

GAZETTE

H o l l y w o o d & W e s t w o o d

MY FAVORITE SEASON

My favorite season is summer. I like sunny days because I feel comfortable. Every summer, there are many sunny days here and in Japan. Last year, I spent a month in LA during the summer. While I was in LA, there were no rainy days. I was so happy. Last time, my school was near the beach so I often went there and the beach during summer was different from other seasons. Of course the beach during this season is beautiful but the beach during summer was especially great. I usually go back to my hometown in summer and I visit the famous river there. The surface color of the river is emerald green and every time I am impressed by the view. When I was an elementary school student, I went to the river and swam with my friends and my family. It was so fun and a good memory. If I have a chance to introduce famous spots in Japan, I would introduce this river.

By Honoka Iwasa

DO YOU LIKE LEARNING LANGUAGES?

In my personal experience, Mandarin Chinese is one of the most challenging languages to learn. Mandarin Chinese has Pinyin, which is the official romanization system for Standard Mandarin Chinese, and it also has four tones, twenty-three initials, and twenty-four finals. The most challenging part is learning Pinyin and the tones, and then mastering new words and grammar. Poor grammar skills can make it difficult to write a good article.

To improve your Mandarin skills, it is essential to listen more and more.

These are my suggestions.

By Lisa Zhang



IS ENGLISH MORE DIFFICULT THAN YOUR NATIVE LANGUAGE?

By Miyu Sakurada

I believe that my native language, Japanese, is more difficult than English for several reasons.

Firstly, Japanese has three writing systems: Hiragana, Katakana, and Kanji. Learning these three writing systems can be challenging, and there are many Kanji idioms to learn how to read. Sometimes, the same Kanji can be read differently depending on the context. For example, 朝 is read “Asa”, but 朝食 is read “choshoku”. This makes it difficult for me to learn how to read kanji properly.

Secondly, in Japanese, we have to learn the honorific language, which is used to show respect to different people in different situations. I think this is one of the reasons why English is simpler than Japanese. We have to use the honorific language differently depending on the time and situation, and it can be challenging to remember all the rules, especially when we’re young.

Lastly, Japanese has many idioms that are commonly used in everyday conversation. According to an article, we need to understand 3000 English words to have a general conversation, but we need to know 5000 Japanese words to have the same conversation. Therefore, Japanese students have to learn many words from elementary school to high school.

In conclusion, I find Japanese more difficult than English due to its complex writing systems, the use of honorific language, and the need to learn many idioms.

WHY DO SOME PEOPLE PREFER TO TAKE CLASSES ONLINE RATHER THAN IN TRADITIONAL CLASSROOM SETTINGS?



In recent times, many people have opted for online classes instead of traditional classroom settings. There are various reasons for this trend. Firstly, the COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on people's lives. Online classes allow individuals to learn without the risk of being infected by the virus. This factor has made online classes a safer option.

Secondly, online classes offer more flexibility in terms of time management. Students do not have to spend time commuting to the classroom, which can be a time-consuming and tiring process. Additionally, online classes can be taken at any time, making it easier for students to fit learning into their schedules. This convenience allows students to get more information and stay updated with their coursework.

Thirdly, online classes can save students the trouble of changing clothes. Most online classes only require audio or a screen view of the upper body, which makes it easier to take classes without worrying about appearance or dress codes.

Lastly, online classes offer various types and features of classes. Students can record sessions for later review, ask questions using online chat, and listen to the classes while doing other activities. These features make online classes more engaging and convenient.

In conclusion, taking classes online has become a popular option for many students. The flexibility, convenience, and safety factors of online classes make it a suitable choice for individuals who prefer to learn in a comfortable and secure environment.

By Ayano Sakurai

FRENCH TRADITIONS

Upon arriving in the United States, I was surprised by the cultural differences between our countries. Some of the cliches I had about Americans turned out to be true, while others were not. In this essay, I will introduce you to some French cliches and share my perspective on their accuracy.

Firstly, the most well-known French tradition is “La Bise”. When meeting someone in France, it is customary to give them a kiss on the cheek, with the number of kisses varying by region, but typically two starting from the right cheek. This gesture is typically done between friends or when meeting someone for the first time as a greeting.

Another cliché is that the French consume a lot of wine, bread, and cheese. In this case, the stereotype is true. While not everyone drinks wine every day, many French people do, and cheese is a staple in most French meals, especially during family celebrations.

Croissants and pain au chocolat (chocolate croissant) are also commonly associated with France, but in reality, the French typically eat sliced bread with jam or cereal for breakfast. Croissants and pain au chocolat are usually reserved for weekend breakfasts.

As for smoking, it is true that France has around 15 million smokers, which is quite a high number. I often recognize French people here by their cigarette habits.

Lastly, there is the stereotype of French arrogance. While it is true that many criticize the French for being rude and condescending, this is mostly attributed to Parisians, who have a reputation for it. However, it is fair to say that the French have a tendency to judge others.

In conclusion, while Parisian life may not be exactly like in “Emily in Paris,” France does have its own unique traditions and stereotypes, some of which are true and some of which are not.

By Morgan Lochin





HOW TO PREPARE YOUR FAVORITE DISH

Today, I would like to introduce you to my favorite dish - Fried Rice Noodles. To start, it is essential to buy Rice Noodles from Thailand, as they have a refreshing taste. Then, soak an appropriate amount of Rice Noodles in room temperature water for an hour. While the Rice Noodles soak, prepare the seasoning ingredients, including 5 cloves of garlic, 2 small peppers, a carrot, half an onion, 10 dry mushrooms (pre-soaked), a little pepper powder, an appropriate amount of fish sauce, oyster sauce, and additional pepper powder.

Once the Rice Noodles are ready, fry three eggs first, and then proceed to fry the Rice Noodles. In my opinion, Rice Noodles are one of the most delicious foods in the world - it has a fragrant garlic aroma and a spicy kick from the chilies. If there were no bread in the world, it wouldn't matter as long as there were Rice Noodles.

By Lisa Caixia Zhang

WHY PEOPLE ARE GETTING MARRIED AT AN OLDER AGE

By Sarasa Sugihara



In recent years, there has been a trend of people getting married at an older age. In my opinion, there are two main reasons for this trend.

Firstly, finding the right person to marry has become more difficult. Unlike in previous generations, people are much busier and it is harder to meet potential partners. Additionally, the idea that women should not work has changed, and more women are pursuing their careers. In countries like Japan, where the economy is in crisis and salaries are decreasing, people must work harder to earn enough money to support themselves and their families. Therefore, they cannot afford to get married at a young age and have children.

The second reason is that people often feel lonely when they get older. After finishing a busy season of work, they may have enough money to live alone and not have much to do. In such cases, people may consider getting married as a way to have a more stable and fulfilling life. Having someone to talk to every day and to share their life with can be emotionally and financially beneficial.

In conclusion, people are getting married at an older age due to various societal and economic factors. Finding the right partner has become more challenging, and people often feel the need to focus on their careers and finances before settling down. Moreover, loneliness can also play a role in people's decision to get married later in life. If the government could raise salaries and provide better economic support, more people would be able to get married at a younger age.

A piece of advice that you have gotten and why you think it's true.

One of the best pieces of advice I have ever received is to maintain a positive attitude and stay focused on my goals, regardless of the challenges life presents. It's crucial to recognize that I am in charge of my own life and the direction it takes. By remaining positive and focused in all circumstances, I am able to stay motivated and achieve any objectives I set for myself. Therefore, it is important to be open to receiving advice and making changes in your life.

By Oliver Wohkittel

