officials say the money will be given regardless of (5) _____ of a child's family. All children in any one family will receive the cash. The plan (6) _____ cost around ¥2 trillion (\$17.6 billion).

The stimulus package is (7) _____ critics. Many people have reservations about splurging so much money when Japan is burdened with so much debt. The country's (8) _____ more than twice the size of its economy. Government sources argue the cash is available for the pandemic stimulus because of a (9) _____ from fiscal 2020. Skeptics are questioning the plan's logic. They said most recipients would not be going (10) _____ high-cost items, (11) _____ restaurants or take domestic holidays. It is predicted that much of the money will end up (12) _____. However, mother of three Yuki Ono welcomed the plan. She said her children would benefit because they will buy new computers.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2111/211108-cash-handout.html>

1. What will soon be on the faces of Japanese children?
2. How many children will get the cash?
3. Who promised that there would be a cash handout?
4. Who will benefit besides children, people in need and part-time workers?
5. How much will the plan cost in Japanese yen?
6. What does the article say Japan is burdened with?
7. When was the last time Japan had a surplus of funds?
8. What kinds of restaurants will children not go to?
9. Where did critics say the money would end up?
10. What will the children of a mother of three buy?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2111/211108-cash-handout.html>

- 1) What will soon be on the faces of Japanese children?
 - a) masks
 - b) sun screen
 - c) smiles
 - d) face visors
- 2) How many children will get the cash?
 - a) around 20 million
 - b) exactly 20 million
 - c) over 20 million
 - d) under 20 million
- 3) Who promised that there would be a cash handout?
 - a) Japan's children's minister
 - b) Japan's education minister
 - c) Japan's finance minister
 - d) Japan's prime minister
- 4) Who will benefit besides children, people in need and part-time workers?
 - a) shopkeepers
 - b) families with small children
 - c) amusement parks
 - d) grandparents
- 5) How much will the plan cost in Japanese yen?
 - a) around ¥17.6 billion
 - b) around \$17.8 billion
 - c) around ¥2 trillion
 - d) around \$2 trillion
- 6) What does the article say Japan is burdened with?
 - a) expectations
 - b) debt
 - c) cargo
 - d) guilt
- 7) When was the last time Japan had a surplus of funds?
 - a) 2008
 - b) 2010
 - c) 2019
 - d) fiscal 2020
- 8) What kinds of restaurants will children not go to?
 - a) fast food restaurants
 - b) upmarket restaurants
 - c) sushi restaurants
 - d) hotel restaurants
- 9) Where did critics say the money would end up?
 - a) in savings accounts
 - b) down the back of sofas
 - c) in candy stores
 - d) being wasted
- 10) What will the children of a mother of three buy?
 - a) cakes and candies
 - b) toys
 - c) books and music
 - d) new computers

ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2111/211108-cash-handout.html>

Role A – Toys

You think toys are the best thing for children to spend their money on. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): music, candy or amusement parks.

Role B – Music

You think music is the best thing for children to spend their money on. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): toys, candy or amusement parks.

Role C – Candy

You think candy is the best thing for children to spend their money on. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): music, toys or amusement parks.

Role D – Amusement Parks

You think amusement parks are the best thing for children to spend their money on. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): music, candy or toys.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2111/211108-cash-handout.html>

1. WORD SEARCH: Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'cash' and 'handout'.

| | |
|-------------|----------------|
| cash | handout |
|-------------|----------------|

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS: Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

3. GAP FILL: In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

4. VOCABULARY: Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

5. TEST EACH OTHER: Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

| | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• smiles• under• part• vowed• status• any | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• critics• burdened• twice• fiscal• domestic• benefit |
|--|--|

CASH HANDOUTS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2111/211108-cash-handout.html>

Write five GOOD questions about cash handouts in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

| | STUDENT 1 _____ | STUDENT 2 _____ | STUDENT 3 _____ |
|------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Q.1. | | | |
| Q.2. | | | |
| Q.3. | | | |
| Q.4. | | | |
| Q.5. | | | |

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

CASH HANDOUTS DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. What did you think when you read the headline?
2. What images are in your mind when you hear the word 'cash'?
3. What puts a smile on your face?
4. How often does money make you smile?
5. Are you happy with the amount of money in your pocket?
6. What do you think of having a covid stimulus package?
7. How has your country's economy fared during covid-19?
8. Do you think giving \$880 to children is a good idea?
9. What do you think children would do with \$880?
10. What do you think Japan's children will think of this plan?

Japan to give children under 19 \$880 cash handout – 8th November, 2021
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CASH HANDOUTS DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

11. Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
12. What do you think of when you hear the word 'handout'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. Why might critics dislike the stimulus package?
15. When was the last time you splurged on something?
16. What do you know about your country's debt?
17. What would you do with \$880?
18. Do you purchase high-cost items and dine in expensive restaurants?
19. What financial advice do you have for the children?
20. What questions would you like to ask Japan's government?

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

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DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

LANGUAGE - CLOZE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2111/211108-cash-handout.html>

Japanese children may soon have smiles (1) _____ their faces and money in their pockets. As part of a covid-19-related stimulus (2) _____, Japan's government is planning to give ¥100,000 (\$880) to all children under the age of 19. Around 20 million children, from newborns to 18-year-olds, will receive the (3) _____-time payment. The initiative is part of an election (4) _____ from Japan's newly-elected Prime Minister. During campaigning, he vowed to help "people in need," such as part-time workers and families with small children. Officials say the money will be given (5) _____ of the financial status of a child's family. All children in any one family will receive (6) _____ cash. The plan is expected to cost around ¥2 trillion (\$17.6 billion).

The stimulus package is not (7) _____ its critics. Many people have reservations about splurging so much money when Japan is burdened (8) _____ so much debt. The country's debt is currently more than twice the size of its economy. Government sources (9) _____ the cash is available for the pandemic stimulus because of a surplus of funds from fiscal 2020. Skeptics are questioning the plan's (10) _____. They said most recipients would not be going out to purchase high-cost items, (11) _____ in upmarket restaurants or take domestic holidays. It is predicted that much of the money will end up in savings accounts. However, mother of three Yuki Ono (12) _____ the plan. She said her children would benefit because they will buy new computers.

Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- | | | | | |
|-----|---------------|----------------|---------------|-----------------|
| 1. | (a) at | (b) on | (c) as | (d) to |
| 2. | (a) parcel | (b) package | (c) container | (d) carton |
| 3. | (a) ones | (b) only | (c) once | (d) one |
| 4. | (a) edge | (b) pledge | (c) ledge | (d) allege |
| 5. | (a) regarded | (b) regardless | (c) regards | (d) regarding |
| 6. | (a) a | (b) much | (c) the | (d) as |
| 7. | (a) wither | (b) within | (c) without | (d) wherewithal |
| 8. | (a) up | (b) at | (c) with | (d) on |
| 9. | (a) vindicate | (b) combat | (c) clash | (d) argue |
| 10. | (a) logic | (b) donation | (c) campaign | (d) justify |
| 11. | (a) dine | (b) dire | (c) dive | (d) dime |
| 12. | (a) pleased | (b) red carpet | (c) welcomed | (d) hospitable |

SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2111/211108-cash-handout.html>

Paragraph 1

1. a covid-19-related tluimssu package
2. The niittveiia is part of an election pledge
3. During ainpnimagcg
4. he woevd to help people in need
5. lrseaedrgs of the financial status
6. The plan is txecdpee to cost around ¥2 trillion

Paragraph 2

7. people have satonieersrv
8. ipsrlgugn so much money
9. Japan is rdedeubn with so much debt
10. because of a susrulp of funds
11. most tecenrpisi would not be going out
12. money will end up in savings otsnucca

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2111/211108-cash-handout.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () the age of 19. Around 20 million children, from newborns to 18-year-olds, will receive the one-
- () so much money when Japan is burdened with so much debt. The country's debt is currently more than twice
- () The stimulus package is not without its critics. Many people have reservations about splurging
- () the size of its economy. Government sources argue the cash is available for the pandemic stimulus because of a surplus of
- () funds from fiscal 2020. Skeptics are questioning the plan's logic. They said most recipients would not be going out to purchase high-
- () time payment. The initiative is part of an election pledge from Japan's newly-elected Prime Minister. During campaigning, he vowed
- (**1**) Japanese children may soon have smiles on their faces and money in their pockets. As part
- () say the money will be given regardless of the financial status of a child's family. All children in any
- () the plan. She said her children would benefit because they will buy new computers.
- () one family will receive the cash. The plan is expected to cost around ¥2 trillion (\$17.6 billion).
- () to help "people in need," such as part-time workers and families with small children. Officials
- () cost items, dine in upmarket restaurants or take domestic holidays. It is predicted that
- () of a covid-19-related stimulus package, Japan's government is planning to give ¥100,000 (\$880) to all children under
- () much of the money will end up in savings accounts. However, mother of three Yuki Ono welcomed

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2111/211108-cash-handout.html>

1. may their smiles have soon on faces . Children
2. part of a stimulus As covid-19-related package .
3. pledge . election initiative is of part an The
4. such as need in part-time people workers . Help
5. The to is around ¥2 trillion . expected plan cost
6. stimulus is without not package its The critics .
7. splurging money . so have much People about reservations
8. from surplus 2020 . A funds of fiscal
9. up in will money The savings end accounts .
10. computers . they'll because Children benefit would buy new

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2111/211108-cash-handout.html>

Japanese children may soon have *smiling / smiles* on their faces and money in their pockets. As part of a covid-19-related *stimulate / stimulus* package, Japan's government is planning to give ¥100,000 (\$880) to all children *under / before* the age of 19. Around 20 million children, from newborns to 18-year-olds, will *receipt / receive* the one-time payment. The *initiative / initiation* is part of an election *pledge / ledge* from Japan's newly-elected Prime Minister. During campaigning, he *vowed / wowed* to help "people in need," such *has / as* part-time workers and families with small children. Officials say the money will be given regardless *at / of* the financial status of a child's family. All children in any one family will receive *the / a* cash. The plan is expected to cost around ¥2 trillion (\$17.6 billion).

The stimulus package is not *within / without* its critics. Many people have reservations about *splurging / sponging* so much money when Japan is burdened *with / to* so much debt. The country's debt is currently *most / more* than twice the size *of / off* its economy. Government sources argue the cash is available for the pandemic stimulus because of a surplus *off / of* funds from fiscal 2020. Skeptics are questioning the plan's *logic / logical*. They said most recipients would not be going out to purchase high-cost items, *dire / dine* in upmarket restaurants or take domestic holidays. It is predicted that much of the money will end *up / down* in savings accounts. However, mother of three Yuki Ono *welcomed / pleased* the plan. She said her children would benefit because they will buy new computers.

Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct.

INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2111/211108-cash-handout.html>

J_p_n_s_ ch_ldr_n m_y s__n h_v_ sm_l_s _n th__r
f_c_s _nd m_n_y _n th__r p_ck_ts. _s p_rt _f _
c_v_d-19-r_l_t_d st_m_l_s p_ck_g_, J_p_n's g_v_rnm_nt
_s pl_nn_ng t_ g_v_ ¥100,000 (\$880) t_ _ll ch_ldr_n
_nd_r th_ _g_ _f 19. _r__nd 20 m_ll__n ch_ldr_n,
fr_m n_wb_rns t_ 18-y__r_lds, w_ll r_c__v_ th_ _n_
t_m_ p_ym_nt. Th_ _n_t__t_v_ _s p_rt _f _n _l_ct__n
pl_dg_ fr_m J_p_n's n_wly-_l_ct_d Pr_m_ M_n_st_r.
D_rng c_m_p__gn_ng, h_ v_w_d t_ h_lp "p__pl_ _n
n__d," s_ch _s p_rt-t_m_ w_rk_rs _nd f_m_l__s w_th
sm_ll ch_ldr_n. _ff_c__ls s_y th_ m_n_y w_ll b_ g_v_n
r_g_rdl_ss _f th_ f_n_nc__l st_t_s _f _ ch_ld's f_m_ly.
_ll ch_ldr_n _n _ny _n_ f_m_ly w_ll r_c__v_ th_ c_sh.
Th_ pl_n _s _xp_ct_d t_ c_st _r__nd ¥2 tr_ll__n
(\$17.6 b_ll__n).

Th_ st_m_l_s p_ck_g_ _s n_t w_th__t _ts cr_t_cs.
M_ny p__pl_ h_v_ r_s_rv_t__ns _b__t spl_rg_ng s_
m_ch m_n_y wh_n J_p_n _s b_rdn_d w_th s_ m_ch
d_bt. Th_ c__ntry's d_bt _s c_rr_ntly m_r_ th_n tw_c_
th_ s_z_ _f _ts _c_n_my. G_v_rnm_nt s__rc_s _rg__
th_ c_sh _s _v__l_bl_ f_r th_ p_nd_m_c st_m_l_s
b_c__s_ _f _ s_rpl_s _f f_nds fr_m f_sc_l 2020.
Sk_pt_cs _r_ q__st__nng th_ pl_n's l_g_c. Th_y s__d
m_st r_c_p__nts w__ld n_t b_ g__ng __t t_ p_rch_s_
h_gh-c_st _t_ms, d_n_ _n _pm_rk_t r_st__rnts _r t_k_
d_m_st_c h_l_d_ys. _t _s pr_d_ct_d th_t m_ch _f th_
m_n_y w_ll _nd _p _n s_v_ngs _cc__nts. H_w_v_r,
m_th_r _f thr__ Y_k_ _n_ w_lc_m_d th_ pl_n. Sh_
s__d h_r ch_ldr_n w__ld b_n_f_t b_c__s_ th_y w_ll b_y
n_w c_m_p_t_rs.

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2111/211108-cash-handout.html>

japanese children may soon have smiles on their faces and money in their pockets as part of a covid19related stimulus package japans government is planning to give 100000 880 to all children under the age of 19 around 20 million children from newborns to 18yearolds will receive the onetime payment the initiative is part of an election pledge from japans newlyelected prime minister during campaigning he vowed to help people in need such as parttime workers and families with small children officials say the money will be given regardless of the financial status of a childs family all children in any one family will receive the cash the plan is expected to cost around 2 trillion 176 billion

the stimulus package is not without its critics many people have reservations about splurging so much money when japan is burdened with so much debt the countrys debt is currently more than twice the size of its economy government sources argue the cash is available for the pandemic stimulus because of a surplus of funds from fiscal 2020 skeptics are questioning the plans logic they said most recipients would not be going out to purchase highcost items dine in upmarket restaurants or take domestic holidays it is predicted that much of the money will end up in savings accounts however mother of three yuki ono welcomed the plan she said her children would benefit because they will buy new computers

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2111/211108-cash-handout.html>

Japanese children may soon have smiles on their faces and money in their pockets. As part of a COVID-19-related stimulus package, Japan's government is planning to give ¥100,000 (\$880) to all children under the age of 19. Around 20 million children, from newborns to 18-year-olds, will receive the one-time payment. The initiative is part of an election pledge from Japan's newly-elected Prime Minister. During campaigning, he vowed to help "people in need," such as part-time workers and families with small children. Officials say the money will be given regardless of the financial status of a child's family. All children in any one family will receive the cash. The plan is expected to cost around ¥2 trillion (\$17.6 billion). The stimulus package is not without its critics. Many people have reservations about spending so much money when Japan is burdened with so much debt. The country's debt is currently more than twice the size of its economy. Government sources argue the cash is available for the pandemic stimulus because of a surplus of funds from fiscal 2020. Skeptics are questioning the plan's logic. They said most recipients would not be going out to purchase high-cost items, dine in upmarket restaurants or take domestic holidays. It is predicted that much of the money will end up in savings accounts. However, mother of three Yuki Ono welcomed the plan. She said her children would benefit because they will buy new computers.

HOMework

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. INTERNET: Search the Internet and find out more about this news story. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. COVID STIMULUS PACKAGES: Make a poster about COVID stimulus packages. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. CASH HANDOUTS: Write a magazine article about giving sizeable cash handouts to children. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against this.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

5. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT? Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

6. LETTER: Write a letter to an expert on stimulus packages. Ask him/her three questions about them. Give him/her three of your ideas on how to stimulate economies after COVID. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

VOCABULARY (p.4)

1. d 2. f 3. b 4. g 5. c 6. e 7. a
8. n 9. k 10. m 11. h 12. i 13. l 14. j

TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

- 1 F 2 F 3 T 4 F 5 F 6 T 7 T 8 T

SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

| | | | | |
|------|------|------|------|-------|
| 1. i | 2. e | 3. b | 4. g | 5. a |
| 6. d | 7. j | 8. f | 9. h | 10. c |

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

- Smiles
- Around 20 million
- Japan's Prime Minister
- Families with small children
- Around ¥2 trillion
- Debt
- Fiscal 2020
- Upmarket restaurants
- In savings accounts
- New computers

WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.19)

- Children may soon have smiles on their faces.
- As part of a covid-19-related stimulus package.
- The initiative is part of an election pledge.
- Help people in need such as part-time workers.
- The plan is expected to cost around ¥2 trillion.
- The stimulus package is not without its critics.
- People have reservations about splurging so much money.
- A surplus of funds from fiscal 2020.
- The money will end up in savings accounts.
- Children would benefit because they'll buy new computers.

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

1. c 2. a 3. d 4. b 5. c 6. b 7. d 8. b 9. a 10. d

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.
(It's good for your English ;-)