

## B1+/B2 Writing cloze

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

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|---------------|--------------|---------------|
| 1. inahpgs    | 6. gieracras | 11.banci ewcr |
| 2. roieapgnt  | 7. vcanaed   | 12.lsPu       |
| 3. yejenontm  | 8. pilsaep   | 13.mypisl     |
| 4. ahsreogt   | 9. kanmrsald | 14.qtieteuet  |
| 5. oecntoninc | 10.ctorednui | 15.wgbion     |

The Japanese *Shinkansen*, generally known as bullet trains and famed for their high speeds, are 1. \_\_\_\_\_ out sales of food. The trains have been 2. \_\_\_\_\_ since 1964 and their popular food carts have always been an 3. \_\_\_\_\_ for passengers. However in recent years, not only has there been less demand for food onboard, but also there has been no 4. \_\_\_\_\_ 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 5. \_\_\_\_\_ between Tokyo and Osaka. For customers with a desire for food, it will only be available in the first-class 6. \_\_\_\_\_ and only if purchased in 7. \_\_\_\_\_ via an app. The slower *Kodama* bullet train on the same Tokyo-Osaka service already stopped food cart sales in 2012. Now the same 8. \_\_\_\_\_ on the other services, both the faster *Nozomi* and *Hikari* trains. So as travellers pass by 9. \_\_\_\_\_ such as Mount Fuji, they will need to have made alternative plans for food, or stay hungry.

This also signals a 10. \_\_\_\_\_ in the number of 11. (two words) \_\_\_\_\_ who would be needed to push the carts up and down the aisles. 12. \_\_\_\_\_ they will be dressed more 13. \_\_\_\_\_. 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 14. \_\_\_\_\_, 15. \_\_\_\_\_ when entering and leaving the coaches.

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### Answers

1. phasing
2. operating
3. enjoyment
4. shortage
5. connection
6. carriages
7. advance
8. applies
9. landmarks
10. reduction
11. cabin crew
12. Plus
13. simply
14. etiquette
15. bowing

Full lesson with interactive and listening exercises at:

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

## Writing practice

Choose a question and write your answer below.

1. What are the job responsibilities of cabin crew?
2. When do you use trains? For example, commuting, day trips, or long-distance travel?
3. Have you ever ordered food via an app?
4. What did people do when travelling before the internet existed?
5. What jobs are associated with hats, helmets, or masks?

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