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Article :

## Setagaya Line: A Journey Through a Beautiful Tokyo Neighborhood

Directions: Read the following article aloud.

Escape the city's [hustle](#) on the Setagaya Line — a short yet captivating tram route perfect for a day of exploration in Tokyo.

I make my way to the station to board the Setagaya Line. [Despite](#) wearing short sleeves, I'm sweating in the scorching sun. But a gentle breeze embraces me as I'm greeted by a picturesque view: train tracks on a carpet of lush grass and field horsetails swaying in the wind. Feeling the season's transition from spring to summer, I smile and gently wipe the sweat from my brow.

Spanning approximately 5 km (3 mi), the Setagaya Line connects Sangenjaya Station to Shimo-takaido Station in Tokyo's Setagaya Ward. It serves as an [invaluable](#) transportation artery for the residents along its route, conveniently linking with the Keio, Odakyu, and Den-en-toshi lines running east and west.

Tokyu Corporation, [responsible for](#) the line's operations, says the grass and plants along the tracks do not pose any problems. [Rather than](#) resorting to removing them, they instead delicately trim the overgrown grass during their regular maintenance inspections, ensuring an uninterrupted train service.

Source : Setagaya Line: A Journey Through a Beautiful Tokyo Neighborhood  
[JAPAN Forward](#)

## 2 Key phrases and vocabulary

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

### 1. hustle

(都会などの) 喧噪、騒がしさ、押し合い・もみ合い、精力的な活動、張り切る、(人ごみを) 押し進む

It is challenging to find time for relaxation in the **hustle** of everyday life.

### 2. despite ~ ~にもかかわらず、~をよそに

**Despite** the heavy rain, there were a lot of people in the event.

### 3. invaluable きわめて重要な、計り知れないほど貴重な、かけがえのない

The support of my friends during my recovery was **invaluable** to my healing process.

### 4. responsible for ~に責任がある

The team captain is **responsible for** organizing practices and leading the team during games.

### 5. rather than ~よりはむしろ、かえって、~ではなくて

I chose to take the scenic route **rather than** the highway for a more enjoyable drive.

## 3 Questions

Directions: Read the questions aloud and answer them.

1. In what ways does the Setagaya Line play an important role in connecting different parts of Tokyo's Setagaya Ward?
2. How do Tokyu Corporation's maintenance inspections handle the grass and plants along the Setagaya Line tracks?
3. What aspects of the Setagaya Line's journey you find appealing?
4. Have you ever traveled on a tram or train line that offered a picturesque view or something unique?

## 4

**日本語関連記事：**  
**緑のじゅうたんの上をガタンゴトン 東急世田谷線**

半袖でも暑い陽気の中、駅までの道を急ぐ。線路には緑色のじゅうたんを敷いたように、スギナなどの草花がふわふわと茂っている。春から夏へ、季節の移り変わりを感じ、額ににじむ汗を拭った。

東京都世田谷区の三軒茶屋駅から下高井戸駅の約5キロを結ぶ東急世田谷線。東西に走る京王、小田急、東急田園都市の各線とつながる沿線住民の貴重な足だ。

東急電鉄によると、線路に生える植物は現状では列車の運行に支障がないという。大規模な除草作業は行わずに、伸びすぎたものは保守点検作業の際に刈るなどして対応している。