

Tokyo Motor Show cancelled for first time ever

26th April, 2021



The Tokyo Motor Show has been cancelled for the first time in its history. The organizers called the show off because of an increase in the number of

coronavirus cases in Japan. Akio Toyoda, chairperson of the Japan Automobile Manufacturers Association, said: "The Tokyo Motor Show is being cancelled, not delayed. It's difficult to hold the event in a way in which many people will be able to experience the appeal of cars in a safe and secure environment." Tokyo has just been put under a two-week state of emergency to try and reduce the surge in COVID-19. Japan's government is worried about the pandemic because it will host the Tokyo Olympics in July. Many Japanese people want to cancel the Olympics.

The Tokyo Motor Show was first held in 1954. It is one of the world's top five motor shows. It attracted over 1.3 million motoring professionals and enthusiasts in 2019. Mr Toyoda said his team considered holding the show online, but decided a physical, in-person event would be a better experience. The show differs from other auto events around the world because it focuses more on innovation. There are usually more concept cars than actual production cars in the show. This means we can get a look at what cars might look like in the future. Mr Toyoda said: "The Tokyo Motor show collaborates with a number of industries to envision a new future for mobility."

Sources: kyodonews.net / japantimes.co.jp / wikipedia.org

Writing

All public events should be cancelled until coronavirus numbers come down. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

Tokyo / motor show / history / coronavirus / event / experience / emergency / host / professionals / online / world / innovation / production / the future / collaborate

True / False

- a) Climate change has cancelled the Tokyo Motor Show. T / F
- b) The show's chairperson said the show has been delayed, not cancelled. T / F
- c) The chairperson said it was difficult to provide a safe environment. T / F
- d) The article says Japan believes COVID will not affect the Olympics. T / F
- e) The Tokyo Motor Show started in 1954. T / F
- f) The article says more than 1.3 million people went to the show last year. T / F
- g) The show focuses on concept cars more than production cars. T / F
- h) We can get an idea about driving in the future at the show. T / F

Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| 1. cancelled | a. concentrates |
| 2. increase | b. concerned |
| 3. appeal | c. hold |
| 4. worried | d. fans |
| 5. host | e. called off |
| 6. top | f. change |
| 7. enthusiasts | g. leading |
| 8. focuses | h. rise |
| 9. innovation | i. see |
| 10. envision | j. attraction |

Discussion – Student A

- a) What do you think of a motor show?
- b) Would you like to go to a motor show?
- c) What is your favourite car?
- d) What do you think of cancelling the Tokyo Motor Show?
- e) How has the coronavirus affected your life?
- f) What is the appeal of cars and driving?
- g) Should the Tokyo Olympics go ahead?
- h) What do you know about Tokyo?

Phrase Match

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. The organizers called the | a. from other auto events |
| 2. The Tokyo Motor Show is being | b. state of emergency |
| 3. put under a two-week | c. five motor shows |
| 4. Japan's government is worried | d. show off |
| 5. Many Japanese people want to | e. like in the future |
| 6. It is one of the world's top | f. about the pandemic |
| 7. 1.3 million motoring professionals | g. production cars |
| 8. The show differs | h. cancel the Olympics |
| 9. more concept cars than actual | i. and enthusiasts |
| 10. what cars might look | j. cancelled, not delayed |

Discussion – Student B

- What do you think about what you read?
- What do you think happens at a motor show?
- What do you have an enthusiasm for?
- Are online events or in-person events best?
- What do you think of concept cars?
- What will cars of the future be like?
- Should we ban the use of cars?
- What questions would you like to ask the motor show boss?

Spelling

- The orarigzens called the show off
- an inreeacs in the number
- cancelled, not eledday
- the apeapl of cars
- a two-week state of ecmegreyn
- try and reduce the ersgu in COVID-19
- It tcrtaeatd over 1.3 million
- professionals and tueanihtstss
- a better nxecreieep
- it focuses more on ionvntiano
- dpiootnrcu cars
- a number of uieirsntd

Answers – Synonym Match

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

Role Play

Role A – Music System

You think a music system is the most important feature in a car. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their features aren't as important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): fuel efficiency, speed or colour.

Role B – Fuel Efficiency

You think fuel efficiency is the most important feature in a car. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their features aren't as important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): music system, speed or colour.

Role C – Speed

You think speed is the most important feature in a car. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their features aren't as important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): fuel efficiency, music system or colour.

Role D – Colour

You think colour is the most important feature in a car. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their features aren't as important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): fuel efficiency, speed or music system.

Speaking – Features

Rank these with your partner. Put the most important features in a car at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- | | |
|----------|-------------------|
| • Speed | • Music system |
| • GPS | • Engine size |
| • Colour | • Fuel efficiency |
| • 4WD | • Leather seats |

Answers – True False

a	F	b	F	c	T	d	F	e	T	f	F	g	T	h	F
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.