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Problems with English education in Japan

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In recent year, English skill have become more and more necessary in society. When finding a job, you are often required to speak another language besides English. It is taken for granted that you can speak English. However, I think Japanese are not good at speaking English. Actually, I do not like English and I am not good at it. In my opinion, there are some problems with English education in Japan. Most Japanese study English for six years in junior high and high school. However, English classes are not helping students improve their speaking skills. So, in this essay, I will point out the problems with English education in Japan and suggest solutions.

First of all, I would like to think about problems with English education in Japan. In Japan, studying English for high school and university entrance exams is the main focus. In most cases, students just listen to teachers and solve problems. Students will learn English reading, grammar and listening. There are few opportunities to practice communication in English. At my school, I had English speaking classes about twice a week in junior high school, but we did not have many opportunities in high school. In classes taught by native English teachers, the focus was on making presentations and giving speeches in English rather than on communicating in English. Presentation and speech skills are also important. However, I do not think it will develop the ability to communicate with others. Presentations and speeches can be prepared in advance. On the other hand, communication unfolds on the spot. I believe that being able to speak immediately is true English skill.

Next, I will suggest what Japanese school education should do to improve the ability to communicate in English. First, Japanese schools should provide more opportunities for students to communicate with others in English. This may seem obvious, but it seems the most important thing. I think Tutorial English we are taking now is the best style for improving our English communication skills. In this class, we will learn useful phrases based on everyday conversation topics and practice conversation a lot. I think classes like this should be introduced from junior high school. By learning and practicing useful English conversation phrases, students will no longer feel reluctant to speak English.

In addition, I think that English education in elementary schools should be enhanced. Some elementary school students take junior high school entrance exams, but many elementary school students do not need to study for the exam. This is an important time to improve their English skills. It is said that children have better hearing and learn languages ​​faster. Furthermore, people will be less likely to be uncomfortable with English.

Despite of many English classes in Japan, Japanese have poor English communication skills. Of course, individual effort is also important. However, I think that English education in Japan is bad. Nowadays, there are many foreign people in Japan. Moreover, more and more companies are requiring employees to be able to speak English. Therefore, I believe that it is necessary to immediately reconsider Japan's English education system and improve English skills of Japanese.

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