

ビクトリア州日本語弁論大会 2023

# Japanese Language Speech Contest Victoria 2023

## PROGRAM

Sunday 27 August

Hosted by  
The University of Melbourne



Organized by



**The Japanese Language Speech Contest Victoria, Inc.**

(Reg. No. A0053233K)

## Generously supported by

The Japan Foundation, Sydney  
The City of Melbourne (Melbourne-Osaka Sister Cities)  
Consulate General of Japan, Melbourne  
Japanese Society of Melbourne  
Japanese Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Melbourne

Estate of Mrs Mioko Wood  
Keiko Hongo Family Fund  
La Trobe University  
Monash University  
RMIT University  
The University of Melbourne



Melbourne-Osaka Sister Cities  
Award  
Open Division



Internship Opportunity  
Open Beginner, Open & Background Speaker Divisions

## The Committee of the Japanese Language Speech Contest Victoria, Inc.

President: Dr Robyn Spence-Brown, Monash University  
Vice President: Ms Hiroko Ohashi, RMIT University  
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Ms Masako Nagayama, The University of Melbourne  
Dr Kaya Oriyama, The University of Melbourne  
Ms Michiyo Naito  
Dr Maki Yoshida, RMIT University

**PROGRAM**  
(Subject to minor changes)

**SESSION 1**  
**HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR DIVISION**



**8:30 am Registration of Contestants**

**9:00 am OPENING OF CONTEST**

**Opening Address**

Consul-General of Japan in Melbourne  
Mr Shimada Junji

**Introduction of the Judging Panel**

**9:15 am Contest starts: High School Division**

**10:20 am Presentations end / Judges' Meeting**

**11:00 am Announcement of Results**

Judges' Comments

Award Presentations

The Japanese Society of Melbourne Perpetual Trophies

Presentation by

Mr Mikiyasu Yuasa

President, Japanese Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Melbourne

**11:30 Session 1 closes LUNCH RECESS**



**JUDGES**

*Chief Judge* Mr Satoshi Sanada  
Senior Policy Officer  
Senior Secondary Pathways  
Reform Taskforce  
Department of Education and  
Training Victoria

*Judge* Mr Raymond Roche  
Strategy / Corporate Affairs  
Corporate Planning Division  
Mitsui & Co. (Australia) Ltd

*Judge* Dr Lola Sundin  
Lecturer in Translation Studies,  
Monash University

*Reserve Judge* Ms Anne de Krester

## PROGRAM(Subject to minor changes)



### SESSION 2

### BACKGROUND SPEAKER DIVISION, OPEN BEGINNER & OPEN DIVISIONS

There will be one recess

**12:00 am Registration of Contestants**

**12:30 pm OPENING OF CONTEST**

#### Opening Addresses

Mr Shimada Junji  
Consul-General of Japan in Melbourne

Mr Kazushi Tosa  
President, Japanese Society of Melbourne

#### Introduction of Judging Panel

**1:00 pm Background Division**

**1:15 pm Open Beginners Division**

**1:30 pm Open Division**

**4:15pm Presentations end**

Voting for the Audience Prize

Recess / Judges' Meeting

**5:00 pm Announcement of Results for 3 Divisions**

#### Judges' Comments

#### Award Presentations

The Japanese Society of Melbourne Perpetual Trophies  
Presentation by  
Mr Mikiyasu Yuasa  
President, Japanese Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Melbourne

Melbourne-Osaka Sister Cities Award  
Presentation by Councillor Jamal Hakim  
Melbourne City Council

**Closing remarks:** Dr Robyn Spence-Brown, President, JLSCV Inc.

**5:30 pm Reception with refreshments**

Contestants and audience member are invited to join us for refreshments

### JUDGES

*Chief Judge* Professor Alison Tokita  
Adjunct Researcher,  
Monash University

*Judge* Ms Yukiko Menda  
Manager,  
Japanese Language Department  
Japan Foundation Sydney

*Judge* Mr Kikuji Kitayama  
Principal,  
The Japanese School of Melbourne

*Reserve Judge* Dr Mariko Kubota

# Japanese Language Speech Contest Victoria 2023

## Morning Session (9:00-11:30)

### High School Division

| Entry No. | First Name             | Surname   | Title of Speech  | Speech Summary   |
|-----------|------------------------|-----------|--|--|
| 1         | Johnny Junchen<br>ジョニー | Guo<br>グオ | Passion: the secret to a vibrant life<br>情熱：生き生きとした人生の秘訣 | In the essay, I delve into my personal evolution from innocence to a more nuanced perspective as I embarked on the path of becoming a teacher. This journey represents a shift, a transformation that led me to seek something meaningful. My pursuit of a different direction is rooted in the pursuit of happiness. I draw connections between my journey and the experiences of others worldwide, highlighting how passion acts as the cornerstone of a joyful and dynamic existence. The essay underscores the idea that embracing one's passion can lead to a life imbued with purpose and vitality, resonating with individuals on a universal level.  |
| 2         | Sienna<br>シエナ          | Au<br>アウ  | Kodawari and Myself<br>こだわりと私                            | Growing up as a budding pianist in Australia, I have always embraced our vibrant local culture, but I occasionally sensed that something was missing in our approaches to life.<br>It was only during my journey to Japan, did I learn the art of ikebana, discovering the essence of the "kodawari" philosophy; this principle of dedicating oneself to perfection could allow me to realise of my full potential, not only in piano, but in other areas of life too.<br>Even after returning to Australia, I have continued to embody these values, using them to yield an ideal version of both my artistry and myself.   |
| 3         | Xinlin<br>シンリン         | Yu<br>ユウ  | Karaoke<br>カラオケ  | - History and development of karaoke<br>- Why I love karaoke<br>- Why is it so popular among people around the world?<br>- Surprising benefits of karaoke  |
| 4         | Isis<br>アイセス           | Lai<br>ライ | My Father's Airpods<br>父のエアポッド                           | In my short speech 'My Father's Airpods', I am going to speak about my personal experience with my father. I try to relate about the present phenomenon of Asian parents being harsh and cold towards their children, when referring to how my father was always occupied with work. I inserted my own perspectives as a child on my father's work and attitude towards me, and any misunderstandings and doubts that I might have held about his parental love towards me. Whether he treated me as a job, a responsibility, or his daughter. But most importantly, I talked about how my doubts about my father disappeared as I grew up and started to realise that my father has been caring about me the entire time.<br>I titled my speech 'My Father's Airpods', as that is the last present he gave me before I went overseas. |

| Entry No. | First Name       | Surname           | Title of Speech                             | Speech Summary  |
|-----------|------------------|-------------------|---|---|
| 5         | Jenny<br>ジェーニ    | Gong<br>ゴン        | Finding Beauty in Imperfection<br>侘び寂びが丁度いい | We all have some goals we wanted so desperately to achieve -- something we want to be the best at. In this speech I talk about my experience in debating at a national tournament, when the pressure of winning made me become so focused on delivering the perfect speech that I lost the joy I found in debating. Accepting this imperfection through realising my own improvements along the way offers a new way of resolution with myself. Although it may be hard to let go, take a break, and in hindsight, appreciating the beauty of imperfection made me refocus, appreciating myself more.   |
| 6         | Anika<br>アニカ     | Elliott<br>エリオット  | Kira Kira Names<br>キラキラネーム                  | My speech is about the trend of 'Kira Kira' names being used to name children in Japan. I talk about why 'Kira Kira' names are popular and how they are different to traditional Japanese names. I then consider some controversies and issues around the use of 'Kira Kira' names.   |
| 7         | Danielle<br>ダニエル | Bernardo<br>ベルナルド | Toxic Beauty Standards<br>有毒な美しさの基準         | Growing up, we're all surrounded by beauty standards. You have to be thin, have pale skin, double eyelids, good bone structure, straight teeth, tall height, big eyes, a sharp nose, full lips, the list goes on. In this speech, I talk about how these toxic beauty standards have affected me, growing up as one of the only Asian kids in a predominantly white-Australian school. However, I will also talk about how I eventually found the inspiration to break free from these toxic beauty standards, and redefine what beauty means to me. We should all learn to break free from the standard, and look in the mirror and feel beautiful no matter what we look like.  |
| 8         | Jessica<br>ジェシカ  | Hwang<br>フワング     | To dislike without trying it<br>食べず嫌い       | Individuals, myself included, often struggle with biases. Personally, I disliked makizushi, even though I've never tried it before, because it was different from the gimbap my mother usually makes. My distaste for makizushi stemmed from the assumption that I wouldn't enjoy it, influenced by negative reviews expressed by others. However, my perspective changed as I came to know and learn the taste of makizushi, which allowed me to determine my own individual opinion about it. In my speech, I discuss the importance of independently determining your position on preconceived topics that extend beyond mere pickiness when it comes to food. This speech challenges you to break down prejudices surrounding different cultures and their relationships. It also tasks our current generation with a collective mission, should you choose to accept it. |

| Entry No. | First Name      | Surname    | Title of Speech   | Speech Summary  |
|-----------|-----------------|------------|---|---|
| 9         | Jasper<br>ジャスパー | Hui<br>ホイ  | My Thoughts on the Usage of Masks During the Era of Covid<br><br>コロナ禍でのマスク着用について思ったこと | During Covid around the world, there was an increase in the usage of masks in response to the global impact of Covid. While people in Japan wore masks immediately without questioning, many people in Australia initially showed resistance. The pandemic eventually subsided, and mask mandates were lifted. However, albeit the lifting of mandates, most people in Japan continue to wear masks due to different factors. In particular, the influence of “conformity pressure”, the pressure to do as others do, mobilised the people in Japan to wear masks as those around them do so. On the other hand, the conformity pressure in Australia is different to Japan, where wearing a mask is considered strange. Hence, through the contrast between conformity pressures, I’d like to reflect on different forms of conformity pressure throughout my life and highlight the importance of not losing one’s true self despite submerging in different culture and customs.     |
| 10        | Julia<br>ジュリア   | Lin<br>リン  | My Ekiben Story<br><br>私の駅弁の物語  | I would like to talk about an experience I had a few years ago, when I went to Hokkaido, Japan. At that time, I was waiting for the train with my family, and I saw a grandmother sitting at the station, who was selling ekiben. I have never had an ekiben before, and of course I wanted to try. And unfortunately, the ekiben was sold out. I curiously asked her, why she was still sitting at the station and not going home, and she replied saying she didn’t have anything else to do and likes to talk and chat with the passengers waiting for the train. I was disappointed I couldn’t get to try her ekiben and came back to Japan again this year with my family. I went to the same station, earlier than last time, to try her ekiben, and she was no longer there.   |
| 11        | Lanyi<br>ランイ    | Cao<br>ツァオ | Diversity<br><br>ゴールデンリトリバー   | Upon awakening as a golden retriever, I explored the room like a dog in search of food, offering a unique sensation that only a canine could grasp. This anecdote highlights our diverse perspectives shaped by individual backgrounds and experiences, even when we share common goals. Japanese culture's beauty lies in "becoming the person you're looking for and understanding them deeply." Love and happiness differ for each of us; childhood perceptions of my parents' love shifted with age, revealing their distinctive support. The term "dokutoku" embodies empathy, understanding others' pain, and sharing suffering, reflecting Japanese compassion. Traditional practices like the tea ceremony teach appreciation, fostering connections by attentively sharing emotions. Valuing diverse viewpoints nurtures bonds, as seen in Japanese culture, where walking in others' shoes breeds empathy and new thinking, encouraging us to treasure our unique life paths. |
| 12        | Lilith<br>リリス   | Wang<br>ワン | Kimono<br><br>着物  | I will introduce and pitch my idea about kimono and relevant points.  |

| Entry No. | First Name       | Surname        | Title of Speech   | Speech Summary  |
|-----------|------------------|----------------|---|---|
| 13        | Martina<br>マティーナ | Zia<br>ゼア      | Reading the Air<br>空気を読む                                | Japan's collectivistic society encourages individuals to view themselves as members of a collective, creating the expectation that all people should behave the same. The term "kuuki wo yomu", translating to "read the air" is used to describe the process of interpreting the situation around oneself and acting in a way that aligns with other people's behaviours. Those who act in a way that opposes the "air" are labelled "kuuki wo yomenai", or "Can't read the air". While this maintains a sense of harmony in Japanese society, it fails to discern right from wrong and merely deems the popular consensus to be valid. However, it often results in a single person within a group being assigned leadership that allows them to influence the behaviour of others, with an opportunity to abuse their authority. Ultimately, I think that in some cases, people should think for themselves when making decisions. |
| 14        | Kim<br>キム        | Yejean<br>イエジン | Family Relationship                                     | Our family are living at Australia from 10 years ago except my father lives at South Korea for work. So, I have been not friendly with my father. But just before few months, I became much friendlier with my dad than before.   |
| 15        | Leah<br>リア       | Chen<br>チェン    | Beauty is in the Eye of the Beholder<br>世界の美しさが見えるんですか？ | In a world where beauty is hurriedly passed by; obscured by the rigours of work, the blinding phone screens, the monotonous routines and the ruthless voices that erode our thoughts—How do we perceive what we've grown blind to? We must embrace a deceleration, unravel ourselves from the weight of the past and the worries of the future, by anchoring ourselves in the present moment; accept self-compassion and begin living rather than surviving. It is through all of this, that we can truly become a beholder of beauty.  |



## AFTERNOON SESSION (12:30- 5:30)

### BACKGROUND DIVISION

| Entry No. | First Name  | Surname        | Title of Speech        | Speech Summary  |
|-----------|-------------|----------------|------------------------|---|
| 1         | Max<br>マックス | Ramsay<br>ラムゼイ | Edo-Mae Sushi<br>江戸前寿司 | The topic I have chosen for my speech is Edo-mae sushi. I have now had the privilege of working with, learning about and eating sushi for almost four years now. Despite still having a lot to learn, I would like to share with the audience what I've learnt so far, my personal experiences, and how it has had an influence on my life. In my speech I will also explore themes such as history, its cultural significance to Japan and go into detail about a few chefs that have greatly impacted me. By sharing my speech, I hope to engage the audience in a journey encompassing cultural heritage, culinary artistry and mastery. |

### OPEN BEGINNERS DIVISION

| Entry No. | First Name      | Surname             | Title of Speech   | Speech Summary  |
|-----------|-----------------|---------------------|---|---|
| 1         | Sahar<br>サハラ    | Alzahrani<br>アルザハラニ | Holidays. A Chance For A New Experience.<br>休み.新しいことをけいけんするきかい. | The speech is about the importance of having new experiences. Many youth are sucked into social media or studying that they don't use their time wisely to have hobbies that keep them happy or to try new activities. My speech outlines that holidays are an important time for people to reset and focus on their own new experiences and hobbies.<br>I talk about my own experiences with holidays and trying new activities and I also explain how I noticed this topic through my mothers time spent on her hobbies.<br>I also address the challenges that people may face when wanting to try a new activity.  |
| 2         | Daniel<br>ダニエル  | Fanning<br>ファニング    | The Heartbeat of Nature<br>自然の鼓動。                               | There are all sorts of amazing animals and flowers in our world, both inside and outside of this country. While I would love to travel and see all sorts of grand sights, what is within this country is equally exciting. One time, I found a tiger snake while climbing a cliff, and the thrill of seeing it made me feel alive. Meanwhile, our daily lives are often bogged down by distractions: smart phones, video games, and other addictions, so that we do not truly appreciate the world around us. As a result, there is a disconnect between us and the natural world, even though we are products of nature. The daily process of waking up, eating, going to work, sleeping, is repetitive and endless, and we should make an effort to reconnect with the world. |
| 3         | Melody<br>メロディー | Wang<br>ワング         | What are adventures?<br>冒険とは何ですか.                               | What are adventures? A lot of people think that adventures have to be dangerous experiences, or risky activities that put your life on the line such as mountain climbing or bungee jumping. They think that, to enjoy the excitement of adventures, you need to spend a lot of money and put aside a lot of time, which i won't say is incorrect, however what i will say is that we don't understand the true essence of adventures anymore. As we grow up, we become less interested in the world around us, and become more   |

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|--|--|--|--|--|
|  |  |  |  | conservative or cautious, hence we lose the ability to try and find the adventures that lie in our everyday lives. |
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## OPEN DIVISION

| Entry No. | First Name       | Surname          | Title of Speech   | Speech Summary  |
|-----------|------------------|------------------|---|---|
| 1         | Chloe<br>クロイ     | Papillon<br>パピオン | Brick walls of nihon(go)<br>日本(語)の壁   | Following my most recent Japan travels I was hit with a lot of realisations about the difficulty of learning a new language, especially one with such contrasting cultures. From learning all of my Japanese knowledge within the safety of a classroom, I was not quite prepared for the social aspects and my lack of fluency let me down. I had come to face some indestructible brick walls that stood in my way to achieve self confidence and self respect and made me doubt my communication abilities. These walls stood between me and engaging in emotional connections with friends, a mutual understanding between myself and natives. In my speech I recognise my past experiences, and the tools I can use to climb over these daunting walls. AI translations, expectations and face value all stand in the way of me being confident in Japan, so how can I make peace with that? |
| 2         | Samantha<br>サマンサ | Xu<br>シュー        | What does it mean to be beautiful in a lookist society?<br>ルッキズムがよくある社会で、美しさの定義とは何ですか | In this speech, I will talk about one of the less-mentioned forms of discrimination, which is lookism. Lookism is a form of discrimination or prejudice that people have based on a person's looks, where attractive people are viewed as "better" people, while unattractive people are treated poorly or dehumanized. I will draw on my experiences of being an ugly duckling who finally matured into a beautiful swan and talk about the unfair treatment I received being on both ends. I will also talk about how ways to overcome the challenges caused by lookism.  |
| 3         | Alessia<br>アレッシア | Bellino<br>ベリーノ  | My Opinion of English Education in Japan<br>日本の英語教育に対する私の意見                           | In this speech I will address a general view of the English curriculum within Japan. I decided to select this topic to investigate and present as I wish to become an English in Japan in the near future. My speech begins with a general explanation of an English teacher's roles and duties in Japanese classrooms. Additionally, I will also describe and outline the materials that they use to support student learning, which includes a variety of physical resources, as well as prescribed teacher aides with a background in English speaking. Furthermore, I will identify the limitations presented in the current curriculum and how Japan endeavours to improve upon this via educational reforms. Finally, this speech will be supplemented by my own opinion and personal suggestions that I see as beneficial.   |

| Entry No. | First Name     | Surname               | Title of Speech                         | Speech Summary   |
|-----------|----------------|-----------------------|---|--|
| 4         | Melati<br>メラテイ | Sorongan<br>ソロンガン     | Language Learning Journey<br>外国語の勉強あるある | Growing up watching polyglots on YouTube and spy movies featuring agents switching between five different languages really cemented the idea in me that language is a powerful tool to connect with people on cultural and personal levels, a depth that any translation apps would never reach. Similar to other language learners out there, throughout my journey I have faced challenging moments, including one where I arguably embarrassed myself by tripping over my words in Japanese. However, at the end of the day, I always come back to asking myself the same question: "What is the worst that can happen?". Other than embarrassing myself, it turns out the answer to that question is always "nothing". I have nothing to lose, and if making mistakes is the price I have to pay to be good at something, I would not hate that at all!  |
| 5         | Yahui<br>ヤフイ   | Jiang<br>ジャン          | Mayerling<br>うたかたの恋                     | The subject of my discourse will encompass the captivating drama performed by the illustrious Takarazuka Kagekidan. Specifically, my focus will be directed towards the noteworthy rendition presented by the star-studded ensemble of 2018, brilliantly executed by the talented Kurena Yuzuru and Kisaki Airi. This theatrical masterpiece derives its essence from a genuine and harrowing love saga that transpired between a prince of the Austro-Hungarian Empire and the enigmatic Marie Vetsera. In resonance with the evocative Japanese title, this poignant tale of love unfurled with ardent fervor only to dissolve abruptly, akin to the fleeting nature of foam. My intent also encompasses a meticulous deconstruction of the myriad reasons that render this drama a personal favourite of mine. My analysis shall encompass multifaceted elements, encompassing the intricacies of the narrative and the nuanced portrayal of the characters therein. Main message: The denouement of tales, replete with imperfections, serves as an allegory for the veracity of reality. The demise of the principal protagonists, far from meriting a conventional designation of tragic closure, stands as a testament to the multifaceted nature of endings. |
| 6         | Hakeem<br>ハキーム | Dimozantos<br>ディモザントス | Find the hidden path<br>隠された道を見つける      | Have you ever been told you're something, and eventually, you believed it? I was labelled 'shy' as a child, and I unconsciously embraced that label. As a result, I conformed to expectations, choosing the comfort of blending in over standing out. Like many, I found myself drifting through life on autopilot, following a path already laid out by others, the only one I thought existed. But this path, I realised, led to missed opportunities, friendships left unformed, and happiness left unexplored. From travelling in Japan, arose an experience that was able to serve as a metaphor for life. Revealing hidden paths obscured by self-bias. Guiding me to step into discomfort, compelled by optimism for what lies ahead. Join me through my ongoing struggle to break through the status quo and self-imposed limitations, in a pursuit to find a more meaningful existence.   |

| Entry No. | First Name    | Surname      | Title of Speech                               | Speech Summary  |
|-----------|---------------|--------------|---|---|
| 7         | Nuo<br>セシリア   | Liu<br>リュウ   | Because everyone has stories<br>誰もが物語を持っているから | Because everyone has stories, so please, tell your story. Using studio Ghibli's newest release "How do you live" as an anchor, I want to explore the importance of storytelling in each and every one of our lives. I believe storytelling and its beauty is innate to us as human beings, yet various factors like social pressures, value judgments and fear of the extraordinary have stopped us from the liberating and beautiful storytelling we should have. So I want to celebrate the romantics of storytelling in all its different forms, whether it's in writing, speech, or the clothes that we wear. I want us, as people in the modern world, to not be afraid of telling our own stories for ourselves, and to not be afraid of learning about ourselves and the world through storytelling.   |
| 8         | Ken<br>ケン     | Fu<br>フー     | Crossing Bridges<br>橋渡し                       | Most problems in the world would disappear if we all spoke to each other, instead of behind each other. Conflict is an innate trait intertwined with humanity; and some conflict begets mediation. As a boy, my exposure to various conflicts compelled me to reflect upon and question the status quo of conflict. I subconsciously sought ways to mediate conflict and quickly learned the significance of perceived tone, and syntax. Through Japanese studies, I learned like-minded values and cultural attitudes that promote peace and tranquillity. Having been inspired by charismatic role models and equipped with hands-on mediation experiences, such reinforcement of my mediator mindset enhanced my capacities for diplomacy, empathy, and open-mindedness. With the passionate goal of making the world a better place for the people whose lives converge with mine, I culminated a hybrid cultural identity striving towards social and cultural bridging. |
| 9         | Yu-Ting<br>ユナ | Cheng<br>チェン | Butterfly Effect<br>蝶のはばたき                    | After watching a Japanese drama called "Jin", I was inspired by the term butterfly effect from not just grand historical context but also down to person everyday life. I will be talking about my own background and my experience, the choices that I've made that I have led to a larger impact on myself years later which I've never expected.   |

### BREAK

| Entry No. | First Name       | Surname       | Title of Speech                       | Speech Summary  |
|-----------|------------------|---------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| 10        | Tristan<br>トリスタン | Akbar<br>アクバー | Gundam: Beyond the Time<br>ガンダム：時の向こう | Gundam is synonymous with Japanese pop culture and has remained so for over 40 years. Plastic model kits, Gundam-themed cars, 'Gundam Base' museums and even a real-life moving Gundam has been made in its success. Though at its core it remains a series of anti-war stories, Gundam has changed drastically over its long history compared to other popular media, constantly switching directors, themes, and of course, mecha to sell model kits on. I'd like to examine how changes in the series reflect both the concerns of Japanese society at the time and their hopes for the future, as well as the influences Gundam has made on the sci-fi genre. I'd like to also talk about the impacts Gundam left on me growing up, and reinforce a message echoed throughout the series – that there are things worth celebrating in every era, and to look towards a bright future. |

| Entry No. | First Name         | Surname                           | Title of Speech   | Speech Summary   |
|-----------|--------------------|-----------------------------------|---|--|
| 11        | Tiwanthya<br>テワンシヤ | Konara Mudiyansele<br>コーナラムディヤンセレ | Lessons in the anime Naruto<br>「ナルト」というアニメのレッスン   | My speech is about the anime Naruto. I will be discussing the main lessons in this really popular anime. I will be outlining the lessons of perseverance, friendship, empathy, self-discovery and mentorship that runs throughout the anime. I will show how this anime is not just any ordinary anime but a lesson to importance parts of life.   |
| 12        | Zoe<br>ゾーイ         | Zhou<br>ゾー                        | The impact of 'Mahou Shoujo' to young female<br>魔法少女から女子への影響  | "Mahou Shoujo is a significant genre in Japanese animation. With its main heroine characters, it has a profound influence on young girls. The growth of this genre over the last century has challenged traditional stereotypical views of females, providing role models for young girls to aspire to, and changing the mindset of next generations."   |
| 13        | Vincent<br>ビンセント   | Nguyen<br>ニューエン                   | Incels: a case study on how loneliness influence and radicalise people<br>インセル：孤独感の影響、オンラインで過激化させるもの                                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Talk about a recent controversy raised by “incels” regarding how a female character in a game did not have enough “fan-service” in a game.</li> <li>- Connect this to a personal experience, thoughts, and talk about how my background made me have a personal connection to this issue, and why this is a worthwhile issue to solve</li> <li>- Potential solutions to this problem: teaching acceptance and understanding, instead of the widespread ridicule currently present in online spaces.</li> </ul>  |
| 14        | Lauren<br>ローレン     | Prentice<br>プレントイス                | Current Mental Health Policies Targeting Children in Australia<br>オーストラリアの子供向け精神衛生の政策   | Coming out of the COVID-19 pandemic and lockdowns, there has been an increase in awareness around mental health. In particular, interest in childhood mental health has increased as Australians come to terms with children spending 2 – 3 years of their formative years in partial or complete lockdown. Additionally, the Productivity Commission conducted a report in 2020 analysing the current condition of mental health across the Australian population and its impact on Australia’s economy. From these, I became interested in learning and analysing what policies the Australian government is using to focus on children’s mental health and would like to share my findings and recommendations. The speech will consist of 3 sections: the cost of mental health, current policies in Australia, and finally a proposed analysis process for evaluating the implemented policies. |
| 15        | Huang<br>フアン       | Xu<br>キョ                          | Diverse Aspects of Technological Development in Japan: Contrasts Between Everyday Life and Government Initiatives<br>日本の技術発展:民生と政府方面の違い | Japan and other nations have been working very hard in recent years to develop a variety of useful technologies to improve people's quality of life and productivity at work. This is particularly apparent in Japan, but in other nations, such technical development is frequently carried out first in the service of government agencies, and then it is made available to the general public once its benefits have been established. However, it appears that the highest levels of the Japanese government do not wish to adopt these new technology based on how the Ministry of Health, Labour, and Welfare performed throughout the pandemic. In this presentation, new technologies will be deployed by the government and the business sector as examples, and the reasons why this is happening in Japan will be covered.   |

| Entry No. | First Name       | Surname            | Title of Speech   | Speech Summary  |
|-----------|------------------|--------------------|---|---|
| 16        | David<br>デビッド    | Pan<br>パン          | Memories Beyond Home<br>故郷を離れた思い出   | My trip to Japan was filled with anticipation for new experiences and cultures. However, homesickness taught me the value of family and the comfort of the familiar. Memories of shared laughter and meals blossomed amidst Japan's beauty. I missed the simple, everyday things I took for granted. This journey made me realise the importance of those who have always supported me. It made me realise that my family was my sanctuary, no matter where I was. Upon returning home, I came to value self-reliance, fleeting moments, and the significance of family and friends. Distance caused pain, yet it also strengthened ties. Since then, I have been determined to treasure the moments I spend with my family, carrying my roots with me wherever I go.   |
| 17        | Tifany<br>ティファニー | Towijaya<br>トウィジャヤ | Our "now"<br>私たちの"今"  | In this world, full of distraction and uncertainty, our mind often wonders here and there. We constantly worry about what will happen in the future, and we are constantly haunted by the mistakes we did in the past. As our mind wonder here and there, we often fail to be completely present in this moment. We often miss out on the fun and the opportunities in front of us because we worry about repeating our past mistakes and how this may impact our future. However, who we are and what we want now may be different from who our future self is and what our future self wants. What we plan may never happen, and what's in the past cannot be changed. All we can do now is try our best to be present and open to the opportunities presented to us in our "now".  |
| 18        | Odelia<br>オデリア   | D'souza<br>デスーザ    | The difference between Japanese cafe culture and Melbourne cafe culture<br>日本のカフェ文化とメルボルンのカフェ文化のひかく | Japanese cafe culture highlights presentation and aesthetics, all while harmonising traditional and modern elements in the ambience and menu. The significance of matcha cannot go unnoticed within Japan's cafe culture, with numerous cafes specialising in green tea and tea ceremonies. Another notable characteristic is the prevalence of solo experiences and seasonal menus. In contrast, Melbourne's cafe culture is well known for its lively dynamic, offering creative multicultural, fusion menus. One of the most well-known features is the quality of coffee. People from Melbourne place heavy emphasis on the quality and brewing methods of coffee. Additionally, cafes in Melbourne offer cosy environments, perfect for small, intimate gatherings. There is also a push to promote local businesses and properly sourced, sustainable ingredients. However, due to its multicultural nature, many cafes have adopted characteristics of Asian and more specifically, Japanese cafes, evident in cutesy elements and explosion of matcha lovers. |

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|-----------|-----------------|----------------|--|---|
| 19        | Imogen<br>イモジェン | Briggs<br>ブリグス | The importance of the humanities<br>人文科学の大切さ | In my speech, I will express the reasons why I think Japanese and Australian policies to reduce humanities funding and enrolment are misguided. There are a few main reasons. Firstly, I want to explain why education in the humanities is important. Secondly, I will discuss how these policies have no backing in research as humanities and STEM students have similar employment rates. Thirdly, I want to discuss how MEXT is encouraging STEM degrees in response to a decline in STEM interest and a shrinking labor force - but that this is actually counterproductive. A culture of forcing citizens to "innovate" could contribute to a larger trend of stress and low birth rates. Lastly I want to talk about how increased prices for degrees in the humanities is antithetical to ideas like academic freedom and opportunities for students from all backgrounds. |