

- Tanabata -

Tanabata, / a Japanese festival / on the 7th day of the 7th month, / began with a **ritual** / where a **maiden** **wove** a kimono / by a river / to pray for good **harvests**.
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There is a Chinese **legend** / about the stars Orihime (weaving maiden) and Hikoboshi (**Herd**-boy). // She wove cloth for the gods, / and fell in love / with the **cowherd** of the gods. // They promptly **skipped** out on their duties / to spend time together. // The gods sent them / to **opposite** ends of the sky, / so they would not **distract** one another. // This was too **harsh**, / for it made them too upset / to work at all. // They are now allowed to meet / one day a year; / if the weather is right, / on a bridge of **magpies**. //

The Japanese **fit** the word to the **deed**, / and Tanabata became a little bit romantic. // People now pray to the stars / by writing wishes on paper cards / that decorate bamboo. //

七夕 / 日本のお祭り / 七の月の七日に行われる / は儀式とともに始まった /
(その儀式では) 乙女が着物を織る / 川のそばで / 良い収穫を祈るために//

とある中国の伝説がある / 織姫(布を織る乙女)と彦星(家畜の世話をする男) という星についての// 織姫は神々のために布を織っていた / そして恋に落ちた / 神々の牛飼いをする男と// 二人はさっそく自分たちの仕事をさぼった / 一緒に時を過ごすために// 神々は二人を送った / 空の反対側に / そうすれば、二人が互いに気を散らすことはな いだろうと// これはあまりにも厳し過ぎた / なぜなら、そのことが二人をとて動揺させた / 仕事をまったくできないほど// 今では会うことが許されている / 一年に一日 / もし天候が良ければ / カササギの橋の上で //

日本人は有言実行する(言葉を行いに合わせる) / そして七夕は少しロマンチックなものになった// 今では、人々は星に祈る / 紙のカードに願い事を書くことで / (そのカードは) 竹に飾る//

Vocabulary and Phrases

ritual	儀式	opposite	反対側
maiden	乙女	distract	気をそらす
weave	織る	harsh	厳しい
harvest	収穫	magpie	カササギ
legend	伝説	fit	当てはめる
herd	群れ	deed	行い
cowherd	牛飼		
skip (out)	さぼる		

Total Number of words used

: 152 words

Time for 100 wpm

: 91 sec.

Time for 120 wpm

: 76 sec.

Your BEST TIME

: sec.



【Listen & Fill Blank】

Tanabata, a _____ festival on the 7th day of the 7th month, began with a _____ where a maiden wove a _____ by a river to pray for good harvests.

There is a _____ about the stars Orihime (_____) and Hikoboshi (Herd-boy). She wove cloth for the gods, and fell in _____ with the cowherd of the gods. They promptly _____ out on their duties to spend time together. The gods sent them to _____ ends of the sky, so they would not distract one another. This was _____, for it made them too upset to work at all. They are now allowed to meet one day a year; if the weather is right, on a bridge of _____.

The Japanese _____, and Tanabata became a little bit romantic. People now pray to the stars by writing wishes on paper cards that decorate bamboo.

【Q&A / A&Q】

Question 1: What Japanese festival takes place on 7 July?

Question 2: Why were Orihime and Hikoboshi separated?

Question 3: Do you like Tanabata? Why or why not?

Ask 1: 答えが「bamboo」である質問を英語で書いてください

Ask 2: Prayer 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: Tanabata

Sample Answer 2: Because they skipped out on their duties.

Sample Answer 3: I like Tanabata because I love the story. /
I like Tanabata because I think the decorations are pretty /
I dislike Tanabata because I hate making decorations /
etc...

Sample Question 1: On what do people hang their Tanabata wishes?

Sample Question 2: To whom do people pray on Tanabata? /
What would you wish for on Tanabata? /
What is prayer? /
Etc...

Sample Question 3: How can a star weave? /
For what god did the weaving maiden weave her kimono before the coming
of the Chinese legend to Japan? /
etc...