



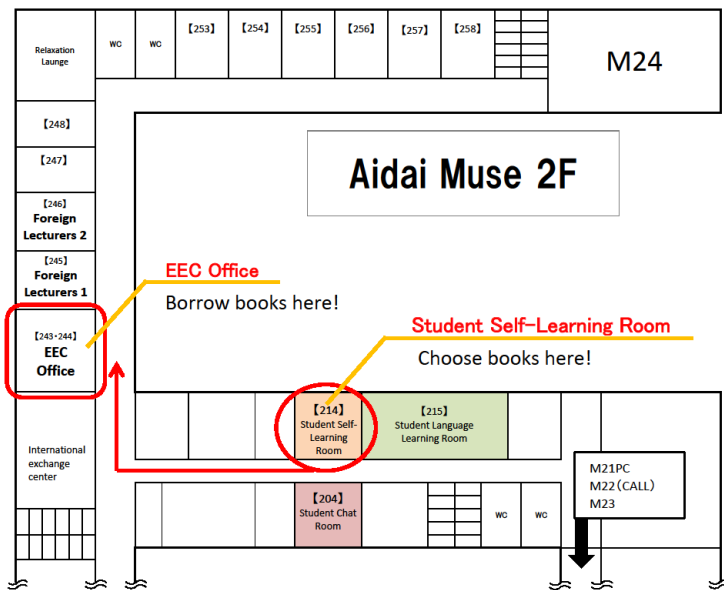
Topics

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A New Electronic Library System Introduced

A new EEC electronic library system started on October 29. You need a library card to borrow English books in Student Self-Learning Room on the 2nd floor of the middle wing of Aidai Muse. If you don't have a library card, please come to the EEC office. Your library card will be issued a few days later. (First year students have been already given their own library cards during English classes.)

Currently "Graded Readers" in levels one to five in Student Self-Learning Room are ready for you to borrow. Each student can check out up to three books for two weeks.



What are Graded Readers?

Graded readers are "easy reading" books for people who study English as a second language. They are shortened and simplified to make them easier to read.

Easy Rules for readers

- 1) No dictionaries while reading
- 2) Skip over difficult words
- 3) Stop reading when it is boring or too difficult

Which book should I read?

Any book you like. You should start from the book you think it easy.

English Education Center has more than 2,500 English Graded Readers. Levels have been expanded to 10 levels from 7 levels. Aidai students can enjoy reading many English books in Student Self-Learning Room.



Reports From Students

Studying abroad is exciting!

Here are three reports: from China, Canada and U.S.A.

Experience in Wuhan

Tetsuo Shimomura (Faculty of Agriculture)

Have you ever been to China before? It was 2 years ago when I determined to study in China. It was just after participating in the summer camp in Shanghai. At that time, the energetic atmosphere given off by the people gave me attractive impression. For example, quite many Chinese people were aggressively asking tourists to purchase goods in the loud voice I had never heard. I still have a deep impression, because their making desperate efforts for surviving cannot be seen in Japan.

One year after my determination to study in China, I began to stay at university in Wuhan, located at center of China. Spending 10 months studying there gave me great inspiration. I actively made a lot of international friends beyond nationality, gender and age because I wished to work at United Nation in the future. In addition to the Asian and African students, the students from western countries such as France, Germany, Italy and Canada came to study.

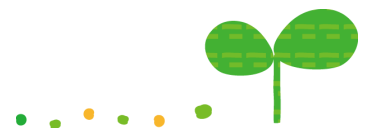


English corner friends celebrated my birthday!!

I have a best Chinese friend whom I knew when I participated in the English activity called English Corner. She has such a great passion that she concentrates on studying even on weekends for accomplish a vivid goal. She said to me that I am the first Japanese friend for her. According to her, I am different from the Japanese in the anti-Japanese drama describing the Japanese as cruel. She also told me that the real Japanese is a calm and attentive and that she was glad to make friends with me. After coming back to Japan, I have kept in touch with her. We promise to meet again in 7 years when Tokyo Olympic will be held. I look forward to seeing her again!!!



With friends in my dormitory room:D



I joined Short-Term English Program (STEP) at the University of Washington, Seattle in August. In this newsletter, I would like to write about what I learned and how I'm stimulated myself to step forward to future through invaluable experiences in the program.

First, I was able to broaden my world-views. As soon as I arrived in Seattle, I realized that a variety of cultures are mixed in the town. The atmosphere where diverse ethnic groups live together in the same place was truly new to me. I was impressed to the American culture and the kindness of American people to minority people like me. Fortunately, I talked with many American people and most of them were very gentle and polite and open-minded to different ethnic people. I thought that positive attitude to "differences" is very important to make friendship with other ethnic groups.

Second, this summer was a turning point for me, in that it was a good opportunity to look back at myself and think seriously about my future. Through STEP, my attitude towards learning English has changed. Before visit to Seattle, I studied English because I thought it was good for career development. But now I study English because I like English. I'm really enthusiastic about improving my English skills to be able to communicate with many people in English.

For the future, I'm going to work in service industries. In concrete, I want to be a tour conductor. I won't be qualified for the job unless I have very positive and friendly attitudes to customers to let them enjoy group travel. Furthermore, tour conductors are responsible for dealing with accidents in travel. When something happens, I should control myself and choose the best solution for problem, even in I'm in foreign countries. I learned the necessity to do my best to satisfy the qualifications through the experiences in Seattle. I don't want my dream to end up being just a dream so I've determined to challenge everything with positive attitude.



**A Key to Successful Communication
—From My Second Studying Abroad—**

Tomoki Mita (Faculty of Engineering)

I joined a summer English language program at the University of Toronto in Canada. There I took an intensive speaking class and did a homestay for 4 weeks. Through my stay in Toronto, I had many valuable experiences. In this newsletter, I want to tell you what I got changed in my mind about how to make good communication rather than simply to enumerate what I did over there.

In my intensive speaking class, there were many students who are from different countries: Chinese, Taiwanese, Brazilian, and Colombian. Those who are from other countries had different behaviors from those of Japanese. For example, Taiwanese students expressed their opinions very actively in class. Sometimes their English was grammatically wrong and their pronunciation was terrible. However, they didn't care about those mistakes and they always played important roles in my class. I thought if I was too careful and hesitated to say a word in my class, they might think I didn't have any idea. So I had to change my behavior when I talked or discussed something with my foreign classmates. Before studying abroad in Toronto, I thought English ability like grammar, vocabulary and pronunciation is important to communicate with foreign people, but after my actual experiences talking with them, I found that changing my behavior according to each person is also an important key to successful communication in the global arena.

