

GLOBAL TALK

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE Topic of this month: Nature

- アメリカのアウトドアアクティビティ事情
- お天気に関する英語表現



今回は山形校のMiles先生にアメリカのアウトドアアクティビティについて書いてもらいました。Miles先生は今マウンテンバイクにはまっています週末は山のコースに行っていて楽しんでいます。

In an increasingly urban environment, many people find camping an exciting change of pace from their monotonous 9 to 5 lives. Campers can participate in a wide variety of outdoor activities during their trips, such as hiking, canoeing & kayaking, rock climbing, fishing, mountain biking, cross country skiing, and snowshoeing. Camping is often referred to as “*roughing it*”, meaning living without many of the amenities of modern life.

Recreational camping became popular at the beginning of the 20th century. In the early 1900's, the U.S. Forest Service and National Parks Service were created, allowing for the designation of National Forests and Parks: areas of forestland used for recreation and natural resource conservation. National Forests and Parks have some of the best camping in the U.S. Some of the most famous areas are Yosemite National Park in California; Yellowstone National Park in Wyoming, Idaho, and Nebraska; Arches National Park in Utah; Grand Canyon National Park in Arizona; and Death Valley National Park in California on the border of Nevada. All of these parks have campgrounds; some with only basic campsites, and other with hot showers, small grocery stores, and souvenir shops.

There are two basic categories of campers in the U.S.: those that camp in tents or “under the stars”, and those that camp in RV's (Recreational Vehicles). Sites for tent campers tend to be the least developed, as they don't need electricity or a large parking space for an RV. In many parks a typical tent campsite includes a wooden table, a fire pit, a bear box, and a [relatively] flat area to pitch a tent.

RV sites are usually similar, but typically have electricity, a larger parking spot, and fewer trees because of the RV's height. These two broad categories have many subgroups: backpackers, campers who carry their camping equipment on multi-day hikes, often pitch their tents wherever they find a suitable spot; adventure campers race on a course, camping along the way.

Just as varied as the accommodations, is the food: from roasting hot dogs on sticks, to full multi-course meals, just about anything can be considered camping food with the right equipment. However, the typical camping meal consists of roasted hot dogs, s'mores, and oatmeal (and copious amounts of coffee). Another staple of any good camper's diet is “trail-mix”: a nut and dried fruit (and often candy) based snack that keeps well and provides plenty of energy and protein for long hikes.

Whether you carry all your supplies and food on your back, or you bring it all in a well equipped RV, take a few days to explore some of the more remote wilderness areas of the U.S., or anywhere else. There is an unlimited amount of new experiences awaiting you. (Don't forget your bug spray)

読み解きのヒント

monotonous (adj.) – 単調な
fire pit (n.) – 火をおこすための穴
bear box (n.) – 車やテントを熊から守るための食べ物を入れる金属の箱
s'mores (n.) – グラハムクラッカー、チョコ、そしてマシュマロのおやつ。マシュマロを棒にさしてキャンプファイヤーで焼いて作る。

RV's (n.) – 家具を搭載した大きな車
pitch (a tent) (v.) – (テントを)張る

“Roughing It”

Miles Whitman-James English School/Yamagata



“みぞれ”って英語でなに？



“みぞれって英語でなに？”とカナダ人に聞いたところ「残念ながら“みぞれ”に相当するような一語の英単語はありません。あえて英語にするならば“Mixture of snow and rain”とでもなるでしょうか。」との回答。ところが同じ質問をアメリカ人に見てみたところ「アメリカでは“sleet”と言う言葉が使われる」との事。興味深いですね。今回は自然とは切っても切れないお天気に関する表現を見てみましょう。

大雨	→	heavy rain
小雨	→	light rain
にわか雨	→	shower
霧雨	→	drizzle
降雪	→	snowfall
小雪	→	flurries
吹雪	→	blizzard
ひょう	→	hail
あられ	→	snow pellets
雷	→	thunder
稲妻	→	lightning
雷嵐	→	thunderstorm
落雷	→	lightning strike
もや	→	mist
煙霧	→	haze
台風	→	typhoon
竜巻	→	tornado
熱帯夜	→	a hot humid night



お天気に関することわざ



Every cloud has a silver lining. (どの雲も裏側は銀色)
暗い状況でも良い面は見いだせる。



The calm before the storm.
嵐の前の静けさ。



Lightning never strikes in the same place twice.
(雷は同じところに二度は落ちない)
ひどい災難は同じ人に2度降りかかる事はない。



Rain before seven, fine before eleven.
(7時前に降れば11時前には晴れる)
そのうち良くなるさ。



It never rains but it pours. (降れば必ず土砂降り)
不幸は重なるもの。(泣きっ面に蜂)



A straw shows which way the wind blows.
(藁を見れば風向きがわかる)
前兆から予知できる。



There is nothing new under the sun.
(日の下=地上に新しいものは何もない)
歴史は繰り返す。