

The National Cherry Blossom Festival

Vocabulary:

bloom (verb) = to blossom, flower

annual (adjective) = yearly

vivid (adjective) = bright, vibrant

symbolize (verb) = represent, stand for

transform (verb) = change completely



The National Cherry Blossom Festival

A. The blooming of the cherry trees in Washington, D.C. is an annual tradition which has come to symbolize the natural beauty of America's capital city. The famous trees herald Washington's rite of spring with a vivid explosion of life and colour that blankets the city's open spaces in a sea of fragrant white and pale pink blossoms.

B. The first cherry trees were presented as a gift of friendship from the Japanese people to the people of the United States in the early twentieth century. 3,020 cherry trees of different varieties were planted in March 1912, with just over half of the trees being Yoshino Cherry trees.

C. In Japan, the cherry tree, or "Sakura," is a plant which is valued highly. It is a powerful symbol which represents the transformation of Japanese culture throughout the ages.

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You can see the whole lesson from your teacher, please ask them to send it to you before the class.