

## English Conversation Club at the Fukuoka American Center



Our English Club is a place for English learners to practice English among themselves and with native-level English speakers, and is also a great opportunity for English speakers to socialize with Japanese college students and young professionals.

### January: New Year's Resolution

Happy New Year! For this session, we look back on the major news over last year in Japan and in the world and talk about what each of us would like to accomplish in this new year. What challenge would you like to take on?

### March: Women in the Workforce

March is the Women's History Month! We will discuss women's career advancement and the barriers they face. Do we have enough day care centers? Are day care fees reasonable for working families? Why do many women give up their careers when they have a family? What does our society need in order for women to work and thrive?

### April: Jazz

April 30th is International Jazz Day! We will have a recently-relocated musician from New York to Fukuoka as a guest lecturer, who will introduce the history of jazz in one hour. We will discuss what makes jazz and different styles of jazz.

### June: World Oceans Day

The Ocean generates most of the oxygen we breathe, helps feed us, regulates our climate, cleans the water we drink, offers us a pharmacopoeia of potential medicines, and provides limitless inspiration and more. Marine creatures suffer from climate change caused by human. Now we can give back!

### December: Holiday Party

It's a game night! Please join us to play American board games and practice English conversation.

## Culture Shock

Non-Japanese participants will talk about what surprised them most when they first came to Japan, and Japanese participants will share their experiences in foreign countries. Please be ready to share and discuss any unexpected or peculiar customs you have witnessed abroad (for non-Japanese participants, please tell us what you think is bizarre in Japan).

## Disaster Preparedness

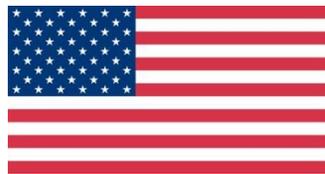
With a weather forecaster as a special guest and the support of the Japan Meteorological Agency, we will learn how we can prepare for natural disasters in Japan by understanding the advisories and warnings issued by the government and knowing where to evacuate. The session will be conducted in English, and our Japanese participants will learn English disaster vocabulary so they can support non-Japanese speaking friends and neighbors during crisis. International students and foreign residents are also most welcome!

## English Expressions

Every English learner has experienced frustration when unable to say or explain something in English. Please share your story of a time when you couldn't express yourself and learn from native-level English speakers how to say it.

## Vacation in the United States

We will introduce American vacations: where the best vacation spots are in the United States, which National Parks are most famous, and how Americans spend their vacations. We will discuss the difference between American and Japanese way of enjoying our days off.



*U.S. Consulate Fukuoka / Fukuoka American Center*