



Future for spectators
Morning Speech #8
By Sophie



Good morning everyone. I was talking to one of the JTEs the other day and he mentioned that he went to the table tennis tournament. You know what, the strangest thing happened. Instead of the usual cheers of support and excitement from the crowd, it was played in utter silence. The only sounds you could hear were those of the ping pong ball being hit back and forth, as well as the players making sounds. It's not only the case for school sports competition but also the case for professional competition too.

There is a saying, 'silence will be the new soundtrack for sports' meaning, when we watch sports, there will be no noise, no cheering from the crowds, just quiet observation. This is the new reality of sports during times of corona. In other countries like the USA and Australia, the stadiums have been empty, except for cardboard cutouts of people. Usually in Japan, people are very excited to watch the games, cheering, singing and making a world of noise. To bring spectators back into the stadium, officials have allowed up to 5000 tickets to be sold, but they must only watch quietly. During the FC Tokyo games, 5000 tickets were sold. Social distancing was strongly enforced. Markings on the ground were laid out to show where people could line up to get food and people's temperatures were checked at the gates.



I think if someone from the past could see the situation now during corona, they might be very shocked at the measures. However, it's become a necessity for the moment to have these extra cautions. For now, the situation calls for silence and cooperation.

Please choose the correct answer:

1) What was strange about the table tennis competition? A) The JTE was there B) No one won the match C) The crowd had to be really noisy D) The crowd had to be really quiet	2) What does 'silence will be the new soundtrack for sports' mean? A) Currently, the sports will be played with no noise B) It is the popular music to play sports with. C) A new soundtrack D) What I like to listen to before bed
3) What fills the stadiums around the world? A) People very excited to watch the game B) Large cutouts C) Quiet crowds D) Large noisy crowds	4) What measures did the FC Tokyo put in place? A) They sold only 5000 tickets B) Enforcing social distancing C) Markers on the ground D) All of the above