



Compulsory English at High School: Improving your IELTS response

Read the example and think about how to improve it.

I think that it is necessary to learn English at a Japanese high school. But I think it depends a lot on what you learn and how you learn.

In my high school, there were many classes that focused mainly on textbooks and strengthened reading, and classes that strengthened speaking with foreigners online.

In the former reading class, I had to memorize the text of the textbook completely in the English test to get a score. Therefore, he memorized the text of the textbook word for word, ignoring grammar. In that way, for example, I didn't know why to use it here or what it was. Therefore, you can't learn anything like this.

On the other hand, the latter speaking class was very meaningful because the spread of online technology gave foreigners the opportunity to talk to foreigners in a world where they could not go abroad directly due to the Corona disaster. It was a fun and valuable experience when we talked about how to communicate well.

Also, considering that you want to study abroad when you become a university student, it seems that you have no option not to study English in high school. In fact, I feel that I have learned to talk to foreigners online in my high school English class.

Based on the above, I think that English is necessary in high school, but what you learn depends on how you learn it. Language, after all, is useless in times of need, even if you understand it in your head unless you actually speak or hear it.

How can you improve the writing?

Needs to be a little more organized with paragraphs and **be specific with your thoughts first to direct the reader**

Repeating of words: think, classes, strengthening, text/textbook, memorize, in this way, foreigners

To be tested on... We were tested on our grammar, vocabulary, fluency, listening, etc.

I (if it is about yourself) We (if it is about your memory in the class)

Although I think it is necessary to learn English at a Japanese high school, I believe it depends a lot on what you learn and how you learn it. In my high school, I had classes that focused mainly on strengthening reading skills and developing fluency in speaking with foreigners online. **In these classes, I actually benefited from and enjoyed talking to native speakers much more.**

The former reading class was not really useful. We had to basically memorize whole parts of an article from the coursebook as we were usually tested in this way. Therefore, we had to try to remember the text word for word. From such an approach, we ignored the grammar, for example. I did not know why we used it in certain sentences nor what it actually meant. In the end, we could not learn anything from this class. **I felt like it was a waste of time.**

On the other hand, the latter speaking class was an extremely meaningful and rewarding experience. Because of the spread of online technology, we were given the opportunity to talk to foreigners in a world where they could not physically go abroad due to the Corona disaster. **Talking to them was a lot of fun and a valuable part of my English education** as we could learn how to communicate well.

When considering the fact that you want to study abroad when you become a university student, **it seems like you have no option but to study English at high school.** While the regular reading lessons were not meaningful, I feel that I learnt a lot, talking to native speakers online in my high school English class. Based on the above, I think that English is necessary in high school, but it depends on what you learn and on how you learn it. Language, after all, is a communicational tool. Even if you understand it in your head, it is pointless unless you actually use it.