

awa life

**Japanese Support
Volunteers Training
Course**

**Interview with
Kanematsu-san**

February 2022

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**Introduction to the
Tokushima Cleaning
Learning Group**

**Gairaigo Galore:
アンケート**



TOPIA

Awa Life is a Monthly Publication of the Tokushima Prefectural International Exchange Association

While February is usually a relatively cold and dark month in Tokushima, it has lots to offer in terms of festivities and seasonal events. Besides two public holidays, festivities and seasonal features such as Setsubun, Valentine's Day, and the peak of Japan's strawberry season fall into February. How about eating some sushi rolls (the famous ehomaki) for Setsubun, sending your loved ones some Valentine's chocolate, and enjoying an all-you-can-eat experience at a strawberry farm?

For all of those who like writing, please feel free to submit an article to us at any point in time about basically anything. There are a few limitations though, such as you can't write about religion, politics, commercial activities or businesses or anything that we deem inappropriate. But, other than that, we would be more than happy to receive articles about anything and everything including but not limited to concerts, lectures, other events, culture, sports, community group information or anything cool that's happening in your local community.

We highly appreciate all of your articles and we love reading them. So if that writing bug of yours is buzzing about, grab a pen or a computer and write and send away! Please send all submissions to our email:

Your editors,
Sydney and Nico

awalife@gmail.com

Tokushima Prefectural International Exchange Association (TOPIA)

1-61 Terashima Honcho Nishi, Tokushima City 770-0831 JAPAN, Clement Plaza 6F

Tel: 088-656-3303 Fax: 088-652-0616

<http://www.topia.ne.jp/>

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**HAPPY
VALENTINE'S DAY!**



Editors:

Sydney Bartig and Nico Bohnsack

Contributors This Month:

Qing Liu, Fumiko Kanematsu (interviewee), Mako Kobayashi, Kanno Hiroshi, Yoko Aoki

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Interview with Kanematsu-san

By: Qing Liu

The Tokushima Prefectural Labor and Welfare Council is commissioned to provide support programs for youth, the ice age generation, and those who are in need. If you take a look at their website, you can see that they are conducting projects to support foreigners in regards to their daily lives and jobs. One such project for foreigner's job training. During the 2019 fiscal year for the "Beginners Caregiving Training for Foreigners Living in the Prefecture", six foreign residents obtained caregiving qualifications.

Training aimed at Japanese people takes 2 months, and training for foreigners takes 4 months. The reason for this is that it's necessary for foreigners to study Japanese as well during their training. In 2019, a course for mid-level

Japanese and caregiving training was held, but there were few people who were at the mid-level of Japanese. In 2020 the course was canceled due to COVID-19.

In 2021 the course became a beginner's level Japanese course plus caregiving training course. Students are taught words related to caregiving, skills, and how to write daily reports.

For the students, the most difficult part is the language. They

understand the necessary movements, but find it difficult to know which words are easy for the elderly to understand as well as which words to use to respect the patient and not hurt their pride. A variety of situations involving the elderly are taught, and it's necessary to test them out. Everyone was very adept, and they all worked hard for their goal, even going so far as to





listen to their textbook CD in their cars. Some of the students who have visited facilities for the elderly to learn or participate in training have been asked to come back.

Once a week, break time is used to conduct interviews. They talk about their goal for that week and any problems that they may be having. Kanematsu-san remarked on how she hoped the training would be useful for the student's futures and that they could continue the program. She hopes that students who finish the program will recommend it to other foreigners.

Interview with the teacher:

1. Teacher: When the foreign students don't understand something, they clearly say so. When teaching foreign students, it's important not to use technical terms, but rather to use words that will be useful in the workplace and that are easy to understand.

2. Question: When you're teaching, has there ever been a time when the students didn't understand what you were saying?

Teacher: When they don't understand I try conveying the meaning with movements. If they can get the main point then they can understand.

3. Question: Once the students have graduated and start working, is there anything that you are worried about?

Teacher: I worry about their relationship with their colleagues. There are both kind and strict people. There are also Japanese people who are not very good at communication.

4. Teacher: Foreign students are very good at learning by watching people's movements. This ability to see others is one that is universal, and communication is essential for caregiving work.



Interview with the students:

1. I did caregiving work before, but there was a lot of technical terms that I didn't understand. I'm studying here once again.

2. I wanted to study last year, but I was unable to because of COVID-19. By studying Japanese and learning skills, I can more clearly see my future which makes me happy.



Japanese Support Volunteers Training Course

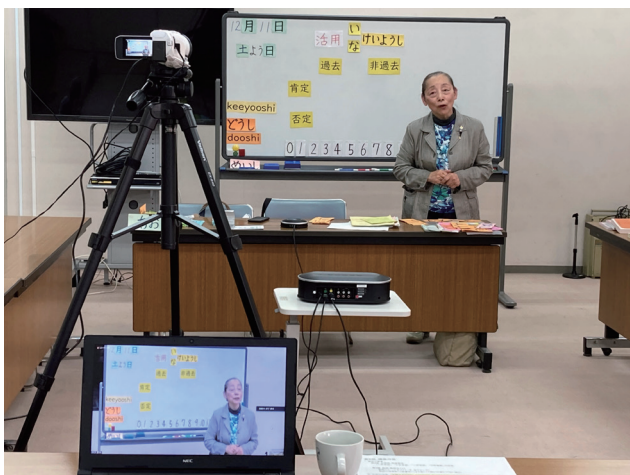
By: Mako Kobayashi

Every year TOPIA holds the “Japanese Support Volunteers Training Course”, but this year it was held online from November to February (9 times). During this course, those with an interest in supporting foreigners through Japanese study support for Japanese and how to teach it. The goal is to work as a Japanese volunteer after the course is over.

Currently there are about 6,600 foreign residents from 80 different countries and regions living in Tokushima Prefecture. In order to support these residents in terms of Japanese, the prefecture commissioned 9 organizations including TOPIA to establish Japanese classes. Many of these Japanese classes are made possible thanks to volunteers, and many of these volunteers and necessary in order to run these Japanese classes.

they might have troubles or questions, and I learn something new every class. Through this course I want to be able to create a place where foreigners who want to learn Japanese can have fun speaking and where we can work out questions in Japanese.

Additionally, a Japanese classroom should be a place not only for students to learn the language, but to learn about Japanese culture and customs as well. By being able to connect with many people it creates a “place for one’s heart”. The one’s who have the important role of creating such a place are the volunteers. I hope to become one of the people who holds that role, and through TOPIA I hope that many people will be interested in creating a place for foreigners to belong.



A look at the training course



An actual Japanese class held at TOPIA

Unlike normal years, the course was held online this year, however we had 40 people interested in Japanese support take part in the course.

Before I started working at TOPIA, when I saw a foreigner in trouble, I would always talk to them in English. However, by interacting with people of a variety of nationalities at TOPIA, I have come to learn about “simple Japanese” and that it is possible to understand one another through simple words and short phrases. Since taking this course, I have had many opportunities to think by the “learner’s point of view” and see where

You can find Japanese teaching materials that TOPIA has created online! Take a look! (TOPIA’s website).



Japanese Culture and Reading Corner: バレンタインデー

By: Mako Kobayashi

みなさんは 2月14日が バレンタインデー (St. Valentine's Day) という日だと知っていますか。
正式な名前は セイントバレンタインデーで、キリスト教の 盛んな国々では、聖人である バレン
タイン司祭を お祝いする日です。一般的には 大切な人に プレゼントを贈って、お祝いをす
る日で 有名です。

日本では 女性が 男性に チョコレートを 贈ることが定番ですが、会社や 学校の 男性に
「義理チョコ」として あげる人も います。

最近では、その定番も 変化していて、友だちに あげる「友チョコ」、自分のための「自分チョコ」
として チョコレートを 買ったり、手作りしたりします。

みなさんの 国では、バレンタインデーには 大切な人に 何かを 贈りますか。



Vocabulary List

正式な	Official	お祝いする	Celebrate	定番	Standard (thing)	買う	Buy
盛んな	Active	贈り物	Gift	最近	Recently		
一般的に	In general	贈る	Give	義理	Duty		

Gairaigo Galore



アンケート (Questionnaire)

By: Sydney Bartig



If you've lived in Japan long enough then you've probably run across the word “アンケート” at some point. Maybe you've been stopped at the supermarket or near the station and asked to fill one out. It's a word that many learn early in their Japanese-studying career and in English means questionnaire or survey. In fact, there was recently a survey sent out to all foreigners living in Tokushima Prefecture, so perhaps you took notice of this word at that time? Rather than coming from English, アンケート originates from the similarly sounding French word “enquête”.

Now you might wonder, what is the difference between アンケート and the word 調査 which, when looked up in English, have quite similar definitions. An アンケート is used to ask multiple people the same set of questions, and is one type of 調査. A 調査 uses various methods to collect data and understand the state of things, trends, facts, etc. Hopefully this will help you with distinguishing the two words!



Introduction to the Tokushima Cleaning Learning Group

By: Kanno Hiroshi, Secretariat

The Tokushima Cleaning Learning Group (Tokushima Souji Manabukai) is a group of people who understand the philosophy of Hidesaburo Kagiya, the founder of the NPO "Let's Make Japan Beautiful". It was established on November 27th, 2005, and this year they will be marking their 16th year. Rather than being a "cleaning learning group", this group primarily cleans school toilets and is a self-improvement group where we take time to notice the important things in life. Alongside teachers and students, the group cleans toilets and forms important memories together.



aided in creating a beautiful country. Through this program, the group was able to convey Japan's cleaning culture and the importance of cleaning, as well as plan for future exchange.

The group's activities also serve as leader training for many companies' executives. Recently, many young employees of supporting companies have also been participating in the activities, and it serves as hope for a bright future for Japan. The group hopes to create a beautiful country through participating in these activities each year, and hopes that the activities will spread to other places as well.



At the monthly annual meeting in December of 2021, the group had held their program 198 times. Additionally, once a year the Shikoku Block meeting is held where information is exchanged and they aim to better themselves as a group.

From 2013, they made their way to Taiwan. In the same year the "Taiwan Beautification Association" was reborn as a new organization, and through cleaning activities, aid with social contribution activities and leader training has been made possible thanks to the cooperation of the NPO Let's Make Japan Beautiful. April 2019 marked the 7th time we were able to go to Taiwan, and we were able to participate in a cleaning activities competition and understand the current situation and future trends. Volunteers gathered and, forgetting about the heat, cleaned the school's toilets which helped improve their own mind and



This month let's study sentence patterns that use verbs and the て (te) form.

Like in the sentence 「コートを着^きて出^でかけます」, て is used to show that, while wearing your coat, you will do the next action/verb (going out). It is also used to express means, such as in the sentence 「書^かいて覚^{おぼ}えます」.

1 [て Form]: Example: 「寒^{さむ}いですから、コートを①着^きて ぼうしを②かぶ^{かぶ}って 出^でかけます」

*The small number in the upper right of the verbs is the verb group.

例 ① 着^きます²→着^きて ② かぶ^{かぶ}ります¹→かぶ^{かぶ}って

③ めがねを かけ^かます²→かけ^かて 「めがねを^{しんぶん}かけて ^よ新聞^よを読^よみます。」

④ おべんとうを 持^もちます¹→持^もって 「おべんとうを^い持^もって ハイキング^いに行^いきました。」

⑤ シートベルトを し^します³→し^して 「シートベルトを^{うんてん}して 運^{うんてん}転^{てん}してください。」

⑥ さとうを 入^いれます²→入^いれて 「さとうを^の入^いれて コーヒー^のを飲^のみます。」

2 Try making sentences.

1 あかいドレスを 着^きます+パーティーに 行^いきます

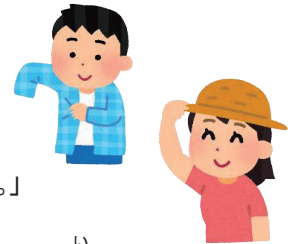
2 エアコンをつけます²+ねます

3 雨^{あめ}の日^ひは かさを さし^さます¹ (put up an umbrella) + 歩^{ある}いて行^いきます

4 この絵^えは 色^{いろ}えんぴつを 使^{つか}いました¹+かきました

こたえ: 1 あかいドレスをきて パーティーに いきます。2 エアコンをつけて ねます。

3 あめのひは かさを さして あるいていきます。4 このえは いろえんぴつを つかって かきました。



Events & Memoranda

34th Big Hina Matsuri 第 34 回ビッグひな祭り

The first Big Hina Matsuri was held in the spring of 1988 and will now be celebrated for the 34th time. Hina dolls that are no longer used are gathered from families all around the country, given a memorial service, and then displayed at this festival. At the center of the festival, you can find an approximately 8-meter-high 100-step podium decorated with hina dolls. Approximately 30,000 hina dolls are beautifully displayed at this festival.

During the event there will be a variety of stage performances.

When: February 26th (Sat.) – April 10th (Sun.)
9:00 - 16:00

Where: Hina Doll Museum

Fee: Adults: 300 Yen

Groups: 200 Yen (10 people or more)

Elementary Students: 100 Yen

Inquiries: Big Hina Matsuri Executive Committee

TEL: 0885-42-4334

URL: <https://bighinamatsuri.jp/>

昭和 63 年の春に始まったビッグひな祭りは、今回で 34 回目を迎えます。本祭では、全国より、家庭で飾られなくなった雛人形を集め、供養し、展示させていただいております。場内には、中央にそびえ立つ高さ約 8m「百段のひな壇」をはじめ、約 3 万體もの雛人形が豪華絢爛に飾られています。

期間中は様々なステージプログラムをご用意しております。

日時：2 月 26 日（土）～ 4 月 10 日（日）

9：00 ～ 16：00

場所：人形文化交流館

料金：大人 300 円

団体 200 円（10 人以上）

小学生 100 円

問い合わせ：ビッグひな祭り実行委員会

TEL: 0885-42-4334

URL: <https://bighinamatsuri.jp/>

Sakamoto Ohina Meguri さかもとおひな巡り

Partnered with the “Big Hina Matsuri”, the “Sakamoto Ohina Meguri” will be held at Sakamoto, Katsuura. This year’s theme is “~Heart~”. Due to COVID-19, the bonds between people have grown weaker. In order to express the importance of bonds between hearts, hearts can be found around the venue.

Please enjoy this warmth of the “Ohina Meguri”.

When: February 26th (Sat.) – March 13th (Sun.)

Where: Around Fureai no Sato Sakamoto

TEL: 0885-44-2110

URL: <https://fureainosato.net/485>

「ビッグひな祭り」と連携し、勝浦町坂本地区では「さかもとおひな巡り」が開催されます。

本年の「さかもとおひな巡り」の展示テーマは『ハート～心～』。コロナ禍で人々の繋がりが希薄となり、心と心の繋がりの大切さを強く感じ、その象徴でもあるハートを会場に散りばめています。

温かい気持ちを感じていただき『おひな巡り』をお楽しみください。

日時：2 月 26 日（土）～ 3 月 13 日（日）

場所：ふれあいの里さかもと周辺

TEL: 0885-44-2110

URL: <https://fureainosato.net/485>



Events & Memoranda

世界の国々をのぞいてみよう！
(オンライン【Zoom】開催)



～世界の未来を担う子どもたちに、国際化社会の一員としての自分を気づかせ、異文化交流や国際理解及び国際協力への意識の醸成を図るための支援事業～

★国際理解支援講師によるミニプレゼンテーションを行います。

マツオ（松尾）ドウルシーさん（ポルトガル）、アパルナ マタレさん（インド）、張 楠さん（中国）の3人の講師先生をお迎えして、それぞれの国の紹介をしていただきます。

*それぞれの先生の授業を受けた後、質問できる時間があります。知りたいことをいっぱい質問してください。

日時：3月6日（日）13:30～15:00

場所：Zoom 開催

参加費：無料

対象者：小学生

申し込み方法：名前、TEL、Email、学年を記入の上、Email で申し込んでください。

締め切り：2月28日（月）

TEL: 088-656-3303

FAX: 088-652-0616

E-mail: coordinator3@topia.ne.jp

URL: <http://www.topia.ne.jp>



Counselling Service at TOPIA・トピアの相談窓口

TOPIA provides consultation on everyday life, education, labor, medical institutions, and disaster prevention; and information on sightseeing spots to overseas residents and visitors. When necessary, we will refer you to the appropriate organization that can assist with your needs. Counselling is available in English, Chinese, Vietnamese, and Japanese. Please note that although every effort will be made, we may not be able to deal with all cases.

Everyday, 10:00 - 18:00 (closed during the New Year's holidays)

Tel: 088-656-3312 or 088-656-3313 (allows for three-way conversations with an interpreter)