

THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2104/210402-cherry-blossoms-0.html>

Cherry blossoms in Kyoto bloomed at their earliest in 600 years. They peaked a day earlier than the previous record set in 1409. Data on Kyoto's cherry blossoms go back 1,200 years to the year 812. Japan had warmer weather this year. Weather forecasters say climate change made the blossoms come earlier than normal.

Cherry blossoms are called "sakura" in Japan. People go to famous cherry blossom spots to have picnics. The blossoms help Japan's economy. A Japanese newspaper wrote: "Sakura has deeply influenced Japanese culture for centuries....Their fragility is seen as a symbol of life, death and rebirth."

Sources: <https://mainichi.jp/english/articles/20210331/p2g/00m/0na/038000c>
<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-56574142>
<https://www.independent.co.uk/climate-change/news/climate-change-japan-cherry-blossoms-b1824373.html>

PHRASE MATCHING

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PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Cherry blossoms in Kyoto bloomed | a. change |
| 2. They peaked a | b. set in 1409 |
| 3. the previous record | c. to the year 812 |
| 4. Data on Kyoto's | d. day earlier |
| 5. go back 1,200 years | e. forecasters |
| 6. Japan had warmer | f. at their earliest |
| 7. Weather | g. weather this year |
| 8. climate | h. cherry blossoms |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Cherry blossoms are called | a. culture |
| 2. famous cherry blossom | b. economy |
| 3. have | c. and rebirth |
| 4. The blossoms help Japan's | d. picnics |
| 5. A Japanese | e. "sakura" in Japan |
| 6. deeply influenced Japanese | f. symbol |
| 7. Their fragility is seen as a | g. spots |
| 8. life, death | h. newspaper |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2104/210402-cherry-blossoms-0.html>

Cherry blossoms in Kyoto bloomed (1) _____ in 600 years. They (2) _____ earlier than the previous (3) _____ 1409. Data on Kyoto's cherry blossoms go back 1,200 (4) _____ year 812. Japan had (5) _____ year. Weather forecasters say climate change made the blossoms (6) _____ normal.

Cherry (7) _____ "sakura" in Japan. People go to famous cherry blossom spots (8) _____. The blossoms (9) _____. A Japanese newspaper wrote: "Sakura (10) _____ Japanese culture for centuries....Their (11) _____ as a symbol of life, (12) _____."

WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

- a) _____
- b) _____
- c) _____
- d) _____
- e) _____
- f) _____

Earliest cherry blossoms in Japan city in 600 years – 2nd April, 2021
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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) _____