

ERC NEWS LETTER

No.2

Interview with Prof. Muranishi



Our guest this time is assistant professor Yuki Muranishi. She is in the Department of Life Science and Agriculture.

1. Please tell us your English learning experience after high school. How do you got to your current level of English?

I had a great opportunity to learn English and to meet foreigners in my lab when I was a student in Obihiro University. And, our lab head often invited famous researchers, so we could hear their research presentation. This environment made me naturally speaking English whether good or bad English level. Later, I went to France for research as post doc and learned French which was new communication tool.

2. How and where do you use English for your work (writing, speaking, listening, and reading)?

Many research information is written in English, so I must use English every day, reading, writing, speaking and listening. I make effort to study English and French by NHK radio. And I enjoy listening to foreign music and watching CNN.

3. What is the most difficult part of English for you?

Polite English is difficult when I write letters for official document. And,

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Japanese courtesy sentence is too special to translate in English.

4. How often do you use English for personal reasons, not work reasons?

I like to eat special cuisine in the world. When I visit a foreign country, I buy cookbooks. I prefer to try cooking using the book written in other language, English or French.

5. In your opinion, what are the differences in English that Chikudai undergraduate students and graduate students should learn?

I am thinking that undergraduate students should increase vocabulary in English. My students said that reading books from the ERC is useful to study English. This work includes reading skill and learning many words. For graduate student I recommend to make opportunity using English in your environment. You can find a lot of chances to learn English, for example: go abroad, speak foreigner student, and read research papers in English without special English school!

6. What advice do you want to give to any Chikudai students about English?

To enjoy English, I recommend speaking with foreigners! Don't hesitate to talk.

Agriculture is most important industry for life, and these products make a circle all over the world. Therefore, you must use English for work whether you like it or not.

You should go abroad at least once. I think that you can find necessity of English. And later, you can enjoy to stay and communicate in foreign country.

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America Travelogue

Yoshie Nakamura, a 2nd year student. She said this about her trip. I went to lots of good places after school on weekdays. And I went to beaches, the huge shopping mall and sightseeing on weekends. This experience gave me lots of things and I could see lots of good side and not good side of Japan and the U.S.



Australia Travelogue

Marina Naoi, 5th grade of Veterinary Medicine, travelogue Australia, Ghana and the USA



I went to Australia (internship at Australia Zoo Wildlife Hospital), Ghana (internship at La Veterinary Hospital) and the USA (research at Tufts University) to study English and veterinary medicine and to obtain further experiments overseas. After finishing my journey, I improved many skills and found that normal in Japan is not normal at all in other

countries. Now I could think much more flexible than when I only knew the life in Japan, in many ways. It was a memorable and valuable trip.

Pumpkin carving

This year, the ERC had its annual Halloween pumpkin carving day. About 6 students came to make the Jack-O'-Lanterns, and most of the students took them home. Here is a short report from Taisei Oka, a 1st year student in this university, reports about this event and his experience.

In November, I carved a pumpkin and made a Jack-o'-Lantern in the ERC. I am not good with my fingers so the Jack-o'-Lantern which I carved didn't look good. When I carved a pumpkin, I wanted to eat a pumpkin, too. But the pumpkin also tastes bad because it isn't fit for food. So after I carved the pumpkin, I suffered terribly because I felt hunger.



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The newspaper Alpha replaces Shukan Times.

