

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

"Summer in Canada" by Barry Murdock



ようやく東北でも梅雨が明けました。今月は郡山校Barry先生に、出身国カナダでの夏の過ごし方について書いてもらいました。

"C anada is such a large country, that I have to say that what I am writing may only **represent** my own local experiences in Nova Scotia. Furthermore, I haven't had a summer at home for about 15 years! Things may have changed for all I know.

As far as holidays for adults, summer in Canada may not be so different from summer in Japan for most. A lot of people have to work, and may only have a week or two of personal vacation time. High school, junior high and elementary students get just over a full 2 months off during the summer. Their summer vacations start around the end of June and last until early September. Since high school students have so much time off, many of them get part or full time jobs during the summer. Actually, far more high school students work part time in Canada, even during the school year. At least that used to be the case. Some students also join sports teams in the summertime, and play things like softball, baseball, soccer, and ball hockey for example.

In high school I was working as well as playing sports in the summer. Some of those summertime jobs were the worst that I've ever had! Including a horrible 2 week stint as a blueberry raker in junior high school. The **meagre** money earned from that was spent at the Provincial Exhibition, or known locally as The Ex. The Ex is a kind of local fair that takes place near the end of August. The **Provincial** Exhibition is a **bizarre** mix of industrial fair, agricultural/cattle contests, beauty queen contest, junk food **stalls**, gambling, live entertainment, and amusement park **rides**.

Public holidays during the summer are few. Some of these are Canada Day, **Natal** Day and Labour Day. Canada Day is July first, and celebrates the **foundation** of Canada. It's basically a birthday party for the country, and for many people marks the true beginning of summer. Canada Day events include things like concerts, parades, and house parties with barbeques and drinks. At night there are fireworks displays in most towns and cities. Natal Day celebrates the provincial birthday. It is in early August.

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Unfortunately, it is not a public holiday for everyone, but most government offices are closed. The celebrations and events are much the same as Canada Day, except it is on a provincial, rather than a national level.

The barbeque rules the summer cooking season, as it gets very hot cooking inside. Most people have a deck, or a backyard with enough space to cook and maybe dine outside. Popular food for the bbq includes beef steak, salmon steak, pork chops, chicken, shish kebabs and of course hot dogs and hamburgers. Meat or fish may be accompanied with garden or potato salads, and vegetables from the garden. Corn on the **cob** and watermelon are also typical summertime foods.

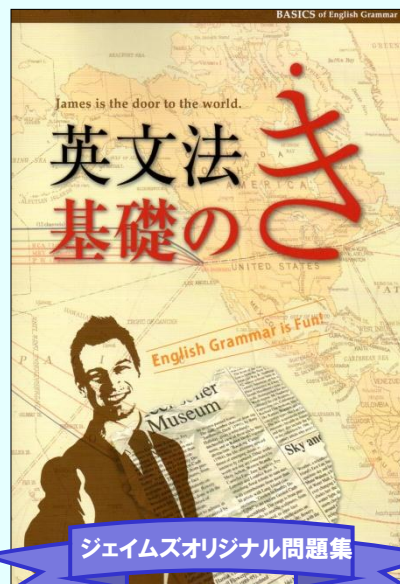
Labour Day marks the unofficial end of summertime for many people. It is the first Monday of September, and kids are getting ready to go back to school, or **wrapping up** their summer sports leagues. There aren't any special events for Labour Day, just the same as Japan. It is a long weekend though, and people see it as the last chance to get out camping, to take a trip, or to fire up the barbeque.

represent たくさんの、豊富な **meagre** 不十分な
bizarre とっぴな **food stall** 食べ物の露店
ride 遊園地などの乗り物 **natal** 誕生の
foundation 建国 **provincial** 地方の
cob とうもろこしの穂軸 **wrap up** 終える

★ジェームズ英会話からのお知らせ★

英文法 基礎のき

ジェームズ英会話オリジナル英文法問題集が発売中です。
[ここがポイント]や[ちょこっと解説]などジェームズ教務部が工夫を重ねた内容で、解説や例を基に練習を重ねる形式になっています。全19ユニットから構成されており、薄いけれども文法のエッセンスがつまっています。



学校英語に苦手意識があった方も、以前は一生懸命覚えたのに忘れてしまったという方も、このテキストの実用的な文例で会話に磨きをかけてみませんか家庭での自主学習にもおすすめです。TOEICなどの試験対策にも大活躍まちがいなしです。

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