

Learning English Through Japan – Eiheiiji Temple

Focus: Listening (Comprehension), Communication (Understanding rules), Grammar (Modals – must and must not/mustn't), Speaking (Describing places, Giving opinions).

PART 1 - Listening

1) Match the words to their definitions.

Buddhism
main area
monk
temple

the most important part of a place
a building devoted to the worship of a god or gods
a religion, originated in India by Buddha
a member of a religious community of men

2) Watch a video about Eiheiiji then choose the correct answers to questions A-.

A) Where is Eiheiiji?

- a) It's in Gifu Prefecture b) It's in Fukui Prefecture c) It's in Ishikawa Prefecture

B) Are there only two temples of Zen Buddhism in Japan?

- a) Yes, there are only two. b) No, there aren't only two.

C) Does the girl think the temple is beautiful?

- a) Yes, she does. b) No, she doesn't.

D) What is the meaning of Eiheiiji?

- a) temple of eternal piece b) temple of eternity c) temple of eternal peace

E) Which rule was not mentioned in the video?

- a) You must not enter some specific areas of the temple.
- b) You must take off your shoes and wear slippers.
- c) You must not see the monks.

F) Is there a place that people must bow?

- a) Yes, there is.
- b) No, there isn't.

PART 2 - Communication and Grammar

When you visit a temple, you have to follow some rules. Read Eihei-ji's rules below:

RULES FOR VISITORS

All visitors, even those who come only for sightseeing, are received and are expected to behave with respect as participants in religious activities.

1. Please wear neat, modest clothing, suitable for a place of religious practice.
2. Be quiet all times, especially in the zazen, lecture, and ceremony halls.
3. When walking, either indoors or outdoors, always keep to the left.
4. Do not touch the bells, drums, other instruments or altar furnishings.
5. Smoking is prohibited except in areas specifically posted for smoking.
6. Photographing the priests and monks is prohibited.
7. Visitors who are intoxicated or who cause a nuisance will not be permitted to enter the temple, nor to remain in the entrance hall of the temple.
8. Do not step into the gardens, but remain on the wooden corridor.

3) Match the pictures and the rules. Write the number of the rules.



4) Two friends want to visit Eiheiji Temple. They are learning the rules before they go.

Read the rules again and complete their conversation using 'must' or 'must not'.



Ellen: Hey, Melly, I found Eiheiji's rules in their website. Here they are.

Melanie: Ok, the first rule is about clothes. I think I'm okay... Well, except for my skirt, maybe it's too short... I _____ change them, I'll wear some pants.

Ellen: That's right. We _____ wear modest clothes.

Melanie: The second is about being quiet. So please, Ellen, you _____ talk too much!

Ellen: OK, OK, I know I talk a lot! I'm going to hold myself. Let's take a

look at the third: always keep to the left.

Melanie: Wow, that's a little bit hard to remember. But noted: we _____ keep to the left!

And the fourth is...

Ellen: We _____ touch bells, drums or anything on the altar.

Melanie: Oh, okay. Easy to remember.

Ellen: The fifth rule is that we _____ smoke. Also pretty simple since we don't smoke.

The sixth is that we _____ taking photos of the priests and monks.

Melanie: Oh, that's sad. I wanted a photo with them... But what can we do, right? I _____ at least buy some souvenirs there. So, are there any more rules?

Ellen: Yes, two more: we _____ bother others and we _____ go there being sick.

Melanie: Well, I don't think I'm sick... And the last is...?

Ellen: We _____ remain on the corridor, which means that we _____ step into the gardens.

Melanie: OK, I would hate to destroy any beautiful garden that might exist there.

Ellen: So, that's it! You better go change and then we leave.

Melanie: Perfect! Give me two minutes!

PART 3 - Speaking

5) Look at some pictures I took in Eiheiiji.

Based on the video, on the photos and on the rules, answer:

- a) Can you describe Eiheiiji?
- b) Would you like to visit this place?
- c) Are the rules easy or hard to follow?