

Have you ever heard the word “cashless”? In a cashless society, people don't use cash (paper money or metal coins).

They pay with cards or their smartphones. Today, cashless societies are spreading around the world.

Japanese people have been using prepaid IC cards for riding trains and buses since 2001. Now those cards can also be used for shopping. In addition, there are smartphone payment services in Japan. However, some Japanese people still think that cash is an easier and safer way to pay. They have IC cards or other cashless items but they use them only when buying small things at the convenience store.

These days, many tourists come to Japan. Some of them are surprised that the country still depends on cash. Small shops and restaurants often tell them that only cash is accepted. In one study, about 70% of foreign tourists said that they gave up shopping or eating because they couldn't use cashless payment. That's bad for business!



Check

Choose True or False.

- (1) IC cards have been used in Japan for more than 15 years. T / F
- (2) Foreign tourists always have to use cash. T / F

Talk

Which do you prefer, cash or cashless payments? And why?



Write

What did the clerk tell the man? Start with “The clerk told...”

