

# What Should We Do to Improve Education in Kumamoto?

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We discussed what is necessary to improve education in Kumamoto.

For topic 1, “What motivates students to study and learn more?”, we tried to approach this topic from two perspectives. First, we thought about “Why do we study?” from our experiences. One ALT said she wanted to talk to Japanese people, so she studied Japanese. Another ALT said, he was interested in physics and wanted to learn more because the class was practical and delightful. In addition, a student in a group said that she likes biology because she is curious about the inside of the body. These experiences show us that desire, interest, and the atmosphere of the class motivates people to learn more. Second, we thought about a different question, “Which do you prefer to do, complex or easy puzzle?” Everyone answered that a complex one is better. We then considered, “Why?”. In conclusion, challenge becomes a motivation for us, but excessively complicated puzzles make us dull. Moderate challenges are useful to motivate people. Also, we will study eagerly if there is a reward for studying. Therefore, from discussion, we concluded that desire, interest, reward, moderate challenge, and environment motivate students to study and learn more.

Topic 2 was “How can schools help students learn better?”. First, we thought about “What are the bad points of Japanese education?”. A boy who has lived in America before said, “Japanese summer vacation is short and there is a lot of homework. I think that some classes are boring, and textbooks are too much.” To solve these problems, we thought about the question. “How should schools change their education?” We had some ideas. We think that the teachers should ask students what they want to do in the class. It will make students more interested in the class. Also, unusual activities in the classes are more interesting for students. For example, watching video related to study, writing short stories, and so on. In conclusion, Japanese schools should give students the opportunity to study what they want and do some interesting activities different from the usual classes. I learned how to come up with the solutions to different problems through discussion.

I enjoyed the Super English Camp very much! I was very shy before joining this event, but I could come out of my shell a little through acting in skits and debating actively. In addition, I learned a lot about foreign culture. However, I’m regretful because I couldn’t talk to the volunteer ALTs, so I want to join SEC again and I will talk to many people next time. Thank you very much, Ms. Kajihara and Mr. Xiong for holding this wonderful event.