

## Eiken Grade 2 2015-1B

### Helping Small Towns

In the Japanese countryside, the decrease in population has become a serious problem recently. In some small towns, for example, younger people have moved to cities. Therefore, in these towns, there are houses that are not being used. Some local governments turn these houses into places for tourists to stay, and by doing so they try to bring new life to the countryside.

Your story should begin with this sentence: One day, Mr. and Mrs. Sato were looking at houses for sale.



- No. 1 According to the passage, how do some local governments try to bring new life to the countryside?
- No. 2 Now please look at the picture and describe the situation. You have 20 seconds to prepare. Your story should begin with the sentence on the card.
- Now Mr./Ms. \_\_\_\_\_, please turn the card over and put it down.
- No. 3 Some people say that it is better for children to grow up in the countryside. What do you think about that?
- No. 4 These days, many stores stay open 24 hours a day. Do you think it is a good idea for stores to do this?  
Yes. → Why?  
No. → Why Not?

- No. 1 By turning houses that are not being used into places for tourists to stay.
- No. 2 One day, Mr. and Mrs. Sato were looking at houses for sale. Mr. Sato said to his wife, "We should buy this old house." On the day they moved in, Mr. Sato was trying to carry a table. Mrs. Sato offered to help him. A month later in their yard, Mrs. Sato was planting flowers. Mr. Sato was thinking about having a barbecue.
- No. 3 I agree. It's healthier for children to live in the countryside. There is less pollution from cars and factories.
- I disagree. Children can do a variety of things in cities. Also, there are more libraries and museums there.
- No. 4 Yes. Many people are at their jobs until very late at night. They need 24-hour stores to do their shopping.
- No. It's a waste of electricity to stay open all night. Also, stores do not have many customers late at night.