

Labor Gakuen Courses

Short Courses

During the spring break at the end of March, we will be offering several short courses that may interest you:

1. English Study with Internet

For Intermediate students and up. Due to popularity last term, we will once again be holding this course on how to use the Internet to practice English outside of class.

2. Travel English

For Novice and Elementary students. This course will help you use your English skills when traveling so you can enjoy your trip abroad.

3. Translating & Reading Children's Books

For Pre-Intermediate and up. Do you like children's stories? Then why not use your English skills to translate some simple stories into English?

TEACHER NEWS

As of April, a new teacher will be joining us to replace Chris McCooney who has gone back to live in Canada. Here's a quick hello!

Hello. My name is Kris Evans. I'm from Birmingham in England. I have been living in Japan for over six years now.

In my free time I like making things, in particular paintings. I am planning on having a show of my recent works in the near future. I also love to eat and cook Japanese food. So, if you have any recommendations, please don't hesitate to share them with me.

I enjoy teaching English; having taught for eight years in London and Japan. I hope that I can make your studies both fun and rewarding. I look forward to meeting you soon.

Labor Gakuen Teacher Releases Short Film



Kyoto Guide Course teacher Roger Walch held the world premiere of his one-hour feature film **Tengu** in Kyoto in February.

Roger, from Switzerland, has taught at Labor Gakuen for several years and made two short feature films in Kyoto. Both films are made around Kyoto and involve odd experiences of foreigners in Japan. Roger uses Japanese and non-Japanese actors, and writes dialogue in both Japanese and English.

In **Tengu**, 'David' comes to Japan for one week to study traditional legends. He is supposed to meet Professor Ozawa, an expert in the field. But when he arrives, he gets picked up by Ozawa's two female assistants, Sanae and Manami. They bring him to a traditional guest-house. A strange man in the bath house tells David about the local Tengu legend. David is immediately fascinated. But the more he finds out, the more he is drawn into his own past-life.

As a matter of fact some Tengu legends can be connected to shipwrecked foreigners who were forced to live in hiding in the Japanese mountains during the Sakoku (closed country) period (1637 - 1853).

Ultimately, **Tengu** is the story of a Westerner who becomes the origin of a famous Japanese legend.

There are two more screenings of **Tengu** - 1pm Sun. Mar. 8 at Shinbun Onna Bar in Osaka, and 7pm Fri. Mar.13 at Dogra Magra, Osaka. See the website www.rowmuse.com for details.

Japanese English

In Japan there are many signs that have strange English. For example...



Are you delicious? Can people eat you? This is very strange English! Perhaps BE HAPPY! EAT DELICIOUS FOOD HERE! would be better.

As experienced students of English can you improve the English in these examples?

no.1



no.2



no.3



Japanese English part2

Sometimes the grammar is fine and it's just the spelling that is strange. Can you correct the spelling mistakes in these examples?

no.1



no.2



no.3



no.4

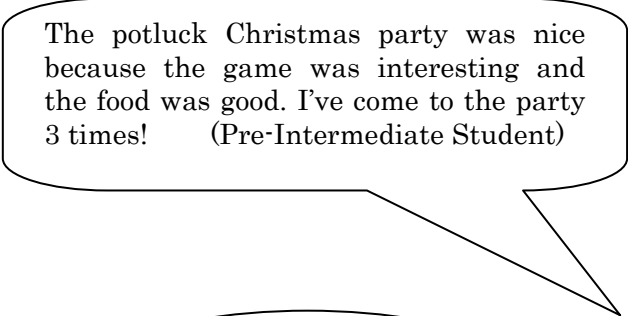


Student Interview

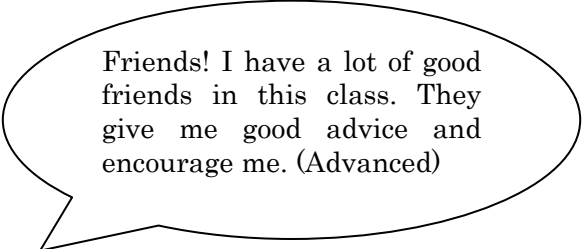
We asked students to talk about their English studies at Labor Gakuen and to give advice to students moving up to their level next term.

Here are some interesting answers that we would like to share with you.....

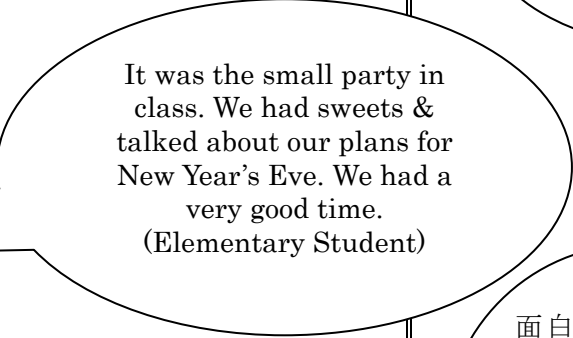
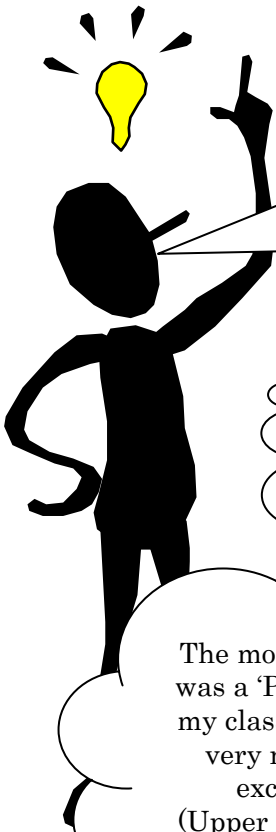
Q.1 What is a memorable moment you've had at Labor Gakuen?



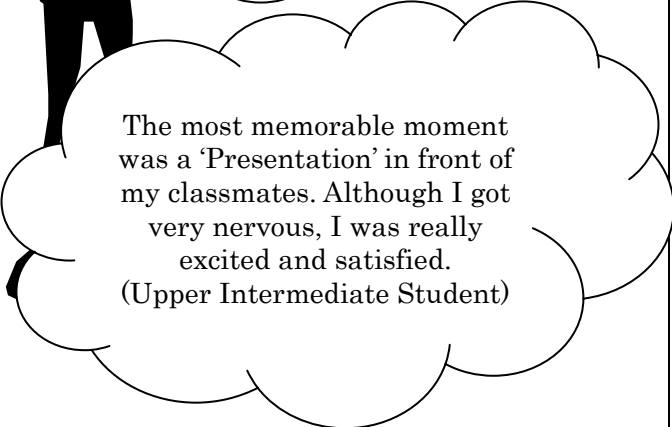
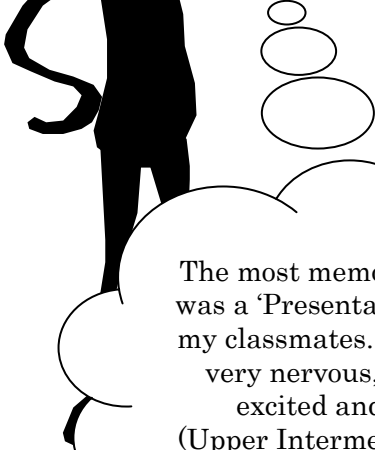
The potluck Christmas party was nice because the game was interesting and the food was good. I've come to the party 3 times! (Pre-Intermediate Student)



Friends! I have a lot of good friends in this class. They give me good advice and encourage me. (Advanced)

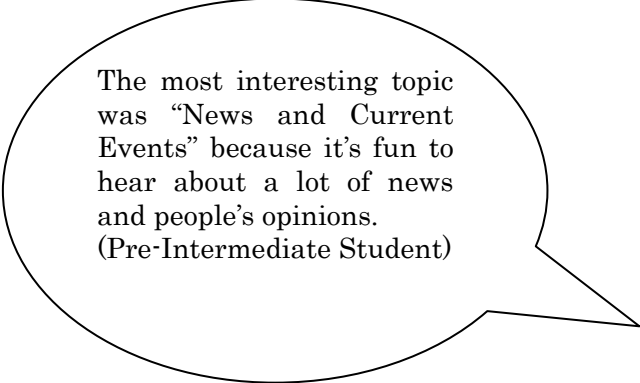


It was the small party in class. We had sweets & talked about our plans for New Year's Eve. We had a very good time. (Elementary Student)

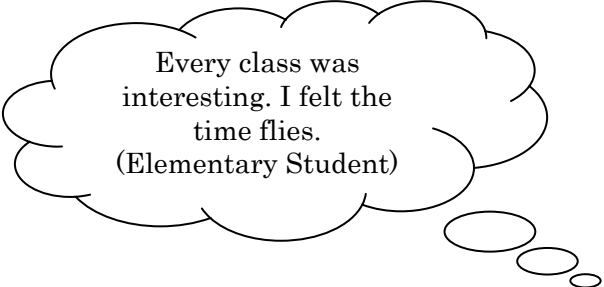


The most memorable moment was a 'Presentation' in front of my classmates. Although I got very nervous, I was really excited and satisfied. (Upper Intermediate Student)


Q.2 What was the most interesting topic you studied this year?



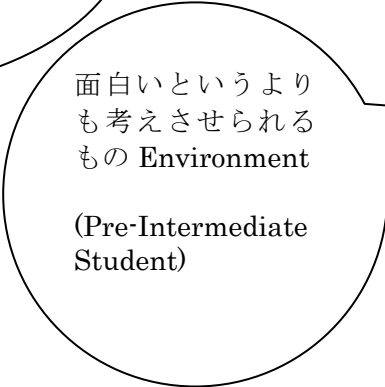

The most interesting topic was "News and Current Events" because it's fun to hear about a lot of news and people's opinions. (Pre-Intermediate Student)



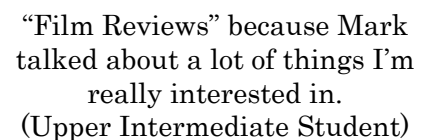
Every class was interesting. I felt the time flies. (Elementary Student)



BBC news story on the gorillas and chimpanzees in Africa. (International media student).



面白いというよりも考えさせられるもの Environment (Pre-Intermediate Student)




"Film Reviews" because Mark talked about a lot of things I'm really interested in. (Upper Intermediate Student)

Student Interview (continued...)

Q.3 What advice would you give to lower level students moving up to your level?

Review the lesson. Don't hesitate to ask your teacher. The more you make mistakes, the more your English will improve. (Upper Intermediate Student)

Raise your courage to try to speak English at any opportunity! (Upper Intermediate student)



ラポール学園に来たら、自分を俳優だと思えば、自由にふるまえてはずかしがらずにレベルアップができるよ！
(Novice Student)

Don't worry, please relax! Our teacher is always kind to us, and classmates are very friendly too!
(Elementary student)

周囲を気にせず、自分のレベルに合ったクラスで勉強する事。 (Elementary Student)

Review is most important, and you shouldn't be shy for the class. When you make a sentence in English, you should make it as simple as possible. (Pre-Intermediate Student)

Listen to English if possible every day!
(Elementary Student)

Utilise the ESL websites as much as possible.
(Advanced student)

積み重ねが大事だと思うので、毎日一回英語の本を開けて勉強することが大切だと思います。
(Upper-Intermediate Student)

Please don't hesitate to ask questions to your classmates and teacher. Let's have active discussions! (Intermediate student).