

Council on
International
Educational
Exchange

1973. INTENSIVE ENGLISH FOR TEACHERS FROM JAPAN

The sixth annual program on Intensive English for Teachers from Japanese secondary schools will be held from late July through late September of 1973. This program is sponsored by the Council on International Educational Exchange and co-sponsored by the American-Japan Society of Tokyo.

The program was conceived in 1967 and first implemented in 1968. It developed in response to an increased awareness in Japan of the importance of having English teachers experience "living English" in an English speaking society.

PROGRAM PURPOSE

1. To strengthen skills in speaking and hearing English.
2. To deepen understanding of American culture and society.
3. To experience life in an American family and secondary school.
4. To increase American understanding of the people, family life, social structures and educational system of modern Japan.
5. To enable Japanese teachers of English to enrich their international experience towards the end of instilling a broader world view in their students, and gaining fresh perspective on their own country of Japan.

PROGRAM DESIGN

Participants are placed in groups of 40 according to the results of an English ability level test. For each group there is a leader and assistant leader who serve as intermediaries between the Americans responsible for different phases of the program and the participants themselves. All the Japanese teachers are covered by illness and accident insurance.

University: Each group participates in a specially designed one-month Intensive English program on a university campus. The campuses participating in the program for 1973 are Boston University, Fordham University, Michigan State University, the University of Minnesota, the University of New Hampshire, the Pennsylvania State University, Princeton University, and the University of Texas at Austin.

Cross-Country Travel: At the completion of the university program, each group begins its cross-country travel by chartered bus, stopping in various communities and significant areas of sight-seeing and cultural interest.

Homestay and School Participation: The groups have a two-week homestay period during which they also participate in the life of a secondary school. In another part of the country a short homestay period is provided for them so that they may get a feel of the varied life styles, social concerns and

thinking of families and communities in different parts of the United States. This period provides a unique opportunity for rich cultural and educational exchanges between Japanese and Americans.

Orientation and Evaluation: Orientation is conducted both by the Tokyo Council staff before departure and by the New York Council staff after arrival in the United States.

At the conclusion of the program an evaluation is made by New York Council staff, group leaders, and representatives of each group. At this time all aspects of the program are frankly discussed and suggestions are made for improvement. Evaluation results are shared with the organizations which have participated in the program.

CONCLUSION

During the past five years, 1,232 Japanese teachers have participated in this program of Intensive English. The Council is deeply indebted to local and national educational agencies in Japan and to universities, families, and community organizations in the United States whose support and cooperation is so important to the program.

The Japanese teachers speak of gaining a new confidence in their English, which hopefully may enable them to make a contribution to better English education in Japan. Americans who have cooperated with the program as well as the Japanese participants express deeper understanding of one another.

Japan and America face many similar problems, and both countries are leaders in the world. We sincerely hope that the life you experience together by participation in this program for teachers from Japan may be one not only of mutual joy, but of deepened awareness that Japanese and Americans have much to share together as the two countries seek to be partners for peace among the nations of the world.

New York: Program Coordinator
Asian Programs
Margery L. Mayer

Tokyo: Program Director
Toshihiko Takahashi

