

Lesson 95: Ohanami/ Cherry Blossom Viewing

By Xandra

1. Dialogue

First, repeat after your tutor. Then, practice each role.

George, the Old Man: Why are there so many people in the park?

Noriyuki: It's the cherry blossom season. People come to see the flowers.

George: Are those the pinkish-white flowers that I see everywhere?

Noriyuki: That's right. They start blooming around March or April. The blossoms last for **no more than** two weeks.

George: Is that why there are lanterns in the park now?

Noriyuki: Yes. At night time, the lights bounce off the petals so the flowers look more like silver rather than their real pale pink.

George: I saw them last night but I couldn't stay long enough to enjoy the scene. There was a ruckus going on.

Noriyuki: What do you mean?

George: Some youngsters were having a party of some sort. They were too noisy so I just left.

Noriyuki: Why don't I take you to a quiet park near my house? I'll bring some beer too.

2. Today's Phrase

First, repeat after your tutor. Then, make a few sentences using Today's phrase.

1. When I go shopping, I make sure I spend **no more than** \$100.
2. The students were given **no more than** twenty minutes to finish the test.
3. Mr. Suzuki had **no more than** five employees when he started his business.

* no more than ... /...しかない、たった....、わずか...

3. Your Task

You are organizing a picnic for your friends and their families. Invite your tutor to the picnic. Tell him/her that it's a potluck event. You should also tell him/her what the other guests have promised to bring to the picnic.

4. Let's Talk

- What did you do during the last cherry blossom season?
 Why is the "ohanami" an important event in the Japanese culture?
 Should Japan plant more "sakura" trees? Explain your answer.

5. Today's photo

Describe the photo in your words as precisely as possible.



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