

No screaming in Japanese amusement parks

31st May, 2020



A group of amusement park operators in Japan has released guidelines about visitors screaming in their parks. This is after Japan's government asked companies to prepare for the "new normal" and for life with COVID-19. The guidelines instruct park owners on how to

operate safely in our coronavirus world. One of the guidelines is no screaming on rollercoasters or in haunted houses. Scientists have said that using the voice to sing, scream or shout increases the amount of virus that an infected person can put into the air. Staying quiet or talking quietly reduces the risk of spreading the virus. The park guidelines say visitors should, "refrain from vocalizing loudly" on all rides.

Japan's amusement parks are slowly reopening as the coronavirus emergency was lifted earlier this week. The country's biggest theme parks, Tokyo Disneyland and Universal Studios Japan (in Osaka), remain closed. They have been closed since the beginning of March. They have not set a date for reopening. When they do open, they will likely follow the guidelines. Other recommendations include mask wearing and social distancing. One piece of advice stated: "Ghosts lurking in haunted houses should maintain a healthy distance from their 'victims'". In addition, all park staff, including those dressed as mascots and superheroes, should not shake hands or high-five anyone.

Sources: japantimes.co.jp / cnn.com / asiaone.com

Writing

It is perfectly safe to go to an amusement park if people follow rules. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

group / amusement / park / normal / safely / voice / sing / virus / guidelines / rides / coronavirus / emergency / theme parks / Disneyland / masks / ghosts / superheroes

True / False

- a) One amusement park in Japan will tell people not to scream. T / F
- b) Japan said companies should prepare for the "new normal" covid-19 life. T / F
- c) Scientists said screaming or singing can spread the virus. T / F
- d) Amusement park guidelines suggest visitors should be quiet on rides. T / F
- e) All of Japan's amusements parks are opening slowly. T / F
- f) Tokyo Disneyland has announced the date it will reopen. T / F
- g) The guidelines recommended ghosts in haunted houses social distance. T / F
- h) The guidelines say staff dressed as mascots can high-five visitors. T / F

Synonym Match

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

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------|
| 1. group | a. stay |
| 2. prepare | b. spooky |
| 3. instruct | c. removed |
| 4. haunted | d. get ready |
| 5. risk | e. employees |
| 6. lifted | f. possibility |
| 7. remain | g. help |
| 8. follow | h. collection |
| 9. advice | i. stick to |
| 10. staff | j. tell |

Discussion – Student A

- a) What do you think about what you read?
- b) What things do you want to reopen?
- c) What do you think of Disneyland?
- d) What do you do to social distance?
- e) Would you like a job dressing as a mascot?
- f) Who is your favourite superhero?
- g) Which was better, shaking hands or high-fiving?
- h) What questions would you like to ask amusement park owners?

Phrase Match

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| 1. A group of amusement park | a. are slowly reopening |
| 2. prepare for the | b. safely |
| 3. how to operate | c. of spreading the virus |
| 4. the amount of virus that an infected | d. or high-five anyone |
| 5. talking quietly reduces the risk | e. "new normal" |
| 6. Japan's amusement parks | f. date for reopening |
| 7. They have been closed | g. operators in Japan |
| 8. They have not set a | h. houses |
| 9. haunted | i. person can put into the air |
| 10. should not shake hands | j. since the beginning of March |

Discussion – Student B

- What do you think of amusement parks?
- Should amusement parks be allowed to reopen?
- What guidelines would you give to park owners?
- What is the "new normal" in the world today?
- What do you think of rollercoasters?
- What do you think of haunted houses?
- Should everyone talk more quietly and wear masks?
- What coronavirus guidelines are there in your country?

Spelling

- amusement park trooaspre
- released lugeisdein
- prepare for the "new lmnoar"
- denuaht houses
- an nfitcdee person
- uesrecd the risk of spreading the virus
- the coronavirus gnyecrmee
- The country's biggest emhet parks
- One piece of vaecid
- maintain a healthy setadnci
- those dressed as ocasmts
- akehs hands or high-five

Answers – Synonym Match

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

Role Play

Role A – Sport

You think sport is the best theme for an amusement park. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their themes. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these themes (and why): Disney, health or America.

Role B – Disney

You think Disney is the best theme for an amusement park. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their themes. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these themes (and why): sport, health or America.

Role C – Health

You think health is the best theme for an amusement park. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their themes. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these themes (and why): Disney, sport or America.

Role D – America

You think America is the best theme for an amusement park. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their themes. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these themes (and why): Disney, health or sport.

Speaking – Theme Parks

Rank these with your partner. Put the best themes for a park at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- | | |
|----------------|----------|
| • Animals | • Sport |
| • Harry Potter | • Disney |
| • Health | • Pizza |
| • America | • Space |

Answers – True False

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