

## B1+/B2 Vocabulary gap-fill cloze

### The *Shinkansen* are fast but onboard food sales slowing

- |               |              |
|---------------|--------------|
| A. reduction  | F. carriages |
| B. shortage   | G. simply    |
| C. etiquette  | H. applies   |
| D. landmarks  | I. operating |
| E. connection | J. enjoyment |

The Japanese *Shinkansen*, generally known as bullet trains and famed for their high speeds, are phasing out sales of food. The trains have been 1. \_\_\_\_\_ since 1964 and their popular food carts have always been an 2. \_\_\_\_\_ for passengers. However in recent years, not only has there been less demand for food onboard, but also there has been no 3. \_\_\_\_\_ of food sales on platforms. People are either buying from vending machines or bringing their own food such as the traditional Japanese *bento* boxed lunches.

The change takes place this autumn on the original bullet train 4. \_\_\_\_\_ between Tokyo and Osaka. For customers with a desire for food, it will only be available in the first-class 5. \_\_\_\_\_ and only if purchased in advance via an app. The slower *Kodama* bullet train on the same Tokyo-Osaka service already stopped food cart sales in 2012. Now the same 6. \_\_\_\_\_ on the other services, both the faster *Nozomi* and *Hikari* trains. So as travellers pass by 7. \_\_\_\_\_ such as Mount Fuji, they will need to have made alternative plans for food, or stay hungry.

This also signals a 8. \_\_\_\_\_ in the number of cabin crew who would be needed to push the carts up and down the aisles. Plus they will be dressed more 9. \_\_\_\_\_. Female staff will neither have to wear skirts nor hats, they can be at ease in trousers and without hats. Yet the crew will still follow Japanese 10. \_\_\_\_\_, bowing when entering and leaving the coaches.

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### Answers

- 1I     operating
- 2J     enjoyment
- 3B     shortage
- 4E     connection
- 5F     carriages
- 6H     applies
- 7D     landmarks
- 8A     reduction
- 9G     simply
- 10C    etiquette

Full lesson with interactive and listening exercises at:

<https://www.everybitenglish.com/lesson-20230813-middle-b2-bullet-train>