

- Setsubun -

Setsubun means a change of seasons.// Spring's **arrival** is the most **festive** Setsubun.// It happens most years on February 3.// At **shrines** and **temples** and **family homes**,/ people cry / "Out with the Oni! In with Fortune!"/ as they chase off evil/ by throwing beans / at a man / in oni **costume**.//

Some keep out oni/ by decorating with a **sardine** head/ on a **holly** branch.// The smell, the prickly leaves, and the **cleansing** powers of holly/ all help. //

But chasing off evil is not enough.// People bring in fortune/ by eating Ehomaki, / uncut sushi rolls/ filled with seven **ingredients** / **representing** the seven gods of fortune.// They are eaten silently/ in one sitting,/ while facing the lucky direction.// This direction changes each year,/ as it faces the **location** / of one of ten gods/ which each **govern** luck/ for one year in turn.//

May this spring be a change for the better.//

節分は季節の変わり目を意味する// 春の到来は最もめでたい節分である// 節分は、ほぼ毎年2月3日に行われる//
 神社や寺院、実家において / 人々は叫ぶ / 「鬼は外! 福は内!」 / 邪気を追い払うために / 人に豆を投げつけて / 鬼の衣装を着た (人に) //

鬼を遠ざける人もいる / イワシの頭で飾り付けることによって / ヒイラギの木に// (イワシの)臭い、とげとげしい葉、その聖なる浄化の力が / すべて (鬼を追い払うのに) 役立つのである//

しかし、邪気を追い払うだけでは十分ではない// 人々は福を呼び込む / 恵方巻を食べることで / 切られてない巻物 / 7種類の具材が詰められている / 七福神を現している// それらは黙って食べられる / 座りながら / 幸運の方角に向いて// この方向は毎年変わる / その方角を向くから / 十柱の神のうちの一柱が / (十柱は) それぞれが幸運をつかさどる / 一年の間、順番に//

この春がより良い変化となりますように//

Vocabulary and Phrases

arrive	到着	costume	衣装、コスチューム
festive	祭りらしい、めでたい	sardine	鰯 (イワシ)
shrine	神社	holly	ヒイラギ
temple	寺	cleansing	洗浄すること
family home	家庭	ingredient	食材
costume	衣装	represent	表す、代表する
decorate	飾る	location	場所
prickle	ツンツン	govern	支配する、調整する

Total Number of words used

: 149 words

Time for 100 wpm

: 89 sec.

Time for 120 wpm

: 75 sec.

Your BEST TIME

: _____ sec.



【Listen & Fill Blank】

Setsubun means a _____ of _____. Spring's arrival is the most festive _____. It happens most years on February 3. At _____ and _____ and family _____, people cry "Out with the Oni! In with Fortune!" as they chase off evil by _____ beans at a man in oni costume.

Some keep out oni by _____ with a sardine head on a holly branch. The _____, the prickly leaves, and the _____ all help.

But chasing off evil is not _____. People bring in fortune by eating ehomaki, _____ filled with seven ingredients _____ the seven gods of fortune. They are eaten _____ in one sitting, while facing the lucky direction. This direction _____ each year, as it faces the location of one of ten gods which each govern luck for one year in turn.

May this spring be a _____ for the _____.

【Q&A / A&Q】

Question 1: What does setsubun mean?

Question 2: Why does an ehomaki have seven fillings?

Question 3: What is your favorite part of Setsubun?

Ask 1: 答えが「Oni」である質問を英語で書いてください

Ask 2: Fortune についての質問を英語で書いてください

Ask 3: 本文について知りたいことを英語で1つ書いてください

Sample Answer 1: A change of seasons.

Sample Answer 2: One for each god of luck.

Sample Answer 3: Beans / Oni / Going to a shrine / sardines / the weather / etc...

Sample Question 1: What do we throw at Oni? /
What do oni dislike to smell? /
What direction do Oni go after setsubun? /
Etc...

Sample Question 2: How many gods of fortune are there?/
What direction do we want fortune to go?/
What is the best fortune in your life? /
etc...

Sample Question 3: Why are prickly leaves scary to oni? /
Did people once celebrate the other setsubun too? /
Why does the lucky direction have to change each year? /
etc...