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Level 4 – 19th February 2024

Japan relaxes haircut rules to attract army recruits

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2402/240219-army-haircuts-4.html>

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Please try Levels 5 and 6. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2402/240219-army-haircuts-4.html>

Very short haircuts are common among soldiers and sailors worldwide. Japan has said it will relax rules for military recruits to have short hair. This is to attract more young people.

Japan's army and companies are experiencing staff shortages. From April, recruits to Japan's Self Defence Forces (SDF) will be allowed to have longer hair. Women can have long hair, as long as they can wear a helmet or it is not below the shoulders.

Recruitment experts discussed how to increase troop numbers. There is a decreasing number of young people to recruit from. Japan's Defence Minister said: "As our nation faces a serious workforce shortage, we recognize competition with others, including the private sector, to secure talent has been intensifying." He said the new haircut rules are more rational. Japan might also allow people with tattoos to join the SDF.

Sources: <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2024/02/17/japan/politics/sdf-recruits-hair-rules/>
<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-68327068>
<https://www.asahi.com/ajw/articles/14944309>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2402/240219-army-haircuts-4.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Very short haircuts are common | a. a helmet |
| 2. Japan has said it will relax | b. shortages |
| 3. military | c. the shoulders |
| 4. This is to attract more | d. rules |
| 5. staff | e. young people |
| 6. Women can have | f. among soldiers |
| 7. as long as they can wear | g. recruits |
| 8. it is not below | h. long hair |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. recruitment | a. with tattoos |
| 2. how to increase | b. of young people |
| 3. a decreasing number | c. sector |
| 4. our nation faces a serious | d. more rational |
| 5. the private | e. troop numbers |
| 6. the new haircut rules are | f. workforce shortage |
| 7. allow people | g. the SDF |
| 8. join | h. experts |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2402/240219-army-haircuts-4.html>

Very short haircuts (1) _____ soldiers and sailors worldwide. Japan has said it will relax rules (2) _____ to have short hair. This is to (3) _____ people. Japan's army and companies are (4) _____. From April, recruits to Japan's Self Defence Forces (SDF) will be (5) _____ longer hair. Women can have long hair, as long as they can wear a helmet or it is not (6) _____.

Recruitment experts discussed how to (7) _____. There is a decreasing number of young people (8) _____.

Japan's Defence Minister said: "As our nation (9) _____ workforce shortage, we recognize competition with others, including (10) _____, to secure talent has been intensifying." He said the new haircut rules (11) _____. Japan might also allow people with (12) _____ the SDF.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2402/240219-army-haircuts-4.html>

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HAIRCUTS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2402/240219-army-haircuts-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about haircuts 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) _____

