

ふくやま国際交流協会

ボランティアのための英会話サロン

2023 年度



スケジュール

Name: _____

Class: _____

クラスA / クラスB / クラスC / クラスD

23年6月						
日	月	火	水	木	金	土
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

23年7月						
日	月	火	水	木	金	土
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

23年8月						
日	月	火	水	木	金	土
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

23年9月						
日	月	火	水	木	金	土
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

23年10月						
日	月	火	水	木	金	土
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

23年11月						
日	月	火	水	木	金	土
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

23年12月						
日	月	火	水	木	金	土
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

24年1月						
日	月	火	水	木	金	土
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

24年2月						
日	月	火	水	木	金	土
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

24年3月						
日	月	火	水	木	金	土
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

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2023.06更新

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Class 1: Introductions

Part 1: Getting to Know You

This salon is a chance for you to practice your English skills as well as connect with others who are interested in volunteering for the Fukuyama Association for Global Exchange. We will use themes relating to supporting non-Japanese residents living in Fukuyama. In later lessons we will also use themes related to tourist destinations in Fukuyama. It is hoped that many of you will take part in FAGE's various volunteer activities and events. Remember, volunteering is not limited to using English, so try to volunteer for a variety of activities!

First, let's learn more about each other! Please introduce yourself in English. Mention the following:

1. Your name
2. What you like to do in your free time
3. Your favorite location in Fukuyama, and why you like it
4. What kind of volunteer activities you are currently participating in, or ones that you want to get involved in

Example:

My name's _____, and I like to

_____.

My favorite location in Fukuyama's

_____ *because*

_____.

I'm currently volunteering as

_____.

After everyone has had a chance to introduce themselves, let's all get to know each other more using the following questions. Feel free to expand on your responses.

1. What locations in Fukuyama do you enjoy visiting?
2. What events in Fukuyama do you enjoy?
3. Do you think Fukuyama is a convenient place to live? Why, or why not?

Part 2: How Much Do You Know About Fukuyama?

Although you live in or around Fukuyama, how much do you know about the city and the people who live here? This is a short quiz to test your knowledge about Fukuyama. Let's try to answer these questions together as a class!

1. What is the population of Fukuyama? What is its total non-Japanese population?
2. What are the three largest non-Japanese populations in Fukuyama?
3. How many different nationalities live in Fukuyama?
4. What are some famous tourist locations in Fukuyama?
5. What kinds of products (traditional crafts, etc.) are produced in Fukuyama?
6. When did the Shinkansen first come to Fukuyama?
7. When did JFE open its plant in Fukuyama?
8. When did the Tomotetsu railway line to Tomonoura close?

9. What are all the statues around the station and other locations?

10. When is the Route 2 bypass scheduled for completion in Fukuyama?

Did any of the answers to any of these questions surprise you? Why?

If we have any extra time today, let's talk about our favorite locations in and around Fukuyama!

Your Notes:

Extra Information

This “Extra Information” section is a chance for you to learn on your own about something related to the class’s topic. We will not cover this information in class—it is just a chance for you to practice your English skills and learn more about Fukuyama and other topics yourself!

Etto Fukuyama

Want to read more about Fukuyama in English? This informational pamphlet contains various details about Fukuyama, including Fukuyama Castle, famous products, and more. You can also look at the Japanese edition if you have trouble understanding parts of the English edition. You can download *Etto Fukuyama* from the website below:

<https://www.city.fukuyama.hiroshima.jp/site/miryoku/46218.html>



Yasashii Nihongo

“Yasashii Nihongo” is a simpler version of Japanese that is easy to understand not only for non-native speakers, but for children and elderly native speakers as well. As the majority of Fukuyama’s non-Japanese population are not native English speakers, consider learning the basics of Yasashii Nihongo in order to communicate with more of the people that live in the city.

The following materials are particularly useful for learning the basics of Yasashii Nihongo.

- Aichi Prefecture Yasashii Nihongo Manual:
<https://www.pref.aichi.jp/soshiki/tabunka/0000059054.html>
- NHK News Web Easy (News written in Yasashii Nihongo):
<https://www3.nhk.or.jp/news/easy/>



BBC Learning English

Want to learn more English on your own? The BBC has many resources for learning English. If you're looking for a quick lesson, you can try listening to "6 Minute English" or "The English We Speak", both of which are updated several times a month.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/learningenglish/>



TED Talks

If you enjoy listening to topical presentations, this is a great place to expand your vocabulary and keep up to date with current ideas and thinking. The scripts of the talks are available to read while you watch.

<https://www.ted.com>



Your Notes:

Class 2: Living in Japan

What are some important things that you should know when living in Japan? Have you ever thought about differences between living in Japan and in a different country? Together as a class, let's practice our English conversation skills using the following questions.

- Have you ever lived in another country? Did you face any difficulties in understanding how to live there?
- Have you ever lived in another municipality in Japan? What were the differences between living there and living in Fukuyama?
- What are some resources that you use when you want to find information in Fukuyama?
- Do you ever read the city's informational magazine, *Kōhō Fukuyama*? What information do you find useful?
- Is there any information that you have trouble finding?
- Have you ever helped foreign residents get adjusted to living in Japan? What things did they have trouble with?
- What are some things that you think newcomers to Japan/Fukuyama should know? Some areas to consider:

- | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| - Resident Card/visa | - Cycling rules | - Manners & etiquette |
| - Recycling | - City Hall services | - Basic Japanese phrases |
| - Public Transport | - Banking | - Children's Education |
| - Moving within Japan | - Healthcare | - Money transfers abroad |
| - 'Mynaportal' app | - Tax, Pension & Work | - Internet/smartphones |
| - Driving in Japan | - Law on drugs etc. | - Cashless payments |

- For a person from the UK or the United States, what do you think are some pros and cons to living in Japan? Would someone from, say, Vietnam, the Philippines or South Africa have similar examples?
- Can you think of any other aspects of life that people from other countries might find 'strange' or unusual about life in Japan? Ideas to consider:
 - freedom of speech
 - use of body language
 - racism and xenophobia
 - smoking
 - eating while walking
 - attitudes to historical events
 - tipping
 - immigration/re-entry procedures
 - face masks
 - camera shutter noise
 - personal safety & crime rate
 - ATM hours of operation
 - National Pension scheme
 - credit cards and loans
 - punctuality/timekeeping
 - human rights
 - LGBT people
 - the political system
 - business cards
 - vegetarianism
 - electronic payment systems
 - customer service
 - URLs & internet search
 - parking
 - consumption tax
 - slippers/tatami mats
 - online banking
 - residents' tax system
 - consumption tax
 - 16 national holidays
 - *your own ideas!*

Your Notes:

Extra Information

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Guidebook on Living and Working

The Immigration Services Agency of Japan publishes a guidebook for non-Japanese residents to help them adjust to living and working in Japan. This guidebook is available in Japanese, simple Japanese, English, Chinese, Korean, Spanish, Portuguese, Vietnamese, Nepali, Thai, Indonesian, Burmese, Khmer, Pilipino, and Mongolian. Because both Japanese and English versions are available, this guidebook is an excellent resource for learning phrases and information useful for supporting non-Japanese residents in Fukuyama.

Examples of information contained in this guidebook:

- Procedures relating to status of residence
- Procedures at municipal offices (ex: notification of address, marriage, divorce, etc.)
- My Number system
- Employment/working
- Childbirth and parenting
- Education
- Medical services
- Pension and welfare
- Tax
- Traffic (traffic rules, how to get a Japanese driver’s license, etc.)
- Emergencies and disasters
- Housing
- Daily rules and customs

<https://www.moj.go.jp/isa/support/portal/index.html>



Class 3: Volunteering

Part 1: Being a Volunteer

What sort of volunteering experience do you have? (Any volunteer activities, not just international-related ones.) What sort of volunteer activities do you want to be involved in? Together as a class, let's practice our English conversation skills using the following questions.

- What volunteer activities are you involved in?
- How often do you volunteer?
- What are some positive experiences you have had during your volunteer activities?
- Have you ever participated in volunteer activities for the Fukuyama Association for Global Exchange (FAGE)? What activities were they?
- What advice do you have for someone who wants to volunteer?
- What are some manners to keep in mind when volunteering (especially when it involves non-Japanese residents)?

Part 2: Learning & Teaching Japanese

Many volunteers for FAGE help teach Japanese to non-Japanese residents of Fukuyama. Have you ever had any experience teaching Japanese? In the remaining time today, let's practice our English conversation skills by discussing the following questions related to teaching Japanese to foreign residents.

General Questions about Teaching and Learning Japanese

Note: These are questions everyone can discuss, even if you do not have experience teaching Japanese as a professional or volunteer.

- When you were a child, what about learning Japanese was difficult for you?
- What do you think is the most difficult thing about learning Japanese (both for Japanese and non-Japanese people)?
- What do you think is the easiest thing about learning Japanese?

- What are some methods that you recommend for learning and practicing Japanese? (For instance, think about the methods you use to study English.)
- Have you ever tried teaching Japanese (hiragana, katakana, difficult words, etc.) to someone before? (For example, to your children or grandchildren.)
- Do you know about any Japanese language exams for non-native speakers? What about exams for native speakers (ex: Kanji Kentei)? Have you ever tried these exams yourself?

Your Notes:

Extra Information

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Volunteer Activities in Fukuyama

If you are looking for volunteer activities to take part in, consider volunteering through the Fukuyama City Social Welfare Council (福山市社会福祉協議会). From their website, you can see activities you can get involved in or read their volunteer information newsletter called “TUNAGU.”

<https://www.f-shakyo.net/index.html>



“Tsunahiro”: Website for Foreign Nationals as Residents to Learn Japanese Language

The Japanese Agency for Cultural Affairs’ Japanese Language Division has a website called “Tsunahiro” (full name in Japanese: つながるひろがる にほんごでのくらし (つなひろ)). This website teaches Japanese through common situations non-Japanese residents often face in Japan. If you are interested in teaching Japanese, you can look at this website to try to understand the perspective of those learning Japanese as a foreign language. In addition, this website is available in multiple languages, such as English, Chinese, Portuguese, Nepali, Thai, and more—so please show this website to your friends who are beginning to learn Japanese as well!

<http://tsunagarujp.bunka.go.jp>



(Textbook) Irodori: Japanese for Life in Japan

The Japan Foundation has produced a free Japanese textbook called “Irodori.” With three volumes, this textbook covers all the points needed to begin learning Japanese. This textbook can be used for self-study, and an online language course is also available on the website. If you want to teach Japanese to non-Japanese residents, consider using this textbook as a teaching material.

<https://www.irodori.jpf.go.jp>



Your Notes:

Class 4: Being Prepared for a Disaster

Part 1: Preparing for a Disaster

Are you prepared in the case of a disaster? As a class, let's practice our English conversation using the following questions.

- Have you ever experienced a natural disaster? Were you prepared for it?
- Have you ever experienced a natural disaster in another country?
- What are some recent natural disasters that have occurred in Hiroshima?
- What are some recent natural disasters that have occurred in other locations in Japan?
- Have you ever helped another person during a natural disaster? How did you help?
- Do you have any emergency supplies at home? What do you have prepared?
- What sort of things do you want foreign residents to know in the event of a natural disaster?
- Do you think you would be able to help someone in English during a natural disaster? What about in "Yasashii Nihongo"? (See page 5.)

Part 2: Infectious Diseases

Although different from a natural disaster, the Covid-19 pandemic changed all our lives between 2020 and early 2023. Another worldwide pandemic is likely sometime in the future. Other infectious diseases include seasonal influenza and, rarely these days, tuberculosis. Using the following questions, let's practice our conversation skills while talking about this situation.

- What difficulties did Japanese people face due to the Covid-19 crisis?
- Do you know of any separate difficulties foreign residents living in Japan faced due to the Covid-19 crisis?
- How can people get an annual health check if they are not employed?

- Where can people find information about infectious diseases?
- How can people get vaccinations for seasonal diseases like influenza?
- How does the Japan Digital Vaccine Passport (iOS version: 新型コロナワクチン接種証明書アプリ) work?
- What basic precautions can everyone take in order to minimize the spread of infectious diseases?
- Can you explain how the My Number card can be used instead of a health insurance card, and the benefits of this?
- Can you use the words *shot* and *jab* correctly?

Your Notes:

Extra Information

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The following are some helpful resources regarding natural disasters. If you have non-Japanese friends, feel free to share these resources with them! Please note that these resources are just suggestions and the Fukuyama Association for Global Exchange does not take responsibility for the content of these websites.

Hiroshima Prefecture Disaster Information Email Notification Service

Hiroshima Prefecture offers a disaster information email service for those who register. This service is available not only in Japanese but also in foreign languages such as English, Vietnamese, Chinese, and more. (You can choose your registration language when you fill out the registration page). Please introduce this service to your non-Japanese friends and acquaintances! However, note that foreign language information is machine translated, so it may be unclear.

<https://www.gensai.pref.hiroshima.jp/lp/>



Disaster Preparedness Tokyo

A very helpful guidebook in English (Chinese and Korean also available) about disaster preparedness. This guide is for Tokyo, but much of the information is relevant to those who live throughout Japan. If you want to learn more about how to talk about natural disasters in English, this is a very good resource!

<https://www.bousai.metro.tokyo.lg.jp/bousai/1000031/1003770.html>



Sendai Tourism, Convention and International Association Multilingual Disaster Prevention Videos

Videos and other information in Japanese, Chinese, English, Korean, Indonesian, Vietnamese, and many other languages.

<http://int.sentia-sendai.jp/j/life/bousai.html>



Your Notes:

Class 5: Tourism in Fukuyama

Beginning with this class, let's talk more about tourism, and more specifically tourism in Fukuyama! As a class, let's practice our English conversation using the following questions.

Tourism in General

- What do you think of when you hear the word "tourism"?
- What are some good and bad things about tourism?
- How does tourism change lives?
- Do you think international tourism helps people around world to understand each other?
- Where have you traveled abroad? What were you best and worst experiences?
- How has tourism in Japan changed recently?
- What are some helpful phrases in English you can use when speaking with tourists?
- What are some manners to be aware of when talking to non-Japanese tourists?
- Have you ever assisted non-Japanese tourists in Japan? When? How did you assist them?
- Have you ever received assistance from local residents when you traveled abroad?
- How has international tourism changed since the Covid-19 pandemic?

Tourism in Fukuyama

- What are some famous tourist locations in Fukuyama?
- What do you think of the re-opened Tourist Information Centre at Fukuyama Station?
- What are some famous tourist locations near Fukuyama? (Onomichi, Kurashiki, etc.)
- What are some less-famous tourist locations in Fukuyama? For instance, are there any tourism spots that you recommend that you can't find in a travel guide?
- What do you think are some appealing points of Fukuyama?
- What are some famous events that happen in Fukuyama?
- What are some activities that tourists can participate in when they visit Fukuyama? (Example: sea kayaking in Tomonoura)
- What are some seasonal activities for tourists in Fukuyama?
- Would you recommend Fukuyama as a tourist destination for international tourists? What about local tourists? Why, or why not?

Your Notes:

Extra Information

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The following are some helpful resources regarding tourism in Fukuyama and its surrounding areas in English. Try using these resources to learn how to introduce various tourist spots in English!

Dive! Hiroshima - The Official Guide to Hiroshima

This website has lots of information in English about tourist destinations around the entire prefecture. This website is available in Japanese, English, Korean, Chinese, French, German, and other languages. (Note: Some information is machine translated.)

<https://dive-hiroshima.com/en/>



Japan Guide

This website is aimed at English-speaking tourists, and articles are written primarily by non-Japanese writers, so you can use this website to get an idea of how native English speakers introduce tourist destinations.

Hiroshima: <https://www.japan-guide.com/e/e2160.html>



Fukuyama: <https://www.japan-guide.com/e/e3430.html>



Japan National Tourism Organization

This website is a helpful resource for tourism throughout Japan. However, information about Fukuyama is limited.

<https://www.japan.travel/en/destinations/chugoku/hiroshima/>



Fukuyama Convention & Visitors Association

This website contains information specific to Fukuyama. You can also find travel guides in English to download as well.

<https://www.fukuyama-kanko.com/inbound/>

English travel guides: <https://www.fukuyama-kanko.com/inbound/guide/>



Your Notes:

Class 6: Roses of Fukuyama

Today, let's talk about the roses of Fukuyama and the Fukuyama Rose Festival. We will practice speaking English using the following questions.

General Questions

- Do you enjoy the roses in Fukuyama? Why or why not?
- Have you ever tried growing roses yourself? Do any of your friends or family grow them?

History of the Roses of Fukuyama & Roses with Fukuyama in their Names

- What do you know about the history of Fukuyama's roses? How would you explain Fukuyama's rose history to a visitor to Fukuyama?
- Do you know of any roses that have "Fukuyama" in their names? Which is your favorite?

Parks with Roses in Fukuyama

- Have you ever been to any of the rose parks in Fukuyama? How often do you go there?
- What is your favorite park with roses in Fukuyama? Why is it your favorite?
- Are there any smaller parks with roses that you enjoy? (Not Midorimachi Park, Rose Park/Bara Kōen, or Hanazono Park)

Fukuyama Rose Festival

- Have you ever been to the Fukuyama Rose Festival before? When?
- Is there any food at the festival that you enjoy?
- What sort of activities at the Fukuyama Rose Festival do you enjoy?
- Have you ever attended any concerts, displays, etc. at a past Fukuyama Rose Festival?
- Have you or any of your friends or family ever volunteered at the Fukuyama Rose Festival?

- Do you plan to go to the next Fukuyama Rose Festival? Why or why not?

World Rose Convention

- Did you know that the World Rose Convention will be held in Fukuyama in 2025?
- Do you know about the World Federation of Rose Societies?
- The World Rose Convention 2022 was held in Adelaide, Australia. Do you know anything about this convention and Fukuyama's role at the convention?
- What are you looking forward to regarding the World Rose Convention in Fukuyama?
- If you have a chance to volunteer at the Convention, will you want to? Why or why not?

Your Notes:

Extra Information

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On pages 29 and 30 is a partially-edited copy of a section of a pamphlet called “Fukuyama Rose Map” (ばら花壇コンクール 50 周年記念). In this pamphlet is a section entitled “Rose Story,” containing a timeline of Fukuyama’s rose history. For practice, please try translating this timeline from Japanese into English. Below is a sample translation that you can use to compare your work. If translating from Japanese to English is too difficult, you can use the sample translation to translate from English to Japanese and use the pamphlet to check your work. (Or, you can just read this information to expand your knowledge about Fukuyama’s rose history.)

Please note that this Fukuyama Rose Map is from several years ago, so some information may be out of date.

Fukuyama’s ‘Rose Story’

In the mid-1950s, the people living in what is now the Rose Park area planted 1,000 roses with the desire to “give warmth to the destroyed city and calm the spirits of the people.” From this, our rose story begins.

1956: The 1st Rose Exhibition is held by the Fukuyama Rose Association.

1965: The “Promotion Committee for Making a Beautiful Fukuyama” (later the “Fukuyama Positive City Planning Council”) begins, with the slogan “beautiful flowers and the beautiful hearts of the people who grow them.” With activities promoting flowers, especially roses, they built the foundations for “Fukuyama, the City of Roses.” Rose Park appeared as it is today around this time.

1968: A monument to commemorate the receipt of the grand prize for the National Beautiful City Planning Award is placed in the Rose Park, engraved with the words, “may benevolent flowers bloom here.”

1969: The Rose Garden Competition is held for the first time. (Held every year since.)

Column: The Fukuyama Rose Festival is the largest event in Fukuyama City, which boasts one million roses. The festival is held every year in mid-May. Many events including cut rose contests, the rose parade, and more are held primarily in the Rose Park and Midorimachi Park areas. At Fukuyama Station and many other locations throughout the city, visitors are greeted by the many blooming roses raised with care by the citizens of Fukuyama.

1985: On April 1, the rose is officially designated as the city’s flower, and when written in Japanese, “bara” is to be written in hiragana.

1986: A Fukuyama rose named “Rose Fukuyama” is created to commemorate the 70th anniversary of Fukuyama City.

1992: At the suggestion of Fukuyama City, local governments around the country (including cities, towns, etc. who have designated the rose as their flower) are called together, and the “1st Conference of Rose Municipalities (Rose Summit)” is held. As of April 2018, 24 cities have participated.

1993: On November 29, the city designates its official rose logo.

Late 1990s: From this period, the phrase and concept “rose mind” arises, taking root as the basic philosophy of Fukuyama’s “rose city planning.”

2001: The hexagonal, pyramid-shaped rose bed in Midorimachi Park is completed. The shape of this rose bed is unique in Japan.

2006: Rose Park is awarded the World Federation of Rose Societies Award of Garden Excellence.

2010: A series of courses entitled “Fukuyama Rose University” (Fukuyama Bara Daigaku) are held in order to develop leaders of rose cultivation throughout the city.

2010: “Rola,” the mascot of Fukuyama, the City of Roses, is born.

2015: “Fukuyama, the City of Roses Ordinance” is enacted. May 21 is designated as Rose Day (Bara no Hi).

2016: To commemorate Fukuyama City’s centennial, the rose “Rose Mind Fukuyama” is created. On May 21, Rose Day (Bara no Hi), Fukuyama achieves its goal of becoming the city of one million roses. Fukuyama achieves the Guinness World Record at the time for the “most pairs presenting and receiving bouquets simultaneously (single venue).”

2018: The 50th Rose Garden Competition is held.

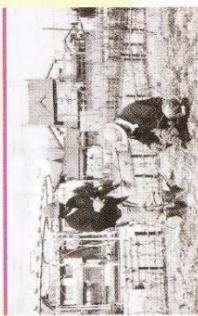
2025: The World Federation of Rose Societies World Rose Convention, where many rose researchers and rosarians from around the world gather, is held in Fukuyama.

Your Notes:

ROSE STORY

ばらものがたり

1950年代半ば、現在のばら公園付近の住民が、「戦災で荒廃した街に潤いを与え、人々の心に和らぎを取り戻そう」と、ばら苗約1000本を植えたことから始まります。



「福山市を美しくする運動推進委員会（後の福山明るいまちづくり協議会）」発足。「花は美しい、それを愛し育む人の心はなお美しい」が合言葉。ばらづくりを中心とする花いっぱい運動を進め、「ばらのまち福山」の礎をつくる。ばら公園がほぼ現在の姿に整備。

**ばら花壇
コンクール
初開催**
(以後、毎年開催)

1965

1969



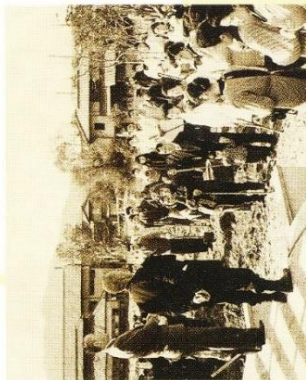
100万本のばらのまちが誇る、福山市最大のイベント「福山ばら祭」。毎年5月半ばに開催されます。ばら公園や緑町公園を中心に、切りばらコンテストやローズハレードなどイベントが盛りだくさん。福山駅前をはじめ、市内の至る所で市民の皆さんが大切に育てたばらが咲き誇り、来訪者を楽しませています。

ばらが福山市の花に正式に制定(4月1日)され、ひらがなの「ばら」を使用することとなった。

1985

1956

「第1回バラ展示会」が福山ばら会主催で行われる。



1968

全国美しい町づくり賞・最優秀賞を受賞し、これを記念して「ここに善意の花ひらく」と刻まれた碑がばら公園に設置。



1986

市制施行70周年を記念して、福山のばら「ローズふくやま」が誕生。





Class 7: Fukuyama Castle & Cultural Zone

Today, let's talk about Fukuyama Castle and its surrounding area, known as the Cultural Zone. We will practice speaking English using the following questions.

General Questions

- Where is the Cultural Zone located? How do you get there?
- Have you ever been to the Cultural Zone?
- Have you ever visited the Cultural Zone with friends who are not from the area? What did they think of the Cultural Zone?
- Have you ever been on a guided tour of the area (e.g. Fukuyama Castle)?
- What do you think makes the Cultural Zone a good tourist destination?
- Have you ever visited any of the museums in the Cultural Zone? What exhibits did you see?
- Have you been to any of the museums more than once? Which ones?
- Do you like to spend time in the Cultural Zone or around Fukuyama Station? Where do you like to go?
- What would you do to improve the Cultural Zone/the area around Fukuyama Station?

Fukuyama Castle

- Fukuyama Castle celebrated its 400th anniversary in August 2022. Did you take part in any activities or events related to this anniversary?
- Have you visited Fukuyama Castle since its reopening?
- Would you recommend Fukuyama Castle to your friends and family? Why or why not?
- There have been many new resources about Fukuyama Castle recently, such as a website with a lot of information about the castle (see the Extra Information section). Have you read or used any of these resources recently? Have you learned anything new about the castle?
- Are there any interesting facts about the castle that you want to share with others?

Events and Activities in the Cultural Zone

- Have you ever been to the Fukuyama Chrysanthemum Exhibition?
- Have you ever been to the area on Culture Day (Bunka no Hi)?
- Have you ever taken part in other events in the area?

Your Notes:

Extra Information

This “Extra Information” section is a chance for you to learn on your own about something related to this class’s topic. We will not cover this information in class—this section is just a chance for you to practice your English skills and learn more about Fukuyama and other topics yourself!

Fukuyama Castle Digital Archives, Virtual Tour, and More!

Learn more about Fukuyama Castle without even leaving your house! On this website, you can find resources such as:

- A digital archive that introduces the lords who ruled Fukuyama Castle along with old maps and photographs.
- A virtual tour that shows the castle as it was when it was originally constructed.
- A video introducing the history of the castle.
- Maps of the castle throughout the ages.
- Videos of specific parts of the castle using computer graphics to show each part's original construction.

<https://fukuyama400.jp/special/>



Your Notes:

Class 8: Fukuyama in the Media

What is your impression of Fukuyama (or Hiroshima in general) in the media (TV, films, etc.)? As a class, let's practice our English conversation using the following questions.

Part 1: TV, Films & Other Media

- Have you ever seen Fukuyama in TV dramas or in films? Where?
- Have you ever seen Fukuyama on variety TV programs?
- Have you ever read about Fukuyama in a book or seen an article about the city in a magazine?
- Have you seen any interesting news about Fukuyama on local TV recently?
- Fukuyama was a topic of discussion on news sites abroad because of its “friendship city” agreement with a certain famous “city”. Did you hear about this? (If not, see the *Extra Information* section for this class!)
- Do you think Fukuyama should appear in more Japanese TV shows or films? Why or why not?
- Do you think Fukuyama should appear in more non-Japanese TV shows or films? Why or why not?
- Do you think being featured on TV or in films affects tourism in a place? How?

Part 2: Social Media & Online

- Do you use social media? Why or why not?
- Do you know about any of Fukuyama City's official social media accounts? (Facebook, Twitter, etc.)
- Do you follow any of Fukuyama City's official social media accounts? Why, or why not?
- Do you follow any non-official social media accounts with information about Fukuyama or Hiroshima? What are they?
- Do you think a social media presence is necessary to attract tourists?

- When you travel somewhere, do you look at social media related to that location?
- Do you think social media is helpful or harmful for tourism? Why or why not?
- How good is the free Wi-Fi available to tourists in Fukuyama?

Your Notes:

Notice: Everyone will make a presentation during the next class!

Be sure to be prepared!

Extra Information

This “Extra Information” section is a chance for you to learn on your own about something related to this class’s topic. We will not cover this information in class—this section is just a chance for you to practice your English skills and learn more about Fukuyama and other topics yourself!

Friendship City Agreement with Gotham City

Do you know where Gotham City is located? Gotham City is not actually a real city, but the fictional setting for the famous *Batman* series. To celebrate the release of the series’ latest film, *The Batman*, a friendship city agreement was signed between Fukuyama City and Gotham City (via Warner Bros. Japan LLC). This news immediately spread across social media abroad, bringing a lot of attention to the city. A message from the cast of *The Batman* was recorded as well. You can read more about this from the following websites.

Information from Fukuyama City website (Japanese)

<https://www.city.fukuyama.hiroshima.jp/soshiki/bunka/252427.html>



English news articles about this topic

<https://mainichi.jp/english/articles/20220225/p2a/00m/0et/039000c>

<https://english.kyodonews.net/news/2022/03/c7546c955308-batmans-hometown-gotham-japanese-castle-site-become-friends.html>



Video message from the cast (English)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vaK2rTxCJBQ>



Fukuyama City's Social Media Accounts

Do you want to follow some of the city's official social media accounts? You can find information about the city's Facebook, Instagram, LINE, and Twitter accounts from the Fukuyama City website.

<https://www.city.fukuyama.hiroshima.jp>



Your Notes:

Class 9: Individual Presentations: Products of Fukuyama

Over the past few months, we've had the chance to talk about the roses of Fukuyama, Fukuyama Castle, and tourism in Fukuyama in general. Since today is the last class of this year, let's try presenting information in English about something else related to tourism: products of Fukuyama!

You can choose any product of Fukuyama to present about. This product could be a traditional craft (example: Fukuyama koto) or a souvenir (example: homeishu).

The following are some helpful resources to find more information about products of Fukuyama. However, you can present about any product of Fukuyama, not just ones found in these resources.

- Etto Fukuyama Volume 5

<https://www.city.fukuyama.hiroshima.jp/soshiki/jouhou-hasshin/116210.html>



- Fukuyama Brand Website

<https://fukuyama-brand.jp/>



- Rose Goods Website

<https://fukuyama-matsuri.jp/publics/index/33/>



Everyone will have a maximum of five minutes to present. You can use these questions to help organize your presentation.

1. What product did you choose to present about? Why did you choose this product?
2. Where in Fukuyama can you find this product? If it is something you can buy, where can you buy it?
3. Do you often buy or use this product? Have you ever given this product to friends or family?
4. What are some features or characteristics of the product that you chose?

References and Acknowledgments

Cover photo: “Group of People Sitting on Sofa While Discussing”, Athena,
www.pexels.com

Fukuyama population data:

<https://www.city.fukuyama.hiroshima.jp/soshiki/johokanri/24115.html>

FAGE: <https://www.city.fukuyama.hiroshima.jp/site/fage/>