



Japan decided that fans from **abroad** cannot attend this year's Olympics and Paralympics in Tokyo.

Japan postponed the games from 2020 to Summer 2021 because the coronavirus pandemic started, and people could not travel. Since last year, the situation got better, but there are new **mutations** of the virus and they are more dangerous. The Japanese government worries that **foreigners** could bring these mutations to Japan.

In the last Winter Olympics in South Korea, 20% of fans were from abroad. There is a third wave of the pandemic in Japan now and public places in Tokyo are closed. 77% of Japanese people think that fans from abroad should not come to Japan this summer.

Difficult words: **abroad** (in or to a foreign country), **mutation** (a change in a living thing or animal's body), **foreigner** (a person who comes from a different country).

**Discussion Questions****Topic Talk**

1. Define the following words: *abroad, mutation and foreigner*
2. Did Japan allow spectators for the Olympics and Paralympics that were both held this year?
3. Why were the games postponed from 2020 to Summer 2021?
4. Why did the Japanese government decide not to allow fans from abroad to attend the events?
5. What was the situation like in Japan at that time?

Express Your Thoughts

1. Were Japanese spectators allowed during the Olympics and Paralympics?
2. How did the general public react when the government announced that the Tokyo Olympics was going to be held despite the number of cases?
3. Were you disappointed with the government's decision?
4. Did the situation get worse after the Olympics?