

SHS INTERNATIONAL LETTER November



読者のみなさん、こんにちは。11月になり肌寒い日が続いていますが、いかがお過ごしでしょうか？秋といえば、芸術の秋、スポーツの秋、食欲の秋など、楽しみがたくさんあると思います。

本校で秋といえば、学年ごとに選出された生徒が弁士として自分の意見を述べる『弁論大会』が毎年の恒例行事です！今年も、日本語弁論に加え、3名の生徒が英語で自分の意見を発表しました。

さらに、10月には『第2回実用英語技能検定』が行われました。国際コースの生徒を中心に、年間を通じて取り組んでいる英語学習の成果を発揮したい重要なイベントです。そこで今月号は、弁論大会および英検対策レッスンを中心にお届けしたいと思います！本校の生徒たちの頑張っている姿をぜひご覧ください。



弁論大会

今年の英語弁論には、国際コースの生徒3名が弁士として出場しました。3名とも、それぞれの留学体験や日常での実体験をもとに、様々な観点から自分の意見を述べました。弁士にとっても、傾聴していた生徒たちにとっても充実した時間となりました。

3名全員が素晴らしい発表をしましたが、今回は優秀賞に輝いた1年4組 G.K さんをご紹介します。

彼女は、“**What is normal?**”というタイトルを掲げ、現代社会における「ふつう」とはなにかについて論じました。日常で使いがちな言葉、「ふつう」。でも、「ふつう」って一体なんだろう。そんな誰も一度は考えたことがあろう疑問に対し、彼女のルーツや実際の経験から「自分らしく」あることの価値について述べました。

彼女の流暢な英語はもちろんのこと、豊かな表情やジェスチャーなど、彼女が繰り出すすべてにその場にいた全員が思わず聞き入っていました。

そんな G.K さんの素晴らしい弁論原稿を、SHS International Letter の読者のみなさまだけに特別にご紹介したいと思います。





What is normal?

1-4 G.K

I am a so-called “normal” person. I wake up with the alarm clock, eat breakfast, and go to school everyday. This is what we think of as a normal person. It is also designated a standard of society. Children must be educated in school, and adults must work to earn money. We’re trying to live up to that standard, not to act unnaturally so as to avoid criticism.

But, have you ever thought that this attitude is strange?

Even if a child can’t get into the best school, does it really matter? Isn’t it more important to have good morals and be kind to others?

If an adult can’t get a job which earns a lot of money, should they be regarded as inferior to others?

In the end, I think the most important goal for us as human beings, is to be happy. However, I didn’t even realize that myself.

Previously, I didn’t see that this kind of thinking was strange, I only thought about raising my scores and entering a good school. Unlike most of the students around me, I had to overcome not only the challenges of study, but the barriers of the Japanese language, which is not native to me.

Those days, although I would read the textbook many times, I could not even understand a word that everyone else seemed to know. At that time, I remember crying alone many times in the corner of the room. I was angry at my ignorance and felt a pressure to do well emanating from the outstanding students in my class.

It was not until the third year of Junior High School that I found a study method that suited me, and I was ready to be an examinee. Classmates around me were studying very seriously, so I too increased my study time even more. As a result, I was able to attain a good score, and I was able to taste the fruits of my effort for the first time and see the value of studying so intensely. However, one quite simple question on a questionnaire changed my mind about the value of studying. It said: “What is your favorite thing?” My mind was empty. All my study couldn’t help me with that question,

Nothing came to me. I had stumbled over a very simple question.

Until that event, I had only been thinking about my study scores. At that time, if you had asked me “what are you studying for?”, I think I would have answered that “I study to do what I like”, The problem was, I didn't even know what I like.

I now felt that all my efforts up to that point were in vain. What had my hard work been for? I had been working hard through study to uphold the normal standards of society, but I



didn't even know who I was. From that day onward, I thought that I should learn more about myself. I speak English, Japanese, and my mother tongue in my daily life. Since I use three different languages, I felt that I had a talent for language learning. In Seirinkan, I had found a place that suited my talents and decided to come here.

Currently, the world is changing rapidly. That's why you don't have to keep up with society. Each person is different. Sometimes you may be laughed at, some people may think you are crazy. But that kind of experience can make you stronger, so I think that it is important to believe in the way that you choose and walk that road until the end.

I want to answer the question "What is your favorite thing?" someday, with an answer that life has taught me. No matter how high the standards around us in our lives are, you can't beat the wonder of your own dreams and will. You and I are one of the colors. What is beautiful in life is that there are various colors. There is no such thing as normal. I want to be myself, rather than normal. Let's all live like our true selves.



英検対策レッスン

今回もこの時期がきました！第2回実用英語技能検定！本校国際コースでは英検があるたびに、直前対策として、毎日3時間もしくは4時間、ALTの先生による英検対策レッスンが行われています。

レッスンは、Reading や Listening の対策のほかに ALT の先生に一人ひとり添削をしてもらえる Writing の授業など充実した内容です。周りには同じ目標に向かって努力する仲間でもありライバルでもある存在が沢山いることで、より力が入りますね。

英検上位級の取得は簡単ではありませんが、生徒たちは日々切磋琢磨しながらそれぞれ努力を重ねています。日頃の努力が実を結ぶことを教職員一同心より願っています！



以上、本校の秋の風物詩『弁論大会』および『英検対策レッスン』の様子をご紹介いたしました。留学や語学研修に加え、このような校内活動やランゲージセンターレッスンを通して本校生徒たちは日々パワーアップしています！彼らの活躍にこれからも乞うご期待ください。

最後までお付き合いいただきありがとうございました。次号もお楽しみに♪

