

県高校英語スピーチコンテスト西濃地区大会 出場

～1年生1名、2年生1名が出場しました～

平成28年度第10回岐阜県高等学校英語スピーチコンテスト西濃地区大会が10月1日（土）大垣南高校で開催され、岩水 五月さん（1年生）、小林 耕太郎君（2年生）が出場しました。

岩水さんは“Music is Magic.”というタイトルで、音楽の力、素晴らしさを、小林君は“How to use life.”というタイトルで、命のあることに感謝し、目標に向かって努力することの大切さを発表しました。

英語スピーチコンテストの目的は、県内の高校生に英語で自分の考えや経験を発表する場を提供し、英語力の向上を目指すものです。今回の西濃地区大会には24名が出場しました。上位3名が10月22日（土）に開催される県大会の代表となります。

県大会には、各地区からの代表20名が出場し、最優秀賞1名と優秀賞1名の2名が11月13日（日）の全国高等学校英語スピーチコンテスト東海北陸ブロック大会に県代表として出場します。

今回の地区大会では、二人とも惜しくも入賞を逃しましたが、堂々と英語で自分の考えを発表することができ、自信を深めたとともに、ここに至るまでの学習は今後の彼らの英語学習に大いに役立つことと思います。今後の活躍に期待しています。



【参加者の感想より】

▶ 岩水 五月さん

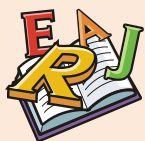
「私は、はじめて、スピーチコンテストに出場しました。当日は、とても、緊張しましたが、原稿を見ずに、スピーチすることができました。ただ、大好きな音楽に関するスピーチでしたが、スピーチするのが精一杯で、気持ちをこめることができませんでした。英語が好きなので、この経験をいかして、頑張りたいと思います。」

小林 耕太郎君

「今回、スピーチコンテストに出場して、英語で意見を伝えるためには、英語力だけでなく、話し方や、ジェスチャーも大切であることが分かりました。将来、英語を使う仕事に就きたいので、今後は、英語の勉強だけでなく、このことも勉強していきたいと思います。また、熱心に指導していただいた先生方、ありがとうございました。」



【岩水さんのスピーチ原稿】



Music Is Magic

Ikeda Senior High School
1st grade, Satsuki Iwamizu

I believe that music is a powerful magic. Why? Okay, I'll tell you.

In sixth grade elementary school, my cousin, who was a member of the brass band club invited me to one of their usual concerts. Their performance was so moving that I decided to join a brass band club. It's been four years since then.

Playing the saxophone was my first choice. However, I was told to play the bassoon. This got me a little disappointed at first but, I was still excited to start practicing the type of music we love. But then came another disappointment. All day long, we practiced basic tunes and, for contests, we practiced two pieces of music for very long hours. It became very hard for me to follow the club's usual pace.

In first grade junior high school, everyone practiced very hard for the summer contest. This was the most important contest for the club, so band members really wanted a good result. However, at the time I did not fully understand the importance of this contest, and was surprised when all the senior club members cried because the club did not do so well at that year's contest. I was surprised, but at the same time, that scene woke me up, and for the first time, I understood the importance of this contest.

Since then, I began working on my music, aiming to become a good performer. One day, however, I became nervous during practice and had an argument with a senior club member. At the time, I couldn't say what I thought to anyone so I became depressed. It was then Mr. Nishikawa, the advisor of the brass band club, helped us to solve the disagreement. Since that time, I decided that I would become the best performer in my club.

When I became a third grader in junior high, I became self-aware of being a senior club member. For this reason, I worked even harder during the practice sessions. However, Mr. Nishikawa whom I respected the most, was transferred to another junior high school that year.

A new club advisor, Mr. Fujii, was assigned to us but it was hard for us to forget Mr. Nishikawa and we found it hard to easily connect to the new advisor, and because of that the club did not perform well. After this, the club fell into a bad state. However, over time the advisor and club members began to establish a mutual trust and before long the brass band began making beautiful music again.

On the day of the summer contest that year, knowing that the spotlight was on us we could only take deep breaths as we nervously stood on the stage. However, at that moment, Mr. Fujii smiled at us and miraculously, the anxiety and nervousness we all felt suddenly vanished. When

we began to play, beautiful notes echoed in the hall, and I started to remember the various things we had to overcome to be on that stage. When I saw tears brimming in Mr. Fiji's eyes, I fought hard to hold in my own tears while playing my bassoon, because that was the first time I noticed his true feelings and passion. That year, we were chosen to represent Gifu Prefecture.

And so, it's through this experience that I came to think that music, if honest, is a powerful magic. Honest music can move many people and we can even communicate without words. Moments like that, must be magic. And so, I want to move many more people with the music I play. That is my dream, my desire and my aim.

Thank you for your kind attention.

【小林君のスピーチ原稿】

How to Use our Lives

Ikeda High School
2nd grade, Kotaro Kobayashi

Have you ever thought about how to use your life? I feel that I have gotten close to my dream since I entered Ikeda Senior High School. In the near future I hope I can study in a university of foreign languages. My dream is to work overseas as a hotel employee who can help Japanese people. When I stayed at a hotel in Thailand, I was very nervous because many of the people around us were Thais or tourists who did not speak Japanese. Fortunately there was one very kind Japanese hotel staff there. His hospitality was so wonderful that we could feel very relieved and comfortable. Our family trip became one of our best memories for all of us. I would like to be a person like him who can help people when someone is in trouble. I want to make use of English for those who need help.

It was my first experience to enjoy a homestay and I could use only English there. I thought I prepared my English enough for the tour in advance, but in reality I had some difficulties making myself understood in natural English. I also had a hard time answering simple questions about Japan, such as "How much is the *Shinkansen* fare?" I was very nervous and disappointed to find out that I lacked the knowledge of Japan. I should have studied about Japan and my culture more. Through my hardships I almost gave up my dream. I thought I wouldn't be able to make my dream come true.

During my homestay in New Zealand, I had an opportunity to visit a church in Christchurch. The church was damaged by the huge earthquake in 2011. Many people were killed and injured by the earthquake. The victims included some exchange students from Japan. They were the same age as I am. The church made me feel mysterious and wonderful. Through this experience I realized the importance of life. I could feel "we are alive!". Just being alive is wonderful and important. If we are alive, we can challenge anything again and again. We are only human. We are bound to mistake.

Sometimes things might not go well, but I think it is O.K. We don't need to care about the result so much. Nothing is more important than life.

In the news, we see many victims of heinous acts of terrorism and natural disasters all over the world. Every time I see such news, I realize that the people who lost their lives had to give up their dreams against their will. I am alive. We are alive now! We have our own lives! How to use our lives is important. Challenging yourself is important even if you fail again and again. I believe if you continue to make efforts and never give up, you can accomplish anything.

I would just like to say "thank you" to Ikeda town for giving me a wonderful experience from the bottom of my heart. Luckily, I had the valuable experience of my stay in New Zealand. I am also grateful to have lived in Thailand for five years when I was an elementary pupil. Through these two experiences, I could notice and realize the differences between Japan and other countries, like Thailand, and New Zealand. We must use our precious important lives. Many difficulties such as disasters and tragedies give us chances to think about our future, what we feel, and how we should act. I would like to think about my future deeply and plan my life. I will stress the importance of how to use our life. I would like to keep on trying to make my dream come true. I really believe that the day will come!

Thank you for listening.