

**Business Article:**

Instruction: Read the article and then answering the exercises that follows.

**Japan Space Probe Drops Explosive on Asteroid to Make Crater**



TOKYO —Japan's space agency said its Hayabusa2 spacecraft successfully dropped an explosive designed to make a **crater** on an asteroid and collect its underground samples to find possible clues to the origin of the solar system.

Friday's crater mission is the riskiest for Hayabusa2, as it had to immediately get away so it won't get hit by flying **shards** from the blast.

The Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency, or JAXA, said that Hayabusa2 dropped a "small **carry-on** impactor" made of copper onto the asteroid Friday morning, and that data confirmed the spacecraft safely evacuated and remained intact. JAXA is analyzing data to examine if or how the impactor made a crater.

JAXA plans to send Hayabusa2 back to the site later, when the dust and **debris** settle, for observations from above and to collect samples from underground that have not been exposed to the sun or space rays. Scientists hope the samples will be **crucial** to determine

the history of the asteroid and our planet.

If successful, it would be the first time for a spacecraft to take such materials. In a 2005 ``deep impact" mission to a comet, NASA observed **fragments** after **blasting** the surface but did not collect them.

After dropping the impactor, the spacecraft was to move quickly to the other side of the asteroid to avoid flying shards from the blast. While moving away, Hayabusa2 also left a camera to capture the outcome. One of its first photos showed the impactor being successfully released and headed to the asteroid.

"So far, Hayabusa2 has done everything as planned, and we are delighted," said mission leader Makoto Yoshikawa. "But we still have more missions to achieve and it's too early for us to celebrate with '**banzai**.'"

### Vocabulary:

crater	--a hole
shards	--a sharp broken piece of a hard substance
carry-on	--small thing to be carried onto an aircraft with you
debris	--pieces left from the destruction of something
crucial	--extremely important or necessary

※テキスト全文はレッスン受講時に担当講師よりお受取りください。