

対象：2年生（271語）

ストーブ列車って？

What is a stove train?

先週の日曜日、ユキは家族と初めてストーブ列車に乘りました。ストーブ列車とはいったいどんな電車なのでしょうか。

Last Sunday morning, my father said to me, “We will go to Goshogawara City today.” But I didn’t want to go out because it was so cold and snowy. “What will we do there?” I asked. My mother answered, “We are getting on a stove train.” “What is a stove train? I don’t know it.” I said.

Before we left home, I looked up a stove train on the Internet. I found a local train company on the Tsugaru peninsula, the Tsugaru Railway Company. The railway goes from Goshogawara station to Nakasato station. The railway is famous for its stove train. The stove train is a special train with a heater called a *daruma* stove. The form of the stove looks like a *daruma*. The heaters burn coal. Stove trains started in 1930. They have long history. A lot of passengers like students and office workers use the train. It runs only in winter, from December 1 to March 31.

I looked forward to riding the stove train. After a while, my father said, “It’s time to go out.” He drove us to Goshogawara Station. I began to get excited.

We got in a red train. There were an old-type stove and coal in the bucket. We sat near the stove. I was surprised because the stove was very hot. Because we were hungry, my father put dried squid on the stove. It started to smell good soon. Next, I toasted some pieces of rice cake. We enjoyed eating them.

The stove train was very interesting for me. We had a good time there. I could feel the winter in Tsugaru.

【 words & expressions 】

look up : 調べる      Tsugaru peninsula : 津軽半島

railway : 鉄道      be famous for ~ : ~で有名だ

heater : 暖房器具      burn : 燃やす      coal : 石炭      history : 歴史

passenger : 乗客      look forward to ~ing : ~するのを楽しみにする

ride : 乗る      after a while : しばらくして      bucket : バケツ  
dried squid : スルメ      toast : 焼く      rice cake : 餅

1. 次の内容が合っていれば T を、まちがっていれば F を書いてください。

- (1) Yuki got some information from a book. (       )
- (2) Stove trains runs all the year. (       )
- (3) We can put some food on the *daruma* stove. (       )

2. 次の質問に英語で答えましょう。

- (1) Did Yuki and her family enjoy a stove train?

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- (2) Why was the heater of the stove train called *daruma* stove?

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- (3) Do you want to ride a stove train?

Yes. → Why?

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No. → Why not?

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