

# THE NISHIKO STUDENT TIMES

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# The 65th Recitation and Speech Contest

The 65th Recitation and Speech Contest was held on November 15th, 2015. Ms. Kobayashi and Ms. Fujimoto attended the contest . Ms. Kobayashi won a good performance prize. Ms. Fujimoto won the first prize and took part in the Kanto Koshinetsu contest held in Takasaki on December 6th. Congratulations, Ms. Fujimoto!

藤本華穂さんのスピーチです



Girls, Be Ambitious!

Kaho Fuiimoto Kofu Nishi High School

My female life has had many positives: I am a first daughter and a first granddaughter of my family. Being full of their love, care, and protection, there were no obstacles to my life as a girl. This notion, however, has been slightly changed recently - That's what I'd like to talk about today: gender equality.

How many of you have ever felt uncomfortable with gender stereotypes or expectations? I have actually; take for example my school life. In group discussions, some of my friends are a little reserved. They don't express themselves well, so I often try to create a friendly atmosphere in the group, drawing out their real feelings and solving our problems together. This leadership, however, makes some students think I'm bossy and that I forget my place as a female. That is why I became self-conscious about my gender assumptions.

One speech, however, put me back on the right track. In 2014, Emma Watson — best known for her role as Hermione in Harry Potter movies — made a famous speech at the UN in which I learned Emma and I share the same uncomfortable experiences. She was called bossy just because she wanted to direct plays when she was a child. Then I started to wonder: Why do we have to care about gender? We all have the same equal rights, don't we? We all live not just as a woman, or as a man, and not just as a democratic citizen, but also as a human being, whose rights and opportunities should be treated equally.

Does the phrase "glass ceiling" mean anything to you? Well, a glass ceiling is an invisible, unbreakable barrier keeping women from getting ahead in the workplace. This phrase shows how challenging it is for women to be promoted in their jobs. My mom one day told me stories about the hardships that she endured in the past: Merely because she is a woman, her hard work wasn't always rewarded the same as her male co-workers. If each and every one of us doesn't take this issue more seriously and sensitively, then we can't create a world where there is no glass ceiling.

We as women can also do more to improve our place in society. Girls are so used to a boys-first culture as all the class rosters in this country show and many girls just refuse to take on responsibilities. This doesn't mean girls are not capable; we just lack the experience of making decisions and expressing our ideas. So girls, we should have a little more courage and do what we want to do and say what we want to say. Take one more step forward and let's see the world from a new perspective. Girls, be ambitious!

According to the World Economic Forum, Japan is ranked 104 out of 142countries in terms of its gender gap. Prime Minister Shinzo Abe pledged in his Strategy for Growth to increase the percentage of women in leadership roles in the workforce from 10 % to 30% by 2020. Will this promise be kept? By 2020, when I graduate from university and start to work, will women have won an equal opportunity to go up the corporate ladder? Will we be able to crack the glass ceiling above us? Until then, I won't just sit still and wait. I'm going to study hard, take action and keep saying, "Girls, be ambitious!"

#### 弁論の部 優勝 2年2組 藤本 華穂さんの感想

#### ① 優勝おめでとうございます。練習で苦労したことは?

It was difficult to think what was the most important part and express it with the changes of rhythm, stress, intonation, and tones of my voice so that the audience could understand it.

どこを一番伝えたいかを考え、それが聞く人に伝わるように強弱をつけたり、声のトーンを変えて表現したりすることです。

#### ② 気に入ってる、工夫した、頑張った箇所は?

'So girls, we should have a little more courage and do what we want to do and say what we want to say. Take one more step forward and let's see the world from a new perspective. Girls, be ambitious!" I like this part best, and it's also the most difficult part. This passage always gives me courage.
この部分は私が最も好きなところで、一番工夫したところです。この表現に触れる度に、勇気が湧いてきます。

#### ③ 県のコンテストおよび関東甲信越地区大会の感想は?

I had special feelings about this prefectural contest. As a junior high school student, I took part in the recitation contests twice, but I was not satisfied with the results. Last year, I was disappointed that I was not the representative of our school. So I had a strong will to take advantage of this opportunity this year. Of course, I had difficulties such as problems with my memorization and delivery, but I managed to overcome them. My effort led me to my best performance in a good, tense atmosphere. I hadn't expected to win, so I was overjoyed when I found out the result. I could never forget the moment. In the contest of the Kanto and Koshinetsu districts, I was able to do my best among students whose English levels were very high. I had a really good experience. I

appreciate the dedication and help from the teachers who supported me. 県の大会には特別な思いを抱いて望みました。中学時に2度暗唱大会に参加しましたが、満足のいく結果ではなく、昨年は本校の代表になれず、俺しかったからです。今回は、絶対にこの機会を無駄にしないという強い気持ちで臨みました。文章をなかなか暗記できない、表現がいまいちという壁を何とか克服し、本番では良い緊張感のなか、最高のスピーチができました。優勝は無理だと思っていたのに、優勝できた瞬間は、今でも忘れられません。そして、関東大会ではレベルの高い集団の中で、自分のベストを尽くすことができ、本当に良い経験となりました。支えてくださった先生方、ありがとうございました。

First I'd like to keep on working on my everyday English studies. I'm going to participate in the Campbell Hall School program in March. I'd like to fulfill my responsibilities as a group leader. At the same time, I will prepare well for the program and do what I should do in order to have a good time with the other members. As for my future plans, I'm interested in news reporting. English is one of the most important tools for news reporting in international situations. I will do everything I can at every opportunity so that I will become a reporter who can work all over the world.

#### 暗唱の部 1年4組 小林 未歩さんの感想

#### ① 練習で苦労したことは?

It was extremely difficult for me to express the atmosphere of the story and adjust my voice to each character. 物語の雰囲気や登場人物の性格に合わせて声のトーンを調節することです。

### ② 気に入ってる、工夫した、頑張った箇所は?

The last paragraph of the story, in which Mary and Dickon found a secret garden. I tried to make it sound exciting.
物語の最後の段落です。メアリーとディコンが秘密の花園を見つける部分で、二人の興奮が伝えられるようにスピーチしました。

It was a great experience. I sometimes felt practices were hard, but more than that, I really enjoyed thinking about how the characters felt and devising ways to express each character's emotion. I couldn't win in the contest, but I learned lots of thigs. I overcame getting nervous in front of a large audience. So I was very happy to participate in the

らいにいい経験となりました。練習が大変なこともありましたが、それ以上に登場人物の感情表現を考えたり、表現方法を工夫するのが楽しかったです。入賞はできなかったけれど、たくさんのことを学ぶことができました。その1つは、多くの聴衆の前でも緊張しにくくなったことです。大会に参加できて大変良かったと思います。

#### ④ 今後の抱負は?

It is most important to use as much English as possible in learning it. I'm going to read more English books, listen to English radio programs, and speak in English. I will try my best to improve my English skills. 英語学習で一番大切なのは、どれほどたくさん英語に触れるかということだと思います。英語の本をもっと読み、英語のラジオを聞き、英語で話します。英語力の向上のためにもっと積極的になりたいです。

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## Nishi-ko won second prize in the Yamanashi Cup 2015 English Debate Contest!



The English debate contest was held at Kofu Showa High School on February 11th . Ten teams took part in it: 甲府西, 韮崎, 甲府南, 甲府昭和, 都留, 都留興讓館, 吉田, 山梨英, 駿台甲府, 山梨学院大付属. "Japan should lower the age of adulthood to 18" was the thesis. The Nishi-ko team won the second prize! The team members were all 10th graders: 清水沙輝(captain), 小侯安優, 葛西犀菜, 小林未歩, 窪川薫, 深澤圭祐, 安留詩音, and 吉田有. They started practicing at the beginning of fall. Though they were very busy with their studies, club activities etc., they got together as often as possible after school. They looked for a lot of information about the theme, and then got enough evidence to support their opinion. They say that not all of them are good at English, but their serious effort and good teamwork was rewarded by the result of winning the second prize.

## 世界に羽ばたく西高生

3月5日に本校の1・2年次生16名が米国短期留学に出発します。カリフォルニア州のCampbell Hall Schoolでホームステイや授業参加、文化交流を行います。参加する生徒たちは研修がより充実したものとなるよう、10月から様々な準備をしてきました。出発が近づき、甲府西高や山梨、日本文化の紹介の練習に励みながら、期待に胸を膨らませています。一方、2年次の赤岡、広瀬、丸山さんの3名が山梨県のグローバル人材育成プログラムでアイオワ州に出発します。また、1年6組の横地君はオーストリアへ長期留学中、2年6組の海老澤君は年末にカンボジアスタディーツアーに参加するなど、西高生の活躍の場が世界に広がっています。



#### 2年6組 海老澤 大樹君

### ① いつからいつまで、どこに行きましたか?

12月19日から26日まで、山梨県国際交流協会主催のスタディツアーでカンボジアに行きました。首都プノンペンで内戦の歴史を学び、バッタバンで児童養護施設や地雷撤去現場を見学しました。

#### ② 留学を希望した動機はなんですか?

自分の世界観を広げ、他国ならではの異文化を体験し、感性を豊かにするためです。

#### ③ 留学中に特に印象深かったことは?

人が全体的に優しく、フレンドリーで、国民性が日本とは違うと感じましたが、平日に行った 観光地で、子どもが学校へ行かずに物乞いをしていたことが印象に残りました。

#### ④ この留学経験をどのように生かしたいですか?

留学によって自分が進むべき進路が見えました。今回行ったカンボジアに、将来、青年海外協力隊として恩返しできるよう、いっそう勉強して、目標を達成したいと思います。

#### 1年6組 横地 龍弥君

#### ① いつからいつまで、とごに留学していますか?

2015年8月29日から2016年7月中旬(予定)まで、オーストリアのニーダーエスタライヒ (Niederösterreich)のクレムスツァイレ(Kremszeile)に留学しています。

#### ② 留学を希望した動機はなんですか?

中学1年の1学期は英語がかなり苦手でした。それで一念発起して英語に相当の時間をかけたところ、いきなりテストで点が取れるようになっていき、面白くなりました。その流れで中学2年の夏休みに、カナダに2週間遊びのような短期留学をしました。それで更に外国に興味をもつようになり、父に頼んで、留学経験者の話を聞かせてもらいました。そこでYFUという組織に出会い、留学しました

#### ③ 留学中にやってみたいことは?

この5ヶ月でやりたいことはしましたが、特にウィーンに行きたいです。オーストリア、特にウィーンには多くの美術館や博物館があるため、普通の旅行では全部を見ることはできません。今は留学中で、1年間の時間があるので出来る限りたくさん見学して、日本ではできない勉強をしたいです。

#### ④ 今回の留学に関して、現在のご家族の反応は?

もう5ヶ月も会っていないですし、連絡もあまりしていないので正確なところはよく分かりません。

#### ⑤ 帰国後は留学経験をどのように生かしたいですか?

私が留学前に考えていた言葉や異文化体験を生かすということは、あまりないと思います。まだ半分しか経っていないので、また考えが変わるかもしれませんが、少なくとも今はこのような考えです。 留学前は異文化体験をすることで視野が広がると考えていました。しかし実際に留学してみると、 確かに異文化体験はありますが、考え方が180度違うということはあまり感じません。

確かに異文化体験はありますが、考え方が180度違うということはあまり感じません。いままでの生活の中で実感することは、友だちのありがたさです。日本では意識的に友だちを作るのではなく、気がついたら友だちになっていることが多いのですが、ここでは言葉(ドイツ語)も通じないですし、友だちはできません。1日何も喋らずに教室にいて帰るということはよくあります。しかし、この経験はかなり貴重だと思います。日本だと恐らくできません。友だちの大切さがよく分かりました。このように、日本では当たり前にあるものから長い間離れてみることでわかる、本当に大事なものを多く見つけていきたいです。

#### ⑥ その他、何でも留学への抱負・決意をお願いします。

親に大金を払ってもらって得た一年間の生活なので、無駄な時間がないよう精一杯オーストリアで 勉強をしていきたいです。

## グローバル人材育成プログラムに参加する2年2組赤岡紗代さん、2年3組広瀬奈央さん、丸山夏子さんにインタビューしました。

 ${f \it T}$  At which school are you studying? How long are you going to study there?

We are going to study in Iowa for a week, from March 10th to 17th. We will visit Iowa State University.

- Why did you decide to Study in America?
- What do you want to achieve while you are in America?
- How do you wish to make use of your experience in America after you come back to Kofu Nishi?
- **⑤**Your hopes, resolutions and messages, please.

#### 2年2組 赤岡 紗代さん

- ② It's because I want to broaden my horizons. In addition, there is a friend I want to see in Iowa.
- ③ I want to listen to the real voices of the students in Iowa, and to cook with my host family.
- (4) I'll try to be an open minded and active person like an American.
- ⑤ I'll make the most of this opportunity and enjoy what I can do now.

#### 2年3組 広瀬 奈央さん

- ② It's because I want to learn about Yamanashi and Iowa, which have sister cities.
- ③ I want to learn about the local culture in lowa. I also want to make friends there.
- (4) I wish to make use of my experience for my studying in college.
- ⑤ I want to have a good time in Iowa.

## 2年3組 丸山 夏子さん

- ② It's because I want to experience another culture.
- ③ I want to talk to as many Americans as possible.
- 4 I will learn practical English skills and use them.
- (5) I will enjoy studying in Iowa!!! I'll do my best to fulfill the expectations of my parents and teachers.