## Japanese English Education

Toryo High School 2nd grade H. M

I believe that one of the current issues in Japan is English education in schools. English is an important tool for communicating with people around the world and for receiving and sending information. However, some Japanese students think that they study English only because they need it for exams. Learning techniques for exams is not the original purpose of learning English. There is also the issue that people become less aware of it as a communication tool.

I think that English education in Japan should start much earlier. I went to an English school for the first time when I was three years old. There, I sang English songs and talked happily in English with teachers and friends. I think the fact that I was able to come into contact with English as a matter of course at the English conversation school is the reason why I came to love English. Many of my friends think that English is difficult and boring or that high school English is too difficult to follow. In my opinion, this is largely due to their lack of familiarity with English. In Japanese education, students begin to learn English as a subject from junior high school. The earlier you start learning English, the more you will absorb and the more efficiently you will learn. It is very important to learn grammar, vocabulary, and other important things, but it can be painful for those who study without motivation.

I think Japanese students can enjoy learning English more with more ALTs around. My high school does not have ALTs due to the coronavirus. We used to have time to communicate with ALTs once a week, but not anymore. Of course, I enjoy the expression and grammar classes, but I also enjoy the ALT classes, so I feel a little sad. When I have ALT's classes to improve my English communication skills, even my friends who don't always speak up seem to be enjoying themselves. This shows that it is important to have fun when learning English. If you are aware that you are trying to learn English not just for an exam, you will gradually come to love it and be motivated to learn English.

From these points of view, I think it is important to provide more enjoyable classes for students. I believe that by enjoying English, you will naturally learn English and enjoy learning English. In this way, I believe that English education in schools, which is a problem in Japan, will improve and the English ability of Japanese children will improve. I hope that everyone will love English.