

Global Vision Talks 14th and 15th week Best Essays (Aichi Prefectural University)

1/15 Metaphor: The Bridge between the Concrete and the Abstract

1/22 Living, adapting and growing your life in Japan

英米 1年生

I realized the depth of the metaphor. During the lecture, several metaphors were introduced, and “river and time” stood out to me. Before this lecture, I had thought that euphemisms such as metaphors were mostly found in Japanese and rarely existed in English. However, after attending the lecture, I realized that I was wrong and that they do indeed exist in English. What is interesting is that Japanese metaphors and those of English have many similar properties. Indirect expression allows for more implied phrases than when expressed directly. I also thought it was a good thing that it could be used in daily conversation and especially when writing stories to give the impression of a more intelligent and cultured person. However, I decided to be careful to note that some people do not like to use roundabout expressions and to use them appropriately.

国際関係 2年生

Thank you for this speech. I have never thought deeply about life, but this lecture gave me a chance to think about it. The speaker had a checkered life and had a lot of experiences that I had never experienced, such as being in college several times, arriving in Tahiti by accident, surviving somehow with no money, and so on. I've never been in a tight spot or hit a wall that seemed insurmountable, so I haven't had that hard of a time yet, but if I do hit it, I thought it would be something I could consider with a light heart.

フランス 2年生

The road less traveled

In today's class, Mr. Morrish said that PPPPP is important. It meant that perfect preparation prevents poor presentation. I tend to prepare my presentations at the last-minute deadline, so I tend to lack words or forget what I want to say on the day of the presentation. I often regret it afterwards. However, if I prepare perfectly as he said, I will not have to have this regret. I learned the importance of being well prepared in this class, even though it is a matter of course. I often act haphazardly, but I want to remember to plan and be prepared

スェーデン 1年生

Today, I learned many tips for success, and I strongly agree with the idea of being a yes man. Especially, I liked the way you think that even if you failed, it would be a talk in 20 years, meaning that I don't have to be afraid of making mistakes. Also, I'm usually following this idea. If I'm lost, I'm basically saying "yes." Thanks to this idea, after entering this university, I have been experiencing many things new and broadening my network. From now on, I'm going to keep being a yes man and want to accumulate more experience to become knowledgeable and competent.

英米 2 年生

I found the talk about Metaphor by Darren Elliott was very interesting and amazing. I especially liked the activity that we guessed concrete idea hidden in the metaphor expressions. As Darren sensei said, I strongly agree that metaphor is going to be the bridge between the concrete and the abstract, because I really like to watch movie or listen to music, and I see many those expressions like "Life is a journey", and they enhance the creativity or fascination of a work. I learned that many words associate with our feelings; like the word "anger" have connection with "boiling", "exploded" or "steam rises up from the head" for instance. Although I've never thought about it carefully, I realized and found it interesting that we're using metaphor in our daily life. I believe it's certain that metaphor enrich our speaking words and help our understanding. Finally, I also learned metaphor has risks which it sometimes could be insulting if it is used for ironic or criticizing way. Therefore, I thought it is important to keep in mind and pay attention to that. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to realize those crucial things.

留学生 1 年生

The phrase "the road less traveled" resonates deeply with me, embodying the quest for a unique and unconventional journey. My predilection for unpaved paths stems from a fervent desire to escape the well-worn trails of others. Yet, this choice is not without its burdens, as fear and anxiety loom large.

Confronting the unknown, whether challenging a new menu or establishing roots in unfamiliar locales, proves to be a daunting task to me. The palpable discomfort and genuine fear that accompany these challenges are undeniable. However, the alternative—settling into the familiar—carries its own weight. The risk of stagnation, of lagging behind those who continuously forge ahead, serves as a powerful motivator.

As a result, I am constantly suffering from stress, toeing the line between the comfort of the known and the allure of the unknown. This enduring battle against stress turns dealing with anxiety into a lasting and intricate challenge—an ongoing hot potato requiring careful handling in the pursuit of personal growth.

国際関係 3 年生

Metaphor has been one of the most unique and intriguing ways to describe emotion swirling inside myself as a songwriter. And in my opinion, that is because using metaphor allows people to imagine what I want to express in their own ways.

In this lesson, Mr. Darren told us that there are several sorts of metaphor, and metaphor can be used not only for poetry and songs, but also in media like the hook-line of a newspaper.

What I learned from this lesson is that people sometimes intend to use metaphor to describe things

aggressively. For example, one of the British newspapers described “immigrants are a tidal wave” to make readers feel that the immigrants steadily come and mess up the country. Until I took this lesson, I had never taken a look at the negative side of metaphor and how strong the power of metaphor is. As a reader and a writer, I thought that I will have to be aware of the fact of what I have learned.

中国 2 年生

I really enjoyed the idea that life is a journey without a path. It's true that no one can predict what tomorrow will bring, so I felt that “There is no path “ was an appropriate expression.

In the religion I believe in, in the past, believers lived a life filled with ascetic practices. It's to improve yourself. There was a phrase in the lecture that says there is no growth in a comfortable environment, and I'm sure our predecessors understood this.

For us college students, the main things we struggle with are studying, relationships, and finding a job. There are many things that will be of no use in the future even if you try hard now. But I think even seemingly useless things have value. It's a practice of patiently working on things that don't interest you, even if it means studying unnecessary subjects. Making friends in clubs and classes is also a way to learn about human relationships. The things we struggle with every day are what propel us forward into our future selves.

I want to continue to have the attitude of giving my all to whatever I do.

国際関係 年生

This time's talk about metaphor was very interesting to me and a topic that is familiar to me. I often read books, and there are various metaphors that appear in the stories. I can generally understand the meaning, but sometimes I come across metaphors that I can't relate well to. At times like this, I try abstraction and concreteness, as I did in class, and connect them to familiar ideas. I really enjoy this imaginative time, and through this class, I've started to want to read English books from now on as well. The teacher said that the metaphors for "anger" in different countries are similar, and I would like to see this used within a story. Also, I like K-POP and am learning Korean myself, so I will continue to study hard so that I can enjoy the metaphors that appear in Korean songs!

3 年生

Metaphors have a great power to influence how we interpret complicated terms and view the world. Metaphors play a role like a bridge between rivers. Despite their constructive role, metaphors can also act as a tool that perpetuates stereotypes and biases. A case in point is Mr. Elliott's illustration of how metaphors in UK newspapers negatively portray immigration, fostering prejudiced attitudes towards immigrants. Media itself strongly affects people's ways of thinking, however, and the choice of metaphors in conveying events becomes more crucial in shaping collective perceptions. Therefore, the metaphor helps us recognise the river we cannot see without it though it could lead a misunderstanding and misinterpretation sometimes.

Global Vision Talks 11th and 12th week Best Essays (Aichi Prefectural University)

12/18 It's midnight but the sun is shining:

The Congolese Sape and its role.

12/25 English a game changer in my life

留学生 1年生

Today, I would like to talk about Mr. Kimochi's Rakugo performance. It was actually the very first time I saw a Rakugo performance. I was able to discover with virgin eyes the traditional art of Rakugo, yet it was performed in quite a transformative way as it was in English. I really appreciated how Mr. Kimochi introduced us to the ins and outs of this art. Especially, the objects used during the performance to mimic everyday actions. As Mr. Kimochi said, the imagination is very important to fully enjoy the show, but using those objects, I was really surprised how easily it can be to imagine various actions through this process. To be honest, every joke was not funny for me, however I loved Mr. Kimochi's acting when telling stories. It reminded me some childhood memories, when my grandmother used to tell me stories before sleeping. This nostalgic moment warmed my heart. Another point I would like to raise is when Mr. Kimochi asked a student to try themselves as a Rakugo on stage. Celi did her best and made the whole classroom laugh. Thank you!

留学生 1年生

I really appreciate the talk about the Sape from Christian Otchia, because I think it was a really good way to introduce us to one aspect of the culture of Congo. It was also really interesting to me because as a French I never understood the origin of this word and that mind set that some people in Paris actually have. I think it was quite fascinating to see that this part of Congolese culture made it possible for people all around the world to connect with each other and create a world wide business. Like sending 100 yen shop's cane to Congo and marking them up. I think it's a good thing to develop the economy. So I think it's a good thing to be able to improve the economy while at the same time wearing good clothes and appearing classy and doing what people like.

留学生 1年生

We, from occidental and developed countries tend to have — as the Nigerian writer Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie puts it — a “single story” about the continent (and not the country) of Africa. This bad habit of forgetting the diversity of Africa, the continent and not the “country”, is made even worse by the lack of discussions inside academic and artistic circles, or even simply in school, as it's quite rare for students to study a Congolese, Nigerian, or Rwandan texts, etc... (For example, we have the French-Rwandian writer

Scholastique Mukasonga who gained recognition in recent years, or the previously mentioned Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, etc...)

La Sape is — in my humble opinion — more than a simple trend or even an art form (“la sapologie”), it’s a way of life (or the way of the “sapeur” if you will), some could even say a religion with its “10 commandments of la sape”, but it’s more so a clear expression of the Congolese identity, exemplified by Pr. Christian Otchia with the following: “I sape therefore I am”. And while obviously it has roots in French (maybe also Japanese) Fashion, it’s quite evident that it has gone beyond that status.

国際関係 1 年生

This time Christian Otchia's lecture about Congolese Sape was very new and interesting to me. What left an impression on me during the lecture were the photos of the men actually enjoying Sape. Photos of people wearing colorful suits walking around the city are full of energy, and I feel that this is a wonderful piece of culture that gives energy not only to the wearer, but also to those who see it. I hope this Sape spreads to Japan as well. For example, many people wear suits when job hunting in Japan, and the suits are usually black or navy blue and have similar designs. If we could wear a suit of our favorite color while job hunting, I think we would be able to express our charm and individuality even more.

特別聴講生 3 年生

Before this talk, I thought negatively about Africa due to media stereotypes about poverty. But this lecture changed my view. I now see how culture shapes identity, like the "Sapeur" movement in Congo blending French and local styles. It opened my eyes to Africa's diverse cultures, challenging my old ideas. I learned that what people wear reflects their personality. The "Sapeur" movement shows how clothes express identity. This understanding goes beyond one culture and broadens my view of how cultural differences shape how we see others. The lecture also taught me not to rely only on media for understanding. Hearing real stories is crucial. In conclusion, it shifted my preconceptions about Africa, deepening my appreciation for its diverse cultures. It reminds me that real understanding comes from engaging with people's lived experiences and embracing cultural diversity.

国際関係 3 年生

Thank you for your interesting talk! I’m Japanese but haven’t seen Rakugo in person, so it was precious to see it. Especially, when you talked about eye-direction, I’m a band man and get into it so the tip about it seemed so meaningful for me for my future. What I want to say is that I always worry about where I should look during my band performance. I really wanted to solve the problem so if I have a moment to try your tip, I’ll absolutely try it in the future. Also, your braveness was great! I’m so timid so I can’t perform something in from of a bunch of people, and so that was the point which I particularly liked.

国際関係 2 年生

The talk about Congo was interesting and I learned many things I did not know. The Congolese

fashion was particularly impressive. I thought it was very glamorous and would be a lot of fun to go out. I am not usually interested in fashion, but after hearing this talk, I want to enjoy it more from now on. I expected the country to have a severe gender gap since men mainly dress up and women do not. An Internet search revealed that the country was ranked 140th, lower than Japan. Because gender equality is becoming more and more important these days, women will eventually come to enjoy fashion as well.

英米 1 年生

From Mr. Kimochi's performance, I realized that I have a hidden knack for communicating smoothly with others. This is because he said that in RAKUGO, image is the most important thing, and for the audience to have a concrete image, the direction of the face and gaze is important, and turning the face and gaze toward the subject makes it more realistic. Translating this to conversation, looking at the face of the person you are talking to, especially the eyes, will make both you and the person you are talking to feel comfortable and help you realize a better relationship. He also said that it is important in RAKUGO to give specific situational explanations, rather than starting to assume that the other person already knows what you are talking about. This is also important in communication, and I thought the above should be avoided because proceeding with the assumption that the other person knows what you are talking about can lead to a gap between the person you are talking to and the other person, which can result in confusion or discomfort for the other person.

英米 2 年生

In that class, I watched Rakugo for the first time. Before this class, I thought Rakugo was unfamiliar to me, but now I am interested in it. I learned that the story of Rakugo was simple, and everyone could understand that by using their own imagination. At first, I was surprised because the speaker used only Gunte and Tenugui. Kimochi used those things and acted as if he were eating a meal or calling. At that time, I thought that making sounds was also important to help audience's imagination. The sound of slurping soba helped me to imagine the scene. I learned about the charm of Rakugo. He also told us the important attitude when we perform in front of people. He said that we should try to see the audience enjoying the performance because we can relax and gain confidence. I always get nervous so I will try to do it in the future.

中国 3 年生

The talk on "English – a game changer in my life" resonated deeply with me. What struck me most was the speaker's journey of transformation through language acquisition. They highlighted how mastering English unlocked countless opportunities, broadened horizons, and connected them to a global community. Personally, it echoed my own experience. English opened doors, enabling me to access knowledge, interact with diverse cultures, and pursue opportunities beyond boundaries.

The talk reaffirmed the immense power of language in shaping our lives. Learning English wasn't just about grammar; it was about embracing a new perspective, cultivating confidence, and bridging cultural gaps. From this talk, I relearned the significance of perseverance in mastering a language and the

immeasurable impact it can have on one's life trajectory.

It reminded me that language isn't merely a means of communication; it's a gateway to new worlds, ideas, and opportunities. As someone whose life has been transformed by language acquisition, this talk served as a testament to the incredible potential within linguistic proficiency.

Global Vision Talks 9th and 10th week Best Essays (Aichi Prefectural University)

12/4 The Implications of Social Indicators and Their Function in Strengthening Soft Power: Through a Comparative Analysis of Brazil and Japan

12/11 Magic Moments and other Useful Positive Psychology Techniques

国際関係 3年生

To tell the truth, it was my very first time learning so deeply about soft power. Before listening to the lecture, I used to think that international competence is based on the strength of military, how many weapons the country has, and so on. However, Mr. Melo told us that these powers are called “hard power”, and international competence can also be made up by soft power, such as cultures, national images, or political values.

It was intriguing to me because although soft power cannot be measured as simply as hard power, it is an element of international competence for sure. Japan is recently considered good place to visit by many of foreigners, but as Mr. Melo mentioned, even how Japanese people behave can affect soft power. Since the pandemic is almost over, many people will visit our country. Therefore, it's important for us as a Japanese to rethink how we should give a warm reception to them.

中国 2年生

Through positive psychology classes, I realized that “objectivity” is important. In class, I imagined conversations with people I disliked and thought about things that would make me happy. In an imaginary conversation, you can't figure out what the other person is likely to say and what you would say unless you look at yourself and the other person objectively.

During this part of the conversation, I realized that the person I had previously hated so much actually didn't hate her that much. Because the parts I hated didn't seem like a big deal from the outside.

I also realized that what I thought was happiness wasn't actually happiness. For example, being able to drink alcohol is one of my blessings. However, my parents don't seem to think so. I am thinking about my child becoming addicted and the negative effects it will have on her daughter's body. When I thought about this, I felt that I need reconsider what happiness is for me.

These are possible unless you can look at yourself objectively. It's important to know how you feel, but I felt

that positive psychology also needs to know what other people are thinking when they look at you.

留学生 1 年生

I am going to express my thoughts about last Monday presentation “Positive Psychology”. I liked the two goals of “Positive Psychology” which are “repairing the worst things” and “building the best qualities of life”. It was explained that Positive Psychology should help people who have mental illness such as depression, but to be honest, it seems to be a very hard things to do. A depressive person is such in a distress state, that the fact that simple things like meditation or writing three good things regularly would heal that state seems illusive. So I feel like those exercises might help people who are just slightly unhappy. For my case I already feel happy in my life right now. Of course it has not always been the case, but recently I could focus on my own happiness, fulfillment and objectives so this is probably the happiest time of my life.

留学生 1 年生

After Monday's lecture about positive psychology, I started to try to do some of the things we talked about and did in class. For example, writing three good things that happened in your day everyday may sound strange and pointless, however, this simple habit can keep you grounded on reality and makes us appreciate the things that happen to us which we don't pay attention to at all. This, coupled with meditation and a layered-out plan for the next years of your life can actually take you a long way when it comes to purpose and mental health. Focusing on our long-term goals keeps us from straying out of paths that are not beneficial for us or are just distractions.

留学生 1 年生

I was really interested in Wadison Melo's talk about Japan and Brazil's soft power and influence around the world. We barely saw those topics in our classes in my home university, but hard and soft power usually tell us a lot about the political and economic states of a country. Japan did like Korea and focused on soft-power by spreading its culture among young people thanks to manga and anime, while Brazil is still trying to expand its soft power while being a emerging country. As I'm from a country which developed both soft and hard power, it is interesting to see and try to understand how other countries focus more on developing one power before the other, especially for economic reasons. I hope we can learn more about this in more classes next time.

中国 3 年生

Brian Cullen's talk on "Magic Moments and other Useful Positive Psychology Techniques" was captivating. His emphasis on leveraging positive psychology to enhance our lives stood out. What intrigued me most was his concept of "magic moments" – those small, impactful instances we often overlook. Cullen's discussion resonated personally, reminding me to cherish everyday experiences.

The talk's practicality amazed me; simple techniques like gratitude journaling or savoring experiences can significantly elevate happiness. Reflecting on his ideas, I recognized parallels in my life, realizing how

incorporating these techniques could enhance my well-being.

Cullen's insights broadened my understanding of positive psychology, emphasizing its practical application. His talk underscored the power of mindset shifts and the significance of small, mindful actions. It taught me to appreciate the present and actively seek positivity in daily routines.

Overall, Brian Cullen's talk left a lasting impression. Its actionable advice and focus on cultivating positivity in mundane moments provided a refreshing perspective, encouraging me to infuse more joy and mindfulness into my life.

英米 2年生

Thank you for your lecture. Learning about "soft power" is new for me, so it was really interesting!

I think to evaluate which country is stronger or better is so difficult because there are many elements such as national characteristics or culture which cannot be expressed by number. However, as you mentioned, some methods can tell us the rankings of these items, and I was surprised that Japan gets high positions in many sectors. Only one thing I am worried about is the gaps between other countries' views and Japanese view for each evaluation. Fortunately, Japan is often considered as a gentle, polite, and generous country, but we have not so much interest in others as we are expected. Positive biases the world has for Japan like this may lead to both positive effects such as gaining popularity and negative effects such as causing too much disappointment.

英米 1年生

In this class, I learned how to think and prepare myself to improve my mental health. I am basically a positive person, but once something negative happens to me, I immediately feel depressed and have a hard time recovering from it. However, I was particularly impressed with the "E", or Engagement, in the PERMA I learned this time. I am very happy when I am playing the guitar, so I will cherish those times. I had never thought of it before, so it was a very novel concept for me. I will keep the above in mind as I go about my daily life starting today.

国際関係 1年生

I loved the presentation by Mr. Cullen on positive psychology. The contrast between traditional psychology and positive psychology was one of the things that remained in my mind, as well as the benefits of positive psychology. It is very hard to keep being positive every day. Regardless, positive psychology finds means to lead us to a positive life through a model called "PERMA," positive emotions, engagement, relationships, meaning and achievement. We can use this model to encourage not only ourselves, but also others to flourish and understand how to improve our wellbeing. In order to start practicing positive psychology, we need to practice gratitude and forgive in relation to our past, mindfulness in the present and optimism regarding our future. These little changes will make us happier over time. It was a wonderful and useful presentation.

ドイツ 4年生

The world soft power rankings showed that Japan ranks relatively higher than countries that face disadvantages in attracting global attention.

It's not all because of pop culture, such as Anime, but it certainly helps increase Japan's soft power. In this context, Japan has an abundance of cultural elements that are readily visible on the surface of its rich cultural iceberg, which I find fortunate.

Interestingly, soft power is sometimes considered more important than reality in business, according to Prof. Melo. This advantage is not a happenstance occurrence but the result of a historical and cultural timeline that spans generations. I am grateful that I naturally benefit from this advantageous position.

Global Vision Talks 6th and 7th week Best Essays (Aichi Prefectural University)

11/13 Gender, Language and Society

11/30 What is "drama in education"?

留学生 1 年生

This week's course was very instructive. I think this kind of course should be taught to all young people, regardless of their level of education, social class etc. As the guest said, people tend to be afraid of what they don't know. If everyone had a basic knowledge of the different genders and sexual orientations. In my opinion it would drastically reduce cases of harassment and social rejection.

Personally, I think I'm open-minded on this subject, because I was lucky to have a friend who was concerned, and she kindly took the time to explain to me why the heterosexual norm can not be considered as a reference

留学生 1 年生

Can we talk about linguistic influence on everyone's perception? Absolutely. As Jessica Zoni showed us, there is a very big difference between genders in society.

For example, the Man will always be above the woman. We will even link the woman to the man like for example "Here is the Wife of Mr. X" However, this Woman is someone, she should not be linked to the man!!

Linking women to men is shocking. Women are necessarily weak according to society. But, now, if we are aware of this concern in society, it is because we are progressing! We should put men and women on an equal footing! The woman is not linked to the man and deserves to be respected.

What should be done is for example to say "Mrs. X is..." and not "the Wife of Mr. X is...". But again, don't talk about the woman on the assumption that she is weak or that she will stay at home. A woman has as much ambition as men but she often sacrifices herself to the education of the child because the man will not do it.

Moreover, Japan represents this phenomenon very well! Women increasingly want and pursue a career and do not wish to sacrifice themselves for the education of their child or else they delay it as much as possible.

留学生 1 年生

As someone who studies linguistics, and moreover as someone who is part of the LGBTQ+ community, I was quite enthralled by this talk on the topic of "How language and society shape and reinforce gender roles and stereotypes". It made me think about a lot of issues related to our languages and their

influences on our society. For example, in French, English and other Indo-European languages — most of them being flexional / fusional language — there is a system of “grammatical gender” that influences determinants, plural/singular flexion, etc... However, one of the problems that can arise in some of these languages, where the grammatical gender is divided into two (male & female), is that the language itself does not recognize a third grammatical gender (in German for example, there is male, female and neutral), and furthermore it does not recognize any non-binary gender (like gender-fluid, non-binary, agender, etc...). Nonetheless, there has been a push in recent years to change these languages, so that the social construct that is language can catch up to — as well as reinforce positively — the social construct that is gender identity, and moreover society.

留学生 1 年生

“Drama in education” talk, by Aya Murray, was a very interesting and amazing talk describing the importance of both drama and theatre within education and whether they are useful in language learning and the skills which can be developed from them. Drama and theatre both have a huge role in creating and expressing learning experiences within education. This would encourage students to explore new ideas, develop new emotions and perspectives in a hands-on and immersive way. Through the process of activities such as role play, this would also provide students with a new unique way to develop and explore new learning environments, create new roles and allow them to collaborate with different students.

Drama within education is a very powerful method to teach students to use creativity in education and develop allow each student to build and develop confidence.

留学生 1 年生

Drama in education can be seen as something important when a student has to learn and practice a new language. For example, English students can feel unsure about what they are going to say because, even if they practice a lot of grammar, they are not actually preparing daily life conversation, and this can be a problem at the time of expressing themselves. Then, because of drama is based on experience of who's doing it, this can be an opportunity to the students to improve their use of English and theatre skills, but just not that; maybe for a person who's always struggling to express their self, showing emotions, controlling them or maybe even empathizing. Being enable to create a story and being capable of feel what a character feels can maybe be difficult at the beginning but, I think that emotions is what make us humans feel alive.

英米 2 年生

I was extremely interested in how drama can be used in education. Aya Sensei explained drama in education for language learning is exceptional learning, and people can use English right away by it. In addition, it improves people's creativity, so drama is useful for studying in universities. However, she also mentioned some problems using drama. For example, there are no textbooks easily found and some people struggle with acting. So, balancing drama with other methods of learning is important. I also learned the method of improving one's own creativity is having own entertainment, for example, not watching TV so much and reading books. I am not good at acting, so it may be hard for me, but I enjoyed writing letter activity listening to the sound of the sea. So, I want to learn English by amusing activity like drama!

国際関係 1 年生

I loved the concept of introducing drama into classrooms! I think it is a great way to, just like Ms. Aya Murray said, develop our “text comprehension, problem solving, critical thinking, vocabulary, body awareness and connecting voice to our emotions.” However, most importantly, I think it is a the perfect way to practice our “output,” which is something I believe it lacks a little on most students who can often understand a language but cannot speak it. I also think that through drama, students would be able to actually use the language they are learning in a fake scenario, as well as have fun! Also, not only them, but the teachers could also enjoy themselves in these activities, which would bring more happiness into classrooms! Thank you for sharing your study with us! I think it is a wonderful idea!

中国 4 年生

Gender, Language and Society

As we saw several examples of languages being reflected in social trends, I felt a fear and difficulty against the possibility that I also use such words unconsciously. In her talk, it's written that we choose a category, such as female, male, transgender, to explain ourselves but I think the options are not enough to explain myself. Although I was born as a female biologically, it's kind of weird for me to recognize myself as female or male. I sometimes think that I don't want to be categorized as a certain group and want to say “I AM ME” when that happens. However, the topic of whether sex or gender should take precedence in sensitive areas such as restrooms or changing rooms will be difficult to come up with a single answer, because people have different ideas depending on their values. But I think what is important for us is to keep thinking about such a difficult issue.

スペイン 2 年生

I'd like to write an essay based on the topic “Gender, Language and Society”. At the start of her presentation, she mentioned that gender situation is based on the language situation in that country. At first, it didn't make sense to me. However, as we looked at some examples such as “DANNA” and “OKUSAN”, we could see that male has more power and strength, and that is how it is expected for us to be. I was really surprised to find this. And I'm really curious how those vocabularies change due to recent gender situation, I suspect that some word may drop out of use and never going to be used again.

国際関係 1 年生

I listened to the talk about gender language and society. For the first time, I understood about the difference of the word of “sex” and “gender.” Sex is biological body parts of a man or woman. Gender is the creation of society speak, act, dress, etc. Listening to this talk, I am interested in gender roles. As a talker says, you use words “housewife” and “working mother” but you don't use words “househusband” and “working father.” These words symbolize stereotype that woman should do housework in the house and woman worker is rarity. I wish this stereotype would go away. It is important to educate about gender

equality for gender equality.

Global Vision Talks 4th and 5th week Best Essays (Aichi Prefectural University)

10/23 MAS' IS A VERB

10/30 Intercultural communication

中国 3年生

I'm so interested in last week's story. I was surprised that there are many types of carnival made by only one person. He used different tools and colors depending on the theme of his works, and that was so interesting. I learned that when he does his work, he must make some appointments with residents. Not only these carnivals, but he also does many types of works like walking around a town wearing unique clothing, putting unique designs on necks, and he even built a house. I could imagine that each area has their own rules and ideas, so I really wanted to see their reactions to his works

英米 2年生

Thank you for your presentation. It was a great chance for me to learn the relationship between arts and people's willpowers. I am really impressed by your movies. Some of them were sophisticated and little difficult to understand, but I got several messages such as human rights, resistance for racism, or importance and fear of nature through the projects.

While listening to your presentation, I remembered a famous question: which was first, music or language? In some of your artworks, there was little or no language, but people can roughly catch what they mean. It implies we can express our will without language. In recent years, many people are eager to master English as common language, but I think also artworks can be an ideal way of communication

英米 1年生

I became even more interested in cross-cultural understanding after hearing about it, so I did some further research on my own. I was most impressed by the six developmental stages of intercultural communication and sensitivity. I found that there are six developmental stages of rejection, defense, minimization, acceptance, adaptation, and integration, and that this developmental model describes the developmental stages that allow people to move toward a deeper understanding and appreciation of cross-cultural differences. As the perceptual organization of cultural differences becomes more complex, the experience of culture becomes more sophisticated and the potential for exercising intercultural relational competence increases. Therefore, recognizing how cultural differences are experienced.

ドイツ 2年生

When learning about a foreign country, I think it is very important to understand the other person's

culture and background. In this lecture, we learned about intercultural competence. Intercultural competence is the ability to communicate and interact effectively with people from different cultures and backgrounds. It not only helps avoid misunderstandings and conflicts, but also builds trust, and cooperation with others. Through this lecture, I learned that when dealing with foreigners and actually communicating, what is required is not only language ability and knowledge, but also the ability to interact with people. I am taking Martin's English class at this university, and he said that communication skills are more important than anything else. I am able to understand his thoughts more deeply now.

ドイツ 4年生

Milton J. Bennett's systematic breakdown of intercultural competence into stages is truly remarkable. Prof. Ottoson highlighted a crucial principle: intercultural competence is not a static “thing” but rather an ongoing, evolving process. It emphasizes the potential for individuals to continuously develop their competence.

This lecture provided me with an opportunity to reflect on my own position within the process and consider why my past cross-cultural experiences may not have gone well. At the same time, this experience has revealed to me that there is room for personal growth and development, giving me hope.

As I aim to work abroad in the future, this perspective has strengthened my commitment to improve my intercultural sensitivity.

留学生 1年生

This week's course was very useful. It enabled me to understand the difference between several commonly used words. Indeed, before attending this course, I didn't know the difference between the words generalization and stereotype. I understood that the word generalization was used when a person extended the results of an observation of a few cases to all possible cases. Conversely, a stereotype is an image associated with a social group without any reflection or observation. I was also able to learn more about the concept of intercultural competence. Thanks to Deardoff's diagram, this concept has become clearer to me. To have intercultural competence you need at least 3 things: respect, a desired external/internal outcome and an ability to understand.

留学生 1年生

Mr. Ottoson's talk about intercultural competence was certainly very interesting and I could take in a lot of new information about how to conduct myself around other cultures. I could also analyse how I behave and where I was on the scale created by Milton Bennett. Self-analysis plays a very important role in personal development and in how to interact with others, and knowing this type of information will help me a lot in future interactions. As to whether we “do” or “have” intercultural competence, personally I believe that “doing” is a more appropriate word, since we can only acquire knowledge about other cultures through exposure and interaction. Only then, will we truly experience other cultures and be able to warp some of our behaviours in a way that fits the interaction the best.

国際関係 1年生

The thing that struck me most when I heard Mr.Marlon Griffith's talk this time was that carnival is art. Previously, I thought of carnivals and parades as accessories to celebrate some kind of celebration or success. But the carnivals he designs have meanings of their own and pose their own questions. At first glance, the audience may not be able to understand the meaning of the event. However, I think it is very important for the people living in the area where he holds carnivals and parades to see the contemporary art that he has created by thinking about the issues faced by the area together with the people of the area. During the lecture, I saw photos of women wearing open-collared clothes with patterns painted on their necks in areas where it is common for young women to wear clothes that cover their necks. Just by looking at the photo, I was able to get the message across why women have to be so considerate with their clothes. His activities are art that poses many questions to us, and I would love to see the parade live.

年生

The transformation of generalization into stereotype and the nature of intercultural competence as an active process, rather than a static possession, are intriguing facets of cross-cultural understanding. Initially, I held the belief that comprehending and acknowledging other cultures primarily entailed acquiring knowledge about them and engaging with individuals from different backgrounds. However, I have come to realize that intercultural competence involves acknowledging that what one may consider as commonplace or self-evident may not hold for others, and it is not always appropriate to assume that what is suitable for oneself is universally applicable through this lecture. These assessments are inherently influenced by one's perspective. The progression in understanding cultural differences often leads to a tendency to assume that one's acquired knowledge about a particular culture universally applies to all its members, regardless of the individual variations and perspectives that exist within that culture. I think this suggests that a certain situation or action may result in people forming biased or unfair opinions about others, as well as contributing to the development of negative stereotypes associated with those individuals or groups.

国語文学 2年生

I was very surprised at the world view I saw for the first time in the video I watched at the beginning of the presentation. The use of colors and motifs that are rarely seen in Japan were fresh and exciting, but at the same time I was a little scared. When I first saw it, I didn't really understand what it was, but I thought it was interesting to be able to appreciate the work by learning about its background, such as what inspired it. However, I believe that one's own inspiration is also important in art appreciation, so this presentation was a very good opportunity for me in terms of enhancing my own sensitivity.

Global Vision Talks 2nd and 3rd week Best Essays (Aichi Prefectural University)

10/9 An Introduction to Photographic Composition

10/16 A Forgotten Master & The Spread of Judo

ドイツ 4年生

I'm sad to know about the declining popularity of judo in Japan, considering its rich history and charm. Prof. Jones told us the fascinating story of Yukio Tani, a Japanese judo expert who rose to fame in the early 1900s among celebrities in the UK. His remarkable journey captivated my interest. In my middle school, P.E. classes often rushed through topics, leaving little time for in-depth explanation. I believe that if we had the chance to learn about the history of the sport during those classes, it could have sparked greater enthusiasm among students. He stressed that judo was "more than just a sport" and self-defense; it was a discipline rooted in technique and skill and it doesn't rely on power. This convinced me that he's passionate about the uniqueness of judo, and he had genuinely "fallen in love" with it. For adults, finding a sport and a community to deeply engage with can be a challenge. I'm happy that he met Judo.

中国 3年生

The guest talk on photographic composition was truly enlightening. What fascinated me the most was the emphasis on how composition can transform a mundane image into a work of art. Learning about the rule of thirds and leading lines, I realized the power these techniques hold in guiding a viewer's eye and conveying a story through a photograph. This talk also had a personal connection to my life as I have always been passionate about photography as a hobby. The speaker's insights and practical tips encouraged me to explore new avenues in photography and experiment with composition to elevate my skills. It was a reminder that even simple, everyday scenes can become captivating subjects with the right approach. From this talk, I learned that photography isn't just about capturing moments but also about creating visual narratives. It taught me that every element within a frame matters, and the way we arrange them can evoke emotions and tell stories. Ben's suggestion to share our work on Teams has inspired me to connect with fellow students who share the same passion and exchange ideas. Overall, this talk has sparked a renewed enthusiasm for photography in my life, and I can't wait to put these composition techniques into practice.

中国 4年生

"A Forgotten Master and the Spread of JUDO"

Actually I have practiced Kendo for over 10 years, so I felt a kinship with this content. In this talk, the most impressive words for me were "There is no hiding in judo, which is a personal game." I took these words to mean that you should be thankful for the opponent's presence. In martial arts, it would not even be possible to have a match without an opponent because it is basically one-on-one. That's why you should have

courtesy and respect for others. Craig Jones Sensei said that he wants to learn a “beautiful judo.” I believed that valuing the basics is what made me a beautiful and attractive player. I think this goes for other sports and studies as well. On this point, I totally agree with him. Thanks for your great talk.

ドイツ 1年生

I learned the history of Judo in foreign countries through today's speech. I have not heard about Yukio Tani before. I learned that he fought with players of other martial arts and his strength made people in the U.K. learn about Judo. It was interesting that the player who lost to Yukio wrote “unknown” so that he would not be embarrassed. Additionally, it was also interesting that the player who fought with Yukio said that he suddenly went to sleep, and Yukio was like a magician. Yukio Tani is a great person, but I also wonder if he did not receive criticism. That is because he broke the status of Jigoro Kano “Japanese should not fight for money”. Today, the population of Judo players is growing in the world, however most of the medalists are Japanese, so I believe that more players from various countries will get medals as well and Judo will become an international sport in the future.

英米 2年生

Introduction to Photographic Composition

Thank you for your presentation. As it is common for people to take pictures on their smartphone and post them on social media, lots of people attempt to take attractive photos. However, the elements of composition that you introduced were things that were not on my mind, which means I have been ‘taking’ photos and not ‘making’ them. I was surprised at the difference it makes when we use one of the elements and when we do not, and this made me realize the importance of using them. I also learned that even if it is not a conversation, eye contact is important in pictures because, as you mentioned, “The eyes are the windows to the soul”. After listening to your presentation, I am willing to use the elements of composition, but since I am a beginner, I would like to focus on practicing each element one by one and try to ‘make’ photos and not ‘take’ them.

留学生 1年生

I loved this talk by Professor Alan Roger.

He taught us rules about photograph that I don't think many of us know. For example, there are the 7 elements of composition in photograph.

I'm sure we were using them without realizing it, but having explanations and examples allowed me to discover a new aspect of photograph.

In particular, I loved Negative Space. This rule intrigues me because it isolates the subject from the real world. What's more, I'm now thinking of making greater use of the "Rules of Thirds" we were introduced to for my Instagram photos. I'm also thinking of using different perspectives, for example, here in Japan, we can take photos of Temples. However, being very touristy in general, there's no originality in the photos. So we can change that with perspectives and why not play on the "Rules of Thirds" too! :) This is an example of a photograph playing with perspective (it's not a pro shot, but the effort is there).



フランス 2年生

My hobby is drawing digital illustrations. Paintings and photos are very similar. The lectures included not only techniques that I already knew, but also techniques that I learned for the first time. I think I'll try it in my pictures.

Particularly interesting was a photo of a baby and a dog that looked like the baby. It was interesting not just because they looked like, but also because it was a miracle that these two things were able to pose and look at the camera at the same time. Unlike photography, painting is fun because we can create fantasies, but on the other hand, we can also create miracles. I was able to realize that the beauty of photography is that it allows me to capture true miracles.

スペイン・ポルトガル 1年生

I would like to write a short essay about JUDO. I did Judo for 6 years so this topic was very interesting to hear. Mr. Craig said "they removed techniques that rely on power" I extremely sympathized with this opinion. And when I heard this opinion, I was happy because my English teacher from England knew Judo. That presentation has video and pictures so we can easily understand what presenter want to say. I am not good at making good presentation so I want to imitate what he did at his presentation. His presentation remains me of my history about Judo and I want to play Judo again.

中国 2年生

The talk about techniques for taking photos was very interesting. Humans have their reasons for what

they think is beautiful. One example is the golden ratio. In addition to learning about photography techniques, I also learned about why certain photos look beautiful. I have one photo that I really like. This photo was taken by a man who went to see a bird funeral in Tibet.



<http://s-scrap.com/788>

I was very shocked. Because the photo is so relaxed and beautiful for a funeral, and the woman's smile and the blue plateau leave a lasting impression. Then there are the corpses and vultures being crushed and mixed with wheat. Everything is a cacophony. But beautiful. What does this mean. So I decided to compare this photo with the techniques I learned in this lecture.



I used the rule of thirds, which is the most visualization technique, but it didn't apply to it. However, I think juxtaposition and pattern are used. Corpses, funerals, idyllic scenery, and smiles. These are diametrically opposed. The pattern is expressed with many vultures, mountains, and clouds. This is the true nature of photographs that are dissonant yet beautiful. It was very interesting.

留学生 1年生

As someone who practiced Judo for 8 years during my childhood, I was always blindsided by the “sport”, the competitive aspect that quickly grew in popularity, especially in Europe and in the past decades or so. This talk however made me relativize that Judo can and is “more than a sport”. In fact, it is also a martial “art” and a way of “self-defence”; as there is — in my humble opinion — some beauty to be found in witnessing the ability a Judoka has to use gravity, leverage, as well as their adversary’s aggression, to lead them to their own downfall (which may be followed by a pin, choke or armbar...). Moreover, there is a kind of poetic justice to “a contest between a giant and a child” as Mr. Craig John put it, some kind of ironic David and Goliath scenario if you will. Thus, I think that Judo should not pigeonholed as but a sport, when it’s so much more than that; A martial art, a way of life, a philosophy even.