

Lesson 1 Anime Pilgrimages

Class: _____ Number: _____ Name: _____

○ 音声を聴いて空所に英語を書き取りましょう。

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Have you ever seen the television anime series *Lucky Star*? It is (1. _____) a four-panel comic strip series that was first published in a magazine in 2003. The story (2. _____) describes the everyday lives of four high-school girls. *Lucky Star*, which was broadcast in 2007, was a great hit, like *The Melancholy of Haruhi Suzumiya*, (3. _____) television anime series of 2006.

Many fans of novels, movies, and TV dramas make “pilgrimages”: they visit (4. _____) where stories were set. These sites are considered by “pilgrims” to be “holy” places. Anime fans have also been visiting such sites. These are called “Anime Pilgrimages.” The sites have (5. _____) fans, both from Japan and from around the world.

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One famous “Anime Pilgrimage” site is Washinomiya Shrine, in Saitama. A shrine in *Lucky Star* (1. _____) Washinomiya Shrine. Some fans noticed this and started to visit it. (2. _____), the connection came to be known quite widely, and many more fans rushed there. *Washinomiya Shrine* became famous as a “holy” place for *Lucky Star* fans.

(3. _____) statistics, the number of New Year’s visitors to the shrine was about 130,000 in 2007, before the anime was aired. The next year, (4. _____), it jumped to about 300,000. The number reached (5. _____) in 2011, and it remained the same for several years afterwards. It is estimated that the “pilgrimages” added about 3.1 billion yen to the local (6. _____) in the ten years following the broadcast.