

What We Need is *Passion* for English

-Learning from English education in Singapore-

Key words: English education, passion, Singapore, elementary school

2748 Kochi Nishi High School



Introduction

The world is rapidly **globalizing**. English is become a more and more widely used all over the world. However, in Japan we don't have enough English skills in Japan. Especially in **Kochi prefecture**. Junior high school students' English skills are lower than the national average. We think the reason is because English classes in elementary schools are too simple. So we decided to focus on how to improve the English skills of elementary school students.

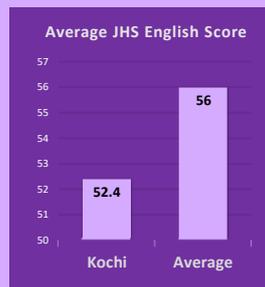
Purpose

To be globalized citizens, the skill of **language, communication** and the **courage to change** are essential. However, Japanese people don't have English skills.

- In Kochi, students **English skills are lower**
- Imitate Singapore education system.

Researching Singapore

- In Singapore, they have great English skill
- **Reading skill, scientific and mathematical literacy**



Methods and Results

1. Noriko Imai Professor of Kochi University.
 - Singapore Education system
 - Teacher training in Singapore
 - Packing text books
 - Thinking ability in English is important
 - Teachers have to change the way of teaching

Trade Ranking

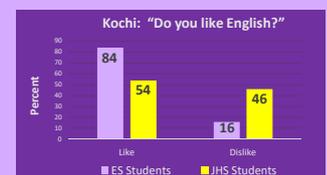
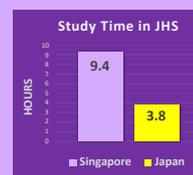
1. New Zealand
2. Singapore
3. Denmark
- ...
39. Japan

2. Singapore

- Worldwide trading partners
- English is a communication tool
- Japan: Focus on grammar
- Singapore: Focus on speaking
- PSLE → have to study hard

3. Passion

- Positive attitude
- Singapore people know usefulness of studying
- Teachers teach studying



Conclusion

It is **difficult to adopt Singapore education system** because of our cultural differences. However, we can emulate their way of nurturing students' positive attitude toward English learning – that is having passion for it. If we can fill the English education gap between elementary school and junior high, it would help keep their interest and positive attitudes in English learning even after they get into junior high school.

Future Research

We will research how to make students have motivation for studying English by;

- Packing text books
- English for communication



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