

## Changing Life

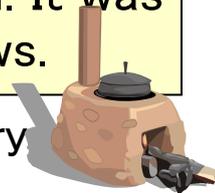
There were two kids from different times. Takeshi lived in the Edo period. Mariko lived in the Heisei period. One day, for some reason, they happened to meet for the first time at one place.

Takeshi said; "Hello. Nice to meet you. Let's play together." Mariko responded; "Nice to meet you too. Okay. How about playing video games?"

Takeshi *frowned*; "What the heck is a video game?" Mariko explained about it. Takeshi *proposed*; "How about flying a *kite*?" This time Mariko *frowned*; "What the heck is flying a kite?" Takeshi explained about it.

After playing for a while, Takeshi's mother came up to him and asked him to help her cook rice for supper. He said; "Okay, Mom. Let's go to the forest to get *charcoal* first!" Mariko responded; "But you have to help your mother first, right?" Takeshi also said; "That's what I'm going to do now." After that, Mariko was *expecting a rice cooker*, but he put rice into the pot where the charcoal is burning *underneath*. She was very surprised to see how the rice was cooked and how long it took to cook it. Mariko told him that there is a rice cooker in the Heisei period. It was just *jaw-dropping* for him to hear the news.

- 1 What's the story about? Give the summary
- 2 How did Takeshi cook rice?
- 3 In which period would you prefer to live? Why?
- 4 Is "changing" important? Why?



## Vocabulary List

### **frown:**

to make a confused or unhappy expression  
(顔をしかめる)

### **What the heck~?:**

an informal way of emphasizing something  
(なんだこりゃ、一体全体)

### **propose:**

to suggest or plan something  
(提案する)

### **kite:**

a coloured frame or thick paper to fly in the air  
(凧、たこ)

### **charcoal:**

a black burned wood that can be used as fuel  
(炭)

### **expect:**

to think something will most likely to happen  
(期待する、予期する)

### **rice cooker:**

an electrical home appliance for cooking rice  
(炊飯器)

### **underneath:**

below something or some place  
(下)

### **jaw-dropping:**

very surprising / unbelievable / cannot close one's mouth because he or she is too surprised  
(開いた口がふさがらない、驚くべき)