

Teachers Legends

Kishiya Sensei

Q: Could you tell us about the atmosphere in your seminar?

A: My seminar students are so cheerful. And they have a lot of ambition and drive.

Q: If there had been a BLSP course in your college days, would you have taken it?

A: Absolutely! I would have entered the BLSP Program. I think this program is appealing.

Q: What's your recent hobby?

A: It's YouTube! I watch it too much it, so My PC iMac is out of order.

Q: Do you have any special abilities?

A: My special talent is drinking much and sleeping. I can sleep for a long time.

Q: Why did you select this job?

A: When I tried to hunt for a job, I realized I didn't want to be an ordinary salesman. I wanted to study something special.

Q: If you couldn't become a professor, what did you want to be?

A: I wanted to become a comedy writer who is criticized by comedians.

Q: What kind of people do you want your seminar students to become in the future?

A: I want my seminar students to become people who have great inner strength, a positive attitude, and good judgment. I also want them to be energetic. I want them to become people like that through this project.



Kawakami sensei



Specialties:
New product development,
Innovation management,
Business Research (robot business),
Product management

Who is Tomoko Kawakami? Let's ask her some questions.

Q: What type of student do you want in your seminar?

A: "I want to students who can think and act for BLSP!"

Q: Your seminar is so hard. I feel I can't do all the work by myself.

A: "Actually, I give you much work every time. But don't worry, I'll give you advice too when you face difficulties." So her seminar is very active and fruitful! We think she is like our mother.

Q: Do you do housework? You seem busy, so I think you can't do it.

A: "In fact, I do housework but not all of it. I share it with my husband. " She has many assignments. But, she nicely manages her time to do her job, raise her family, and do housework.

So you can also learn how to use time effectively if you join her seminar.

Greetings from the June 2010 BLSP News Team!

H. Umeda, M. Marumoto, T. Mizuki, H. Mori, T. Fujii,
T. Higashiyama, Y. Yamaguchi, K. Naramoto, E. Tanase



Baba Sensei

"Say something interesting!" Professor Baba always asks this of us whenever seminar members introduce themselves, give reasons for being late, or make presentations. He always makes us say interesting things. Needless to say, I have never had to do that kind of thing before in school, so it is a challenge.

Why do we have to say something funny, or interesting?

We have to learn how to be humorous, because it is a good life skill. For example, Professor Baba tells us, "saying something interesting, doing something funny, or telling a good story is the way to

Meet the BLSP Seminar teachers!



get someone else to listen to you." I think we can use this advice if we go to a Goukon, to get that special 'him' or 'her' to listen to us. He also taught us: "Be careful about dressing up too much the first time you meet someone, because then, they'll expect you to dress up the next time too, and if you don't, it'll have a negative effect." That is also good advice for a Goukon!

Baba sensei is a great scholar and professor, and he likes to say interesting things. He often jokes with the other teachers, which is not easy, because teachers are usually so serious. I guess saying something interesting might be a challenge for *him* too!



Mini News Flash!

May Vocabulary contest winners:
1 Takanobu Mizuki
2 Yu Tsuruno
3 Manami Hata

English Study

The News Team gives us advice on American cultural differences.

Different ways of marking errors

Did you know that Americans and Japanese have a different way of marking papers? When you were a younger student, I suspect your examination papers were marked with 'O' or '✓' – which is the same as 'X' – by your teacher. However Americans use these marks differently. An American teacher will mark '✓' if your answer is right and 'X' if your answer is wrong. Therefore if you are given a '✓' by an American teacher, you shouldn't be disappointed. It means that your answer was correct or idea was okay!

A cultural difference

Japanese and Americans have different of way of speaking when they give somebody a gift. If an American gives cookies her mother made to a friend, she'll say "these are special cookies my mother made. I love them, so I brought some for you! I'm sure you'll like them too." But Japanese say "Tsumaranaimono desuga..." This way of speaking humbly is confusing for Americans. It might even seem a little rude. They might wonder why you don't care enough to give them something nicer.

"Shakojirei"

A "Shakojirei" is a ceremonious Japanese greeting given in order to get along well with others. When a guest leaves, a Japanese host might say, "Please come to my house again whenever you like." However, most people don't really mean that. It is just said to be polite. On the other hand, an American will probably believe whatever the Japanese host says and might even suddenly come to visit. Obviously, there are some cultural differences between Japanese and Americans that we have to be careful about.

Speak more slowly please.

I suppose that you often use this phrase when you talk to a native speaker of English. You can't understand what he or she is saying because that person is speaking so fast, so you want them to speak more slowly. However, it has this nuance: "あんた、喋るの速いんだよ" This expression is a little too direct. A better way of asking is "Could I ask you to speak a little more slowly, please?" or "Would you mind speaking a little slower please? I'm not very good at English."