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**Level 5 – 8th November, 2021**

**Japan to give children under 19 \$880 cash handout**

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2111/211108-cash-handout-5.html>

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

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# THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2111/211108-cash-handout-5.html>

Japanese children may soon be smiling and have money in their pockets. Japan is planning to give ¥100,000 (\$880) to all children under the age of 19 as part of a covid stimulus plan. Around 20 million children, from babies to 18-year-olds, will get the payment. This initiative is part of an election pledge from Japan's Prime Minister. He vowed to help "people in need," such as part-time workers and poorer families. The money will be given regardless of the financial status of a child's family and how many children are in a family. The plan will cost around ¥2 trillion (\$17.6 billion).

The stimulus package has its critics. Many people have reservations about it when Japan has so much debt. Its debt is currently more than twice the size of its economy. Sources say the cash is available for the stimulus because of a surplus of funds from fiscal 2020. Skeptics are questioning the plan. They say most children will not be buying high-cost items, dining in upmarket restaurants or going on holidays. Most of the money will end up in savings accounts. One mother of three 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>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2111/211108-cash-handout-5.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                                |                        |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. have money in               | a. people in need      |
| 2. part of a covid stimulus    | b. pledge              |
| 3. from babies                 | c. status              |
| 4. an election                 | d. and poorer families |
| 5. He vowed to help            | e. to 18-year-olds     |
| 6. part-time workers           | f. around ¥2 trillion  |
| 7. regardless of the financial | g. plan                |
| 8. The plan will cost          | h. their pockets       |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                             |                        |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. The stimulus package has | a. would benefit       |
| 2. Japan has so             | b. size of its economy |
| 3. more than twice the      | c. new computers       |
| 4. because of a surplus     | d. in savings accounts |
| 5. the money will end up    | e. much debt           |
| 6. One mother of            | f. of funds            |
| 7. She said her children    | g. three               |
| 8. they will buy            | h. its critics         |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2111/211108-cash-handout-5.html>

Japanese children may (1) \_\_\_\_\_ and have money in their pockets. Japan is (2) \_\_\_\_\_ ¥100,000 (\$880) to all children under the age of 19 as part of a covid stimulus plan. Around 20 million children, from babies to 18-year-olds, will (3) \_\_\_\_\_. This initiative is part of an election pledge from Japan's Prime Minister. He (4) \_\_\_\_\_ "people in need," such as part-time workers and poorer families. The money will (5) \_\_\_\_\_ of the financial status of a child's family and how many children are in a family. The (6) \_\_\_\_\_ around ¥2 trillion (\$17.6 billion).

The stimulus package (7) \_\_\_\_\_. Many people have reservations about it when Japan has (8) \_\_\_\_\_. Its debt is currently more than twice the size of its economy. Sources say the cash is available (9) \_\_\_\_\_ because of a surplus of funds from fiscal 2020. Skeptics are questioning the plan. They say most children will not be buying high-cost items, (10) \_\_\_\_\_ restaurants or going on holidays. Most of the money will end up (11) \_\_\_\_\_. One mother of three welcomed the plan. She said her children (12) \_\_\_\_\_ they will buy new computers.

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2111/211108-cash-handout-5.html>

Japanese children may soon be smiling and have money in their pockets. Japan is planning to give ¥100,000 (\$880) to all children under the age of 19 as part of a COVID stimulus plan. Around 20 million children, from babies to 18-year-olds, will get the payment. This initiative is part of an election pledge from Japan's Prime Minister. He vowed to help "people in need, such as part-time workers and poorer families. The money will be given regardless of the financial status of a child's family and how many children are in a family. The plan will cost around ¥2 trillion (\$17.6 billion). The stimulus package has its critics. Many people have reservations about it when Japan has so much debt. Its debt is currently more than twice the size of its economy. Sources say the cash is available for the stimulus because of a surplus of funds from fiscal 2020. Skeptics are questioning the plan. They say most children will not be buying high-cost items, dining in upmarket restaurants or going on holidays. Most of the money will end up in savings accounts. One mother of three welcomed the plan. She said her children would benefit because they will buy new computers.

# CASH HANDOUTS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2111/211108-cash-handout-4.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.

## 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) \_\_\_\_\_

