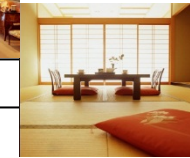
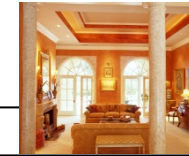


GLOBAL TALK

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カナダのバンクーバー出身で雪深い米沢に滞在中のMichael先生が感じた日本家屋と北アメリカの家屋との違いについて書いてくれました。

“We all know that Japanese homes are not exactly the same as North American homes but how different are they? We can see the more obvious differences, for example, a typical North American home doesn't have shoji or tatami, or that tables and chairs are the **norm** in North American homes where as a kotatsu is usual in a Japanese home. In what other more **subtle** ways are they different and why?

For the first year I lived in Japan I was lucky to live with a Japanese family in Sendai City. Their home is a typical, some what **traditional** Japanese house built in the late 1970s complete with multiple tatami (straw mat flooring) rooms, a butsudan (small buddhist alter), a kamidana (small Shinto alter), many sliding doors and a lot of shoji. Since then I have visited a few friends' and students' homes as well as moved into an older apartment building. From these experiences over the past 6 years I have noticed many interesting differences.

The heating systems in homes in North America are very different compared to those in Japanese homes. North American homes have central heating/cooling systems. A central heating system has one larger gas or oil **furnace** and less commonly one large air-conditioner. Warm or cool air is delivered to all the areas of the home through a system of **ducts** and **vents**.

The temperature in the different areas of the home is controlled by a **thermostat**. The vents can be closed in rooms that are not often used or don't need heating or cooling. I had never seen a toyu heater or eakon before coming to Japan.

The higher cost of fuel and electricity in Japan makes toyu heaters a more **economical** choice for heating Japanese homes. The newest and nicest heating system I have seen in Japan was an in-floor heating system. It was silent, clean and very comfortable.

Another interesting difference is the difference in layout. The floor plan of a Japanese home often has more doors and walls than the open floor plans common in North American homes. Almost all visitors to my old home in Sendai went directly from the entrance area into the tea/tatami room and never entered the other areas of the home. The layout of the house seemed to reinforce the formality of the relationship between visitor and host. In contrast, North American homes and recently more modern Japanese homes, often have an open floor plan where the kitchen, dining area and living room are only separated by changes in flooring, partial walls and/or a kitchen island counter. That openness encourages a more friendly and casual relationship with visitors.

As Japanese homes **modernize** and **adopt** new heating systems as well as more open floor plans, Japanese homes will become warmer places for families to live and warmer (less formal) places for friends to visit.

読み解きのヒント

norm 標準 subtle 微妙な traditional 伝統的な furnace 暖房炉
ducts ダクト vents 通気孔 thermostat 温度自動調整器
economical 経済的な modernize 現代化する adopt 採用する

Modern Homes are Warmer Homes

Michael La Fave-James English School/Yonezawa

カタカナ英語

これって本当に英語？

私たちが普段英語だと思って使っているカタカナの日本語には英語と使われ方や意味が違ったり、まったく英語では使われないものもあります。下の例はいずれもカタカナ英語です。では英語では？

ゲレンデ / シュークリーム / コンセント / マンション / ホチキス

アルバイト / アンケート / ミシン / ワイシャツ / バイキング

フライド・ポテト / プリント



Answer key: ski slopes(スリッロフ)、cream puff(シュークリーム)、
outlet(コンセント)、mansion(マンション)、stapler(ホチキス)、part time job(ア
ルバイト)、questionnaire(アンケート)、sawing machine(ミシン)、
shirt(ワイシャツ)、bunnet(バイキング)、french fries(米)/chips(英) (コ
ト)、potato(ポテト)、hand out(プリント)

家・家族～ことわざ

家・家族にちなんだ英語のことわざ

Michael先生が日本とカナダの家の違いについて書いてくれましたが、英語には家や家族にちなんだことわざがたくさんあります。

Home is where the heart is.

心は家にあり。

There is no place like home

家ほど良いところは無い。(我が家一番)

A man's house is his castle.

男の家は城だ。

Like father like son.

この父にしてこの子あり。



The apple doesn't fall far from the tree.

リンゴは木から遠くへは落ちない。(カエル子はカエル)

これ以外にも a mama's boy (マザコン) や I swear on my mother's grave (母の墓に誓って) などの表現があります。

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