

HAY FEVER

Starter:

Do you have any allergies? If so, what are they?
What do you think these two pictures represent?



Read the article below. Take note of the scrambled words.

Hay Fever is an allergy caused by pollen or dust. It is a cold-like illness with symptoms that include sneezing, a runny nose and itchy eyes.

During spring time in Japan, plum blossoms and cherry blossoms are in bloom and various other types of trees and flowers start to show their spring colors, then, there's pollen.

Many of the people in Japan are (**cetnonorfd**) by another of nature's challenges (and possibly the most annoying) in the form of pollen allergy, or in a more familiar (**prlncaae**), hay fever.

Pollen from Japan's *sugi* trees are (**nrevalenpt**) in the atmosphere between mid-February and late April. Pollen from the *hinoki* trees lasts from early April to about mid-May.

Tons of products are designed specifically for hay fever in Japan from medical products to special masks and eye-wear. Once the allergy season starts, convenience store shelves are (**dtoekcs**) full with them.

Unscramble the words below.

1. **cetnonorfd**

2. **prlncaae**

3. **nrevalenp**

4. **dtoekcs**

Vocabulary Exercise

Match the words with their meanings.

A

1. confront
2. parlance
3. prevalent
4. stock

B

- a. common or widespread
- b. to fill with a supply of something
- c. a way of speaking or using words especially a way common to those with a particular job or interest
- d. to deal with a difficult situation

Comprehension Check:

1. What are the two heavy hitters of allergy sources in Japan?
2. When are these allergy sources prevalent?
3. What are the common symptoms of this allergy?

A. Complete the following sentences by filling in the appropriate words.

parlance

stocked

confront

prevalent

1. They _____ the shelves in the store with a variety of imported foods.
2. The book introduced many readers to terms that are now in common _____.
3. Those teaching methods are still _____ at some schools.
4. It takes courage to _____ your fears.

B. Answer the following questions.

1. What season is hay fever prevalent?
2. Is hay fever common in your place/town/city?
3. Do you consult a doctor immediately?
4. What do you think are the best things to do when you have this allergy?
5. How long does this allergy last?
6. Do you think this allergy runs in the blood?