

Episode4-06

和菓子屋さん パート2

物語本文

It was a sunny spring day in Kyoto.

After school, Ken rode his bicycle to his uncle's sweets shop.

He parked the bicycle in front of the shop and went inside.

His uncle was waiting for him there.

"Ken, it's time for your first day of work," he said.

He handed Ken a list of names and addresses.

Then he pointed to some boxes on the shop's big wooden counter.

"Your job," he said, "is to deliver these to my customers. Take one box at a time, and ride carefully."

So, Ken became a delivery boy.

He loved cycling around the streets of Kyoto, and the customers were always happy to receive their packages.

There was another benefit, too.

After a few days of work, Ken noticed something.

By speaking with the customers, he was improving his Japanese skills.

He was thankful to have a fun and useful job.

問題文と選択肢

What did Ken notice after a few days?

- ① He became a better bicycle rider.
- ② He was getting more customers.
- ③ He could speak better Japanese.

答え ③ He could speak better Japanese.

ワンポイントアドバイス



ケンがおじさんに呼ばれた理由は、なんと！和菓子の配達のお仕事でした。ケンはワクワクしながら京都の町並みを自転車で駆け抜け、お客様のところへ一生懸命に和菓子を届けます。ところが数日経って、この仕事には別の良い点があることに気がつきます。ケンは何に気がついたのでしょうか・・・

ここでの重要表現は *Take one box at a time, and ride carefully.* (一度の配達で一箱持って、気をつけて運転するように。) です。Take にはたくさんの意味がありますが、ここでは「～を持って行く」という意味で *at a time* は「一度に」という意味です。By ~ing で「(～すること)によって」という意味になります。今回はお客さんと話すことによって日本語能力が向上された、という意味になります。



エピソード4-06で覚えないキーワード

- a sunny spring day ある晴れた春の日
- parked 停めた
- in front of ~ ~の前に
- went inside 中に入った
- it's time for ~する時間です
- handed 手渡した
- pointed 指をさした
- deliver 配達する
- customer お客さん
- package 荷物
- benefit 利点、良いところ
- noticed 気が付いた
- improve 向上する、改善する
- skill 能力、技術
- was thankful to ~ ~に感謝していた