

What Happened This Year?

Time flies. There is only a month and a half left this year. Looking back on the year, there has been a lot of good or bad news. When it comes to good news, I think performances of the young people were amazing. Fujii Sota, a fourteen-year-old shogi player, won 29 official matches in a row since his professional debut, Kiryu Yoshihide, 21 year-old university student, ran a 9.98 second 100 meter dash and so on. Also, the official announcement of Princess Mako's engagement to Mr. Komuro is very delightful, isn't it?

However, there are some bad news, as well. Terrible drivers threaten lives of other drivers and pedestrians. The news that the parents were killed by a driver who had a grudge against them in front of their daughters on Tomei Expressway is really horrible and sad. Dangers are not only from the inside of Japan. We have been terrified by missiles launched from North Korea and two of them actually flew over the parts of Japan.

Moreover, there are various news in other countries; some shootings happened in the U.S., there were elections in several countries, including Japan, and so on.

I'm even wondering you might have your own news to share with us. I hope we will enjoy talking what this year has been like for you and ring in the great new year.

Discussion Questions

1. What is the biggest news in 2017 for you? And why?
2. What is the biggest news in 2017 for you personally? And why?
3. What Chinese character do you think stands for this year? And why?
4. How have you liked this class, Eigo de Discussion? What did you learn or enjoy most?
5. We still have a little over one month and some events left this year, such as Labor Thanksgiving Day, Christmas, and New Year holidays. Do you have any plans for them?