

## 1

## Article :

**Working On The Move with JR East's New 'Office Shinkansen'**

Directions: Read the following article aloud.

Whether you're always on the go and need to work while getting there, or want a mobile change of routine, this new service will be of great interest.

On November 22, 2021, East Japan Railway Company (JR East) inaugurated the "Office bullet train" Shinkansen service for passengers who want to work remotely.

The service equips the 8th car on the trains with the space and amenities needed to make phone calls and hold web conferences from their seats. It will be offered at the normal ticket price with no additional charge on the Tohoku, Joetsu and Hokuriku Shinkansen trains operated by the company. Full service will start after two trial runs.

As part of the company's effort to stimulate business travel, which has fallen due to the COVID-19 pandemic, it is offering new work styles, such as "workation", working while traveling, and having multiple bases in Tokyo and other prefectures.

On November 22, The press were invited to see how it works by boarding the Hokuriku Shinkansen, a high-speed railway line jointly operated by East Japan Railway Company (JR East) and West Japan Railway Company (JR West), connecting Tokyo with Kanazawa in northwestern Honshu.

For the November 22 demonstration, Car 8 was marked with an "office vehicle" sticker on the door. Leaflets introducing the new service were placed on each seat. JR East employees also demonstrated how to use headphones to block out ambient noise. Such equipment and small partitions will be available to rent free of charge on some trains on the Tohoku-Hokkaido Line.

**Working On The Move with JR East's New 'Office Shinkansen'**

<https://japan-forward.com/corona-ni-makeruna-working-on-the-move-with-jr-easts-new-office-shinkansen/>

本教材は、一般社団法人ジャパンフワード推進機構、株式会社産経デジタルより許諾を得て、産経ヒューマンラーニング株式会社が編集しています。  
テキストの無断転載・無断使用を固く禁じます。

## 2 Key phrases and vocabulary

Directions: First repeat after your tutor and then read aloud by yourself.

1. **inaugurate** 始動させる、開設する、落成させる  
They inaugurated a new immigration policy.
2. **stimulate** 刺激する、奨励する、掻き立てる、元気づける  
The government plans to cut taxes in order to stimulate consumer spending.
3. **block out** 遮断する、～を見ないようにする、～を意識しないようにする  
The tree outside the window blocks out the sun.
4. **free of charge** 無料の、無料で  
Hotel guests can use the Wi-Fi network free of charge.

## 3 Questions

Directions: Read the questions aloud and answer them.

1. How much do people have to pay if they want to use “Office bullet train” service?
2. What can you do if you want to block out the noise while you are in the equipped car?
3. Would you like to use the service? Why?/Why not?
4. What other thing(s) might be a good idea to be available on the train if you are a passenger?

## 4

**日本語関連記事：**  
**移動中も仕事に集中 「オフィス新幹線」本格始動、JR東**

JR東日本は11月22日、同社が運行する東北、上越、北陸の各新幹線の全列車で、車内でリモートワークをしたい乗客向けの「オフィス新幹線」のサービスを始めた。8号車限定で座席での通話やウェブ会議が可能。追加料金なしで利用できる。2度の実証実験を経て、本格的な事業として始動した。

新型コロナウイルス禍で落ち込んだ出張需要の喚起を狙い、旅行しながら仕事をする「ワーケーション」や東京と地方で生活拠点を複数持つなど、新しい働き方に対応するために企画した。

22日は営業運転中の北陸新幹線の車内が報道陣に公開された。8号車の扉には「オフィス車両」と書かれたステッカーが張られ、各座席にサービス内容を紹介するリーフレットが置かれた。JR東の社員が周囲の雑音を遮断するヘッドホンの使い方などを実演。こうした機器や小型の間仕切りなどを東北新幹線の一部列車で、無料で貸し出す。

出典：移動中も仕事に集中「オフィス新幹線」本格始動、JR東

<https://japan-forward.com/japanese/%e7%a7%bb%e5%8b%95%e4%b8%ad%e3%82%82%e4%bb%95%e4%ba%8b%e3%81%ab%e9%9b%86%e4%b8%ad%e3%80%80%e3%80%8c%e3%82%aa%e3%83%95%e3%82%a3%e3%82%b9%e6%96%b0%e5%b9%b9%e7%b7%9a%e3%80%8d%e6%9c%ac%e6%a0%bc%e5%a7%8b/>

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