GRAPEVINE





American Diners - Michael Henderson

In Japan, you might have heard about the family restaurant chain "Denny's". This restaurant chain actually came from America! But the Denny's in Japan and the Denny's in America are completely different. Denny's is a diner, which are a unique type of restaurant from America.

Diners have a very distinct (独特な) architecture and food. They were most popular in America from the 1940s to the 1960s. Often diners have stainless steel (ステンレス鋼) tables and large booths for groups of people. There are many stools at the counter for sitting, like at an izakaya. The signs of diners are in neon lights (ネオン), which are important because diners are often open very late. The atmosphere (雰囲気) of a diner is pretty casual, and it's common for customers to have conversations with the waiters. The food at diners consists of hamburgers, hotdogs, French fries, and milkshakes, as well as breakfast foods like pancakes, waffles, eggs, and hash browns. The portions (食事の量) at diners are also very big!

To Americans, diners are a retro place from the past where you can eat delicious food at a cheap price. Diners were popular hangout spots for teenagers, and are still popular today (though maybe a little less). Diners are often the only restaurants open late at night, so I would go with my friends a lot during college when we would study late. If you study abroad in America, try going to an authentic American diner!



An American diner in 1960s-style architecture

Independence Day! - Katelyn Sondereker

On July 4th, Americans have a holiday called Independence Day or The Fourth of July. Before the Revolutionary War (アメリカ独立戦争) ended in 1776, America belonged to England. On July 2nd, the Declaration of Independence (独立宣言) was signed. This document says that Americans have the right to be their own country and that they are free to seek life, liberty (自由), and the pursuit of happiness (幸せ).

However, Americans have always celebrated this on July 4^{th} . We celebrate this day with friends and family by having picnics and watching fireworks (花火). Because of the colors of the American flag, people also often wear red, white, and blue clothing.

In Ohio, my family, including my grandparents, aunts, uncles, and lots of cousins, go to a place called Blossom, which is an outdoor concert venue (イベント会場). There, we listen to a concert of American orchestra (交響楽団) music while having a huge picnic on the grass. I love making lots of food with my mom beforehand and the feeling of the fireworks when they explode (あがる) in the sky.

There are many firework festivals and events around July 4th, but it is also very popular for people to buy their own fireworks and set them off (花火に 点火する) at their houses! Near my house, there is a firework store that is only open a few days before and a few days after The Fourth of July. They make so much money from this holiday that they are hardly open any other days of the year!



Fourth of July celebration at Blossom Music Center in Ohio



Diner Food!

English Idiom



A really common food you'll find at a diner is the milkshake! It often comes in a glass like the one on the left, and there are many flavors. Diner milkshakes are a little romantic because teenagers on dates would often share one together!

What do you think the idiom "Call it a day" means?

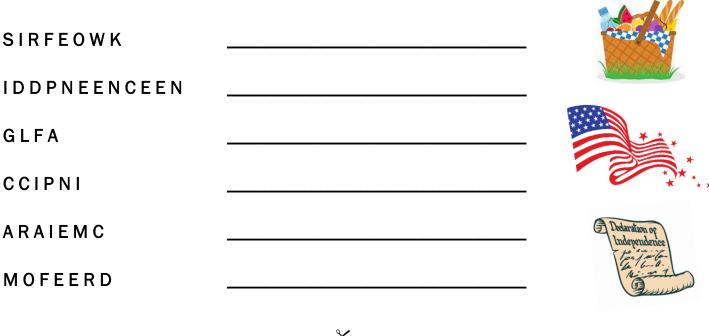
- A) When something great happens
- B) To stop working on something
- C) To make plans on a certain day

HINT:

- A: "It's already 5 PM, we started this project 7 hours ago!"
- B: "You're right, let's call it a day."

Fourth of July Word Scramble!

Unscramble the words below related to the Fourth of July!



ARAIEMC	Declaration of Independence
MOFEERD	June 1
	
Survey! "Have you ever tried a milkshake before?" Yes, I have! No, I haven't!	
Class Number:年 組	
Please submit in the box outside the teacher's room!	