お風呂大好き! 青森県民

Let's enjoy a public bath in Aomori!

青森は日本有数の温泉処(どころ)で、公衆浴場も温泉です。県民もお風呂好きな人が多 く、朝、温泉に入ってから仕事に向かう人もいます。東京から青森のマサシおじさんの家に 遊びにきたショータくんも「風呂好き」の仲間入りをするのでしょうか。

Uncle: Hey, Shota, wake up! Let's go out.

Shota: Mm, good morning, uncle Masashi. What time is it?

Uncle: It's 5:30 now.

Shota: 5:30! It's too early. What's happening?

Uncle: Let's go to a public bath.

Shota: What? A public bath? I don't think any public baths are open now.

Uncle: Some of them start at 6:00, so we can go there early in the morning.

Shota: Really? I see. I have to put on my clothes. • • • OK. I'm ready.

Uncle: Good. Let's go.

Shota: Wait! We need shampoo and conditioner. Do you have everything?

Uncle: No problem. I always have them in my car.

Shota: Always? Do you go to public baths every day?

Uncle: Yes, I love it. Many people in Aomori have a shower tote in their own cars like me. —In the car—

Shota: Huh. People in Aomori truly like a public bath.

Uncle: You're right.

Shota: By the way, do people really use a public bath this early in the morning?

Uncle: Of course. Here we are. Look!

Shota: Many cars!

-In the bathroom-

- Shota : Wow. There are some people already in the bath. Why do they come to a public bath so early in the morning?
- Uncle : I hear it was originally a service for fishers. They had to work early in the morning. For example, Hachinohe City is famous for its fishing port. Many fishers used public baths. This habit takes root in Hachinohe City. Now not only fishers but also other people use public baths before their work in Aomori.

Shota : That's interesting.

Uncle : Any questions?

- Shota : What are they doing?
- Uncle : When we take a public bath, we say to others, "Shall I wash your back?" And then we enjoy talking while taking a bath. It is a good habit of people in Aomori. I hope it will continue for a long time.

Shota : That's wonderful! I want to enjoy an Aomori public bath .

Uncle : I'm glad you like it.

Shota : At first, I'll wash your back, Uncle Masashi!

[words & expressions]

public bath:公衆浴場 shower tote:風呂用品入れ already:もう、すでに Here we are. 着いたよ。 fisher(s):漁師 area:地域 take root:根付く habit:習慣 not only~but also...:~だけでなく...も

- 1. 次の英文が対話の内容に合っていればoを、違っていれば×を()に書き なさい。
- (1) マサシおじさんは毎朝公衆浴場を利用している。 ()
- (2) 早朝に公衆浴場を利用できるのは今も漁師だけである。 ()
- (3) 青森の人は公衆浴場で周りの人の頭を洗ってあげる習慣がある。 ()
- 2. 本文の内容に合うように、次の質問に英語で答えなさい。
- (1) Did Shota get up at six on that day?
- (2) Where does Uncle Masashi have his shower tote?
- (3) Do you like to go to a public bath? Why?