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Level 5

Funeral discounts for Japan's elderly who quit driving

25th March, 2017

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1703/170325-elderly-drivers-5.html>

Contents

The Reading	2
Phrase Matching	3
Listening Gap Fill	4
No Spaces	5
Survey	6
Writing and Speaking	7
Writing	8

Please try Levels 4 and 6. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1703/170325-elderly-drivers-5.html>

A new road-safety strategy in Japan is encouraging elderly drivers to stop driving. A funeral home company is offering a 15 per cent discount on its services to drivers over the age of 75 who surrender their driving licence. The discount also applies to their family members. The scheme is backed by the local police. Drivers must hand in their licence to the police, who then provide a document as proof that the senior is no longer allowed to drive. Similar schemes in Japan have included cut-price taxi fares, discounts on entry to public baths and cheaper noodles.

The latest strategy is a further attempt to cut the large number of traffic accidents involving seniors. Almost five million people over the age of 75 drive in Japan. This is double the number from 10 years ago. There has been an increase in the number of fatal accidents involving elderly drivers. They accounted for 13.2 per cent of fatal traffic accidents in a central Japan district last year. This is up from 7.7 per cent in 2007. Some of those accidents were because seniors confused the accelerator and brake pedals or mistakenly put their car into reverse.

Sources: <http://www.bbc.com/news/blogs-news-from-elsewhere-39327663>
<http://mainichi.jp/english/articles/20170320/p2g/00m/0fe/048000c>
<http://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2017/03/20/national/social-issues/funeral-discounts-deployed-rein-elderly-drivers/>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1703/170325-elderly-drivers-5.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. A new road-safety | a. price taxi fares |
| 2. encouraging | b. longer allowed to drive |
| 3. a 15 per cent discount | c. entry to public baths |
| 4. The discount also applies to | d. in their licence |
| 5. Drivers must hand | e. on its services |
| 6. proof that the senior is no | f. strategy in Japan |
| 7. cut- | g. their family members |
| 8. discounts on | h. elderly drivers to stop |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|--|----------------------|
| 1. cut the large number | a. from 7.7 per cent |
| 2. double the number | b. into reverse |
| 3. There has | c. for 13.2 per cent |
| 4. the number of fatal accidents involving | d. from 10 years ago |
| 5. They accounted | e. brake pedals |
| 6. This is up | f. been an increase |
| 7. confused the accelerator and | g. elderly drivers |
| 8. mistakenly put their car | h. accidents |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1703/170325-elderly-drivers-5.html>

A new road-safety strategy in Japan (1) _____ elderly drivers to stop driving. A funeral home company (2) _____ 15 per cent (3) _____ services to drivers over the age of 75 who surrender their driving licence. The discount (4) _____ their family members. The scheme is backed by the local police. Drivers (5) _____ licence to the police, who then provide a document as proof that the senior is no longer allowed to drive. Similar schemes in Japan have included cut-price taxi fares, (6) _____ to public baths and cheaper noodles.

The latest (7) _____ further attempt to cut the large number of traffic (8) _____ seniors. Almost five million people over the age of 75 drive in Japan. This is (9) _____ from 10 years ago. There has been (10) _____ the number of fatal accidents involving elderly drivers. They accounted for 13.2 per cent of fatal traffic (11) _____ Japan district last year. This is up from 7.7 per cent in 2007. Some of those accidents were because seniors confused (12) _____ brake pedals or mistakenly put their car into reverse.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1703/170325-elderly-drivers-5.html>

A new road-safety strategy in Japan is encouraging elderly drivers to stop driving. A funeral home company is offering a 15 percent discount on its services to drivers over the age of 75 who surrender their driving licence. The discount also applies to their family members. The scheme is backed by the local police. Drivers must hand in their licence to the police, who then provide a document as proof that the senior is no longer allowed to drive. Similar schemes in Japan have included cut-price taxi fares, discount on entry to public baths and cheap ramen noodles. The latest strategy is a further attempt to cut the large number of traffic accidents involving seniors. Almost five million people over the age of 75 drive in Japan. This is double the number from 10 years ago. There has been an increase in the number of fatal accidents involving elderly drivers. They accounted for 13.2 percent of fatal traffic accidents in a central Japan district last year. This is up from 7.7 percent in 2007. Some of those accidents were because seniors confused the accelerator and brake pedals or mistakenly put their car into reverse.

ELDERLY DRIVERS SURVEY

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1703/170325-elderly-drivers-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about elderly drivers 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.

WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

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WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

