

- Moon-Viewing -

Tsukimi, or moon viewing, is the Japanese **variant** of the Mid-Autumn Festival / which is celebrated across East Asia.// It began in Japan during the Heian era / when **aristocrats** made **offerings** to the moon./ viewed its reflection in water, and **recited** poetry.//

It is a festival of Tsukuyomi-no-Mikoto,/ the god of the moon, order, and beauty.// Born of Izanagi's left eye/ during **purification** /after the creator god failed to retrieve his wife from the **underworld**./ Tsukuyomi married his twin sister Amaterasu/ (goddess of the sun, born from the left eye of the creator god).// The marriage, however, was not a happy one.// Tsukuyomi was forever separated from his wife/ after he **slew** the goddess of food, Uke Mochi.// He had been **disgusted**/ by the way she **excreted** food from her mouth and other places.// He loved only beauty and order./ and could not bear to see how the sausage was made.*// For this crime, /Tsukuyomi was **banished** from the heavens/ and will never meet his wife again./ even during an **eclipse**./ Night, it is said, began with his **exile**.//

When the harvest moon draws near,/ the **cereal** born of Uke Mochi's body begins to wither once again.//

To celebrate the festival, /people gather at locations with a good view of the harvest moon, /decorate with silvergrass – an emblem of Tsukuyomi –,/ and offer him rice dumplings called "Tsukimi dango."// The dumplings are stacked in the shape of a pyramid,/ and "tanka" poems are composed.// Food is offered to the lonely moon/ with prayers for a big harvest and **plenty** / in years to come.//

月見、つまり月を見ることは、中秋節の日本版である/ 東アジア全域で祝われる// 日本では平安時代に始まった/ **貴族**たちが月に**供物**を捧げ、/
水に映る月を眺め、詩歌を詠んだ。//

それは、^{つくよみのみこと}月読尊の祭りであり / (ツクヨミは) 月と秩序と美の神である// イザナギの左目から生まれた/^{ひら}禊の際に/ 創造神が黄泉の国から妻を取り戻せなかった後// ツクヨミは、彼の双子の妹である天照大神と結婚した/ (創造神の左目から生まれた太陽の女神)。// しかし、この結婚は幸せなものではなかった。// ツクヨミは妻とは永遠に離れ離れになってしまったのだ/ 食物の女神である^{うけもちのかみ}保食神を殺してしまったため。// 彼は**嫌悪感**を抱いたのだ/ 彼女が口などから食べ物を**出す**姿に。// 彼は美と秩序だけを愛し、/ ソーセージがどのように作られるのか*見るに忍びなかった// この罪により、/ ^{つきよみ}月読は天界から**追放**され、/ 二度と妻に会うことはない/ たとえ**日食**の最中であっても// 夜は、彼の**追放**とともに始まったと言われている。//

中秋の名月が近づくと、/ ウケモチの体から生まれた雑穀が再び枯れ始める//

この祭りを祝うために、/ 人々は中秋の名月がよく見える場所に集まり、/ ツクヨミの紋章であるススキを飾り、/ "月見団子"と呼ばれる団子をツクヨミに供える。// 団子をピラミッド型に積み上げ、/ 短歌を詠む。// 食べ物が孤独な月に捧げられる/ 大豊作と**豊穡**を祈り/ この先何年もの//

Vocabulary and Phrases

variant	異形、変異種
aristocrat	貴族
offering	捧げ物
recite	唱える
purification	浄化
underworld	暗黒の世界、黄泉
slay (過去形 slew)	殺す

disgust	嫌悪
excrete	排出する
banish	追放する
eclipse	日蝕
exile	追放する
cereal	穀物、シリアル
plenty	豊富

Total Number of words used

: 263 words

Time for 120 wpm

: 132 sec.

Time for 150 wpm

: 105 sec.

Your BEST TIME

: _____ sec.

TIPS

How the sausage gets made とは、何かを生み出す裏にある不愉快な真実のこと。「法律やソーセージを愛する者は、その作り方を決して見てはならない。」

Summary① Fill Blank:

_____ is a Japanese _____ where _____ are offered to the moon in hopes of a good
_____. The Japanese moon god is _____ of the sun, but is _____ from her forever because he _____ the
goddess of _____ after seeing how she _____. Night began, and the sun and moon
_____.

Summary② Summary(50 -80 words):

Summary③ Sample Answer:

Moon-viewing is a Japanese festival where offerings and prayers are offered to the moon in hopes of a good harvest. The Japanese moon god is husband of the sun, but is separated from her forever because he killed the goddess of food after seeing how she produced it. Night began, and the sun and moon shall never meet again.