

# - Four Seasons -

The four seasons/ colour almost all **aspects** of life/ for both Japanese and English speakers,/ allowing for easy **cross-pollination**.// *Anne of Green Gables* is very popular in Japan,/ and haiku are taught to **primary school pupils**/ in many English-speaking nations.//

The Western **goddesses** of the hours/ also **govern** the seasons.// A day springs,/ and a woman can **bloom**/ in the autumn of her years.// Seasonal markers,/ like the 'east-wind **straining**... the low sky raining'/ are used by popular poet Alfred, Lord Tennyson/ to **express** both **internal** and **external** affairs:/ an autumn storm and coming death.// Because of a different climate,/ Japanese autumn has '**distant skies**'/ rather than low.//

Unfortunately,/ global-warming lengthened summers,/ and **increasing** indoor comfort/ make it harder for younger people/ to **relate** to older works.// Fortunately,/ a season of loss is nothing new,/ as seen in **Shiki's 'The cicada's call, for a while, by the train is drowned'**.// New seasons bring new life to new words.//

四季は/ ほとんど人生のすべての側面を彩る/ 日本語、英語話す人両方にとって/ 異種交流を可能にして// 赤毛のアンは日本ではとても人気だ/そして俳句は小学生に教えられている/ 多くの英語圏の国で//

西洋の時空の女神は/ 季節をも支配する//  
一日が芽生え / 女性は花を咲かせる/ 彼女の人生で成熟した時期に// 季節を形作るもの/ 例えば強烈な東風、低気圧による雨は/ 有名な詩人アルフレッド・ロドテニソンによって使われている/ 内面と外面に起こることを表現するために/ 秋の嵐、そして来たるべき死という風に// 異なった気候のせいで/ 日本の秋は“遠い空”を特徴とする/ 近いというよりはむしろ//

あいにく/ 地球温暖化、長い夏/ ますます増えている屋内の快適さは/ 若者にとって難しいものになっている/ 昔からある作品に親しみを感ずるのを// 幸運にも/ 季節の喪失は何も新しいものではない/ 松岡子規の詩“蝉の声は列車によってかき消される”にみられるように// 新しい季節は新しい言葉に新しい生命を宿す//

## ¥ Vocabulary and Phrases

aspect	ようそう/所 様相/所	strain	ちからい 力を入れる
cross-pollination	こうりゅう/たけじゅふん 交流/他家受粉	express	ひょう 表する
primary school	しょうがっこう 小学校	internal	うちがわ 内側
pupil	せいと 生徒	external	そとがわ 外側
goddess	めがみ 女神	increase	ぞうだい 増大
govern	おさ 治める	relate	こころつう 心が通じる
bloom	さく 咲く	work	さくひん 作品

## Total Number of words used

: 158 words

## Time for 100 wpm

: 95 sec.

## Time for 120 wpm

: 79 sec.

## Your BEST TIME

: \_\_\_\_\_ sec.



**【Listen & Fill Blank】**

The four \_\_\_\_\_ colour almost all aspects of life for both Japanese \_\_\_\_\_ English speakers, allowing for easy cross-pollination. *Anne of Green Gables* is very popular in Japan, and \_\_\_\_\_ are taught to primary school pupils in many English-speaking nations.

The Western goddesses of \_\_\_\_\_ also \_\_\_\_\_ the seasons. A day springs, and a woman can bloom in the \_\_\_\_\_. Seasonal markers, like the 'east-wind straining... the \_\_\_\_\_ sky raining' are used by popular poet Alfred, Lord Tennyson to express both \_\_\_\_\_ affairs: an autumn storm and coming death. Because of a different climate, Japanese autumn has '\_\_\_\_\_ skies' rather than low.

Unfortunately, global-warming lengthened summers, and increasing indoor comfort make it \_\_\_\_\_ for younger people to relate to older works. \_\_\_\_\_, a season of loss is nothing new, as seen in Shiki's 'The cicada's call, for a while, by the train is drowned'. \_\_\_\_\_ seasons bring \_\_\_\_\_ life to \_\_\_\_\_ words.

**【Q&A / A&Q】**

**Question 1:** What allows easy cross-pollination between Japanese and English literature?

**Question 2:** What is one difficulty younger people can have when reading about seasons in older works?

**Question 3:** Which season is your favourite? Why?

**Ask 1:** 答えが「cicada」である質問を英語で書いてください

**Ask 2:** Pupils 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:** Seasonal allusion.

Love of seasons.

Seasons in haiku and *Anne of Green Gables*.

**Sample Answer 2:** Recent seasons are not the same as older seasons.

Younger people spend more time indoors.

Summer is longer now because of global warming.

The seasons take place at different times of year now.

**Sample Answer 3:** I like spring because I like cherry blossoms.

Summer is best because of summer vacation and the heat.

Autumn is my favourite season! Fresh vegetables are so tasty.

The greatest season is winter. I dream of yuki-onna.

**Sample Question 1:** What is drowned out by the train in Shiki's haiku?

**Sample Question 2:** What form of poetry is taught to elementary school pupils in many English speaking nations?

**Sample Question 3:** Who is Alfred, Lord Tennyson?

Why are the skies so different in autumn between England and Japan?

How much influence has Japanese had on English, and English on Japanese?