



## Student Research

### Should Japan Have Nuclear Energy?



The problems with nuclear energy plants are covered everyday on Japanese TV. They were reported sometimes on TV before the Great North Eastern Earthquake. But since then, people have been focusing extensively on nuclear energy. The government has been trying to protect nuclear energy. There must be reasons why we keep on using it. This report introduces ideas why Japan relies on nuclear energy, the risks in maintaining it, and will introduce new energy sources to solve this problem.

Nuclear energy is very helpful for Japan, but it is also a dangerous thing. Actually, the Great North-Eastern Earthquake did not only bring tragedy to the people living in Tohoku, it also caused some secondary disasters. Above all, problems facing the nuclear energy power plant in Fukushima have not been solved yet. In fact, they are expanding. We can say that there are both high risks and high returns to nuclear power.

After the 1960s, the main energy source for Japan has been fossil fuels. That is because Japan underwent rapid economic growth, and fossil fuels are more efficient than hydroelectricity, the main energy source before. However, an oil crisis occurred in the 1970's, so Japan could not import so much oil for its energy needs. Therefore, Japan started to use nuclear energy as an alternative source of energy. Now, nuclear energy accounts for almost 30 percent of its total Japanese power generation.

As nuclear energy became the main source of energy, the power supply has increased much more, and living standards, industrial production, and other areas have become better. The energy costs became cheaper, so people could use high cost appliances like air conditioners casually. Factories could run machines for 24 hours and boost their production. In other words, nuclear energy made electric power more available. Also, areas which accept nuclear power plants receive subsidies from the government, so these areas can develop. As a result, a lot of people can find jobs there, and make money. These are the main advantages to having nuclear power plants.

If nuclear energy had only advantages, it would be recognized all over the world as a significant source of energy. However, this energy has one critical problem. It is radioactive. If something causes serious damages to a nuclear power plant, radioactive contamination may happen in the area. The contaminated areas would become too dangerous to live in because people would absolutely suffer from radiation sickness. Also, radioactivity has effects on food that people produce to eat or sell, so it strongly affects human life. For example, the Chernobyl's accident in 1986 has been known as one of the most shocking nuclear accidents.

Now, even 25 years later, people still cannot enter these areas because of radioactivity. Likewise, the area near the Fukushima power plant is banned from entry.

Because of this, some people have been opposed to nuclear energy. However, it would have been impossible for Japan to grow into one of the leading countries without such energy. So, people should keep in mind that they have been relying on this energy source to build their own country and lead comfortable lives. But, as Japan is becoming more and more aware of the dangers of nuclear energy, it might be the time for us to change our main source of energy. In fact, Japan does not have fossil fuel, so we have to import it from other countries. To make energy by ourselves, wind power, geo-thermal power, and solar power are recognized as alternative sources of energy. These total less than what nuclear or fossil fuel can produce, but they can make up for some of it.

According to last year's news, there is a lot of methane hydrate at the bottom of the Japan Sea. Methane hydrate is partly frozen water buried at the bottom of the sea. This is partly made of natural gases. Recently, Japanese researchers have started to study the way to extract this gas. Natural gas can become an energy source, so if this study succeeds, Japan dependence on energy sources could change dramatically. Japan will be able to develop its own energy, and could even export this energy abroad. That way, the Japan economy might improve because of newly exploited natural resources. But of course, there are problems connected to that. First, this is natural gas, so people need to burn it to get energy, and so carbon dioxide levels will raise. Second, this gas exists at the bottom of the sea, so people need to dig 1000 to 2000 meters to get it. It is very difficult. Indeed, there are many environmental and technical problems related to this venture.

Residents hope to live safe lives, and governments hope to be wealthy. Yet, both have to understand each other firmly and share common goals. Nuclear energy has been a reliable source for governments because it is efficient and produces an enormous amount of energy. The problem is safety. Residents strongly insist on that point. This has been the main conflicting point. If somehow we found another efficient, powerful, and safe source energy, this problem would be resolved. I think it is sufficient to combine fossil fuels, natural gases, geo-thermal power, wind power, and solar power.

Nuclear energy has brought a lot of benefit to Japan so far. However, nuclear facilities cannot always stand tidal waves. The government needs to consider alternative sources of energy to take the place of nuclear energy.

Hikaru Furukawa.



# Student Voice:

## What do you think of an 80% attendance rule?

***HGU students should be forced to attend class at least 80% of the time, or fail their course if they don't.***

I am for this suggestion for three reasons. First, it is necessary to study hard because teachers expect this. However, students may catch a cold and it might take them two or three weeks until they are better. During this time, they should not go to the university when their symptoms are very bad, or else other students will catch their cold.

Because physical strength is different depending on the person, we sometimes need to compromise and be allowed to be absent two or three times. However, in such cases students should hand in a medical certificate or do something like a report to show the teacher sincerity of our study. Finally, students themselves make the decision to go to university, so it is important that they attend classes and not be absent too often. For the above reasons, students should make an effort not to waste their valuable time at university and not be absent more than 20 percent of the time.

**Kaori**

I'm against this suggestion because university students ought to have flexible schedules. Most HGU students belong to a club and do club activities. It is valuable for students because they can socialize with many people and gain good communication skills. Also, students have to work in their part time jobs. Working is not easy, and employees are strict with the way we do our tasks. Furthermore, this part-time work allows students to socialize and experience working life, which can be more important than classes, because students need to be given more personal responsibility in order to become adults.

Next, if a teacher gives a boring lecture in class, students should be able to choose whether they will take that class or not. Students would rather study other things by themselves than attend a boring lecture. Finally, if transport problems happen, especially in winter, some students cannot go to university since many students don't live near this university. Therefore, I believe that this suggestion is not useful and must not be applied at HGU.

**Kiwamu**

I agree with this rule, because we entered the university to study, so we must attend class. Moreover, our parents pay lots of money for this, so we must attend class to show our gratitude. Our parents want us to obtain knowledge at university, and our academic life is more important than part-time work because if we haven't obtained knowledge, we can't get a job or work effectively. However, I believe that part-time work is also important because it allows us to experience working life, and to learn personal responsibility. However, we are students first - so attending class should be the most important thing for us.

**Yuka**

I support this idea. I think academic life is more important than part-time work or social life, because if we don't obtain

knowledge we can't work effectively. Also, our parents pay a lot of money for us to take classes in university, so we must attend classes and study hard. If we attend classes every week, we can pass tests more easily. In fact, student of the law department in this university don't have to attend every class, so some people don't attend classes at all.

Although many students say they don't attend classes because they're boring, they still fail their courses. Therefore, we have to attend classes and get credits. Also, it's difficult for teachers to do class tests because if many students are missing, teachers must do retests. For the above reasons, I support this 80% attendance rule.

**Misa**

I am for this suggestion because I think obtaining knowledge is the most important thing for university students. We won't be able to study much after graduation and, if not, we can't work effectively within society. Also, we must attend class because our parents pay lots of money for college fees. Many parents want us to study and graduate from university, so we should study hard and fulfill their wishes. Besides, attending class allows us to gain better scores and pass tests more easily.

In addition, such a rule would be better for both students and teachers. If many students are absent from class, it is difficult for teachers to teach and do class tests. For all of the above reasons, I agree with this suggestion.

**Mizuki**

I am for this suggestion. Obtaining knowledge (academic life) is more important than part-time jobs or a student's social life. For example, in my Intensive Writing or Intensive Speaking classes there is at least one person who arrives late or is absent. As an excuse they say they overslept, or forgot to get off at their station. As a result, they can't arrive at university on time. Of course, there is also the reason that they are sick. However, almost all students say "I overslept."

There are many students (including me) who work part time, which is important for students to earn enough money for entertainment or to cover their cost of living. However, after graduating from university, you will be too busy working for a living and won't have any time to study. You must do that now.

If you cut class you may feel relaxed, but it's a waste of tuition money. Your family still has to pay 1,228,000 yen in your first year, and 1,011,000 yen tuition every other year. There are a large number of scholarship students in this university, and my parents must work harder than when I was a high school student. For the above reasons, I agree with the 80% attendance rule because we have to go to university for both our family and for ourselves.

**Kato**

I disagree with this suggestion. In my opinion, university students need flexible schedules. We have many things that we need to do. For example, we should enjoy our academic life, social life, work life, club activities, and also our family life.

I have some ideas. First, university students should have to work in a part-time job to earn spending money for shopping, and to pay for some club activities. In particular, students who live alone have to earn their living. Second, university students are becoming adults, so they need to be given more personal responsibility. Third, there are some boring lectures. Although most students are attracted to university lectures, some teachers speak to the blackboard, and not to us! Therefore, we think that it's too much trouble to attend such a class. For these reasons above, I disagree with the 80% attendance rule.

**Onodera**

# Haiku

## Spring

Sun meets cherry tree.  
Tree said "I can bloom flowers".  
She became lovely.

Shori Taniguchi

There is a parting  
And there is an encounter  
These bring a new life

Mari Sawaguchi

A cherry blossom  
A season of encounter  
Today's my birthday.

Harumi Ozeki

## Autumn

Hot season slips by.  
Sunlight changes to cool winds.  
Leaves burn themselves up.

Tsutomu Aoki.

The leaves turn colors  
What are these sharp silver swords?  
They are Sanma

Hitomi Shiiki

Today's moon viewing  
Eating dango with green tea  
See the two rabbits

Mayaka Itai.

## Summer

Hear the cicadas  
Imagine the sea waves  
Feel the sea soon come

Junya Etou

It's the best season  
Long vacation at the sea  
BBQ with friends

Akihisa Kureha

Hot and steamy day  
People are idle all day  
It's a lazy day!

Kana Satou

A very hot day  
White balls fly high in the sky  
High school baseball games

Sosuke Takahashi

The winds of August  
Chasing it by bicycle  
Along the river

Hiroto Ukai

## Winter

It's so cold outside  
There are exciting events  
I feel so happy

Hitomi Satou

# The best day in my life

I will never forget the day when I scored a goal in a soccer game. I was still an elementary school student. That was my last competition in elementary school. My mother and grandparents came to watch my game. I hadn't scored any goals before though I was forward player in those days. I think I was very nervous on that day because the competition was a tournament. So I moved in a flurry from the beginning of the game. Falling into panic was one of my

weak points. It was my usual tendency. The stronger the emotion to score a goal, the more I made mistakes...But our manager didn't change any members. Just then we got a corner kick. Our ace player kicked. The ball came flying at me. I swung my leg. The ball was rolling into the goal. Finally, I scored a goal! And I won the game. My mother and grandparents praised me. That day was a wonderful day!

Kentaro Watanabe

# Travel guide

## Goryokaku Park

Goryokaku Park is a wonderful place in Hakodate. Goryokaku Park is one of the best places in Hokkaido to see cherry blossoms. You can enjoy flower viewing in spring. Goryokaku Tower is built in Goryokaku Park, which has two observation decks. You can see beautiful views of Mt Hakodate, the Tsugaru Straits, and historical spots of Goryokaku. On the 1<sup>st</sup> floor, there is a shop which sells many original goods so you can buy souvenirs for your family and friends. On the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, there are three restaurants. If you come in December, January or February, you can see an event called "Dream of stars illumination" or "Hosni no yume illumination" in Japanese. This is an illuminated Goryokaku Park, which is very beautiful and moving.

### ● Business hours

You can visit Goryokaku Park whenever you like. Goryokaku Tower is open from 9 am to 7pm from April 21<sup>st</sup> to October 20<sup>th</sup> but closes 6 pm from October 21<sup>st</sup> to April 20<sup>th</sup>. Hakodate magistrate's office is open from 9 am to 7pm from April to October but closes 6 pm from November to March. The office is closed from December 31<sup>st</sup> to January 3<sup>rd</sup>.

### ● Entrance fee

Goryokaku Park is free for everyone. Goryokaku Tower costs 840 yen for adults, 630 yen for junior and senior high school students, 420 yen for elementary school students, and children under 6 are free. Hakodate magistrate's office costs 500 yen for adults, 250 yen for students, and children under 6 are free.

### ● Access to Goryokaku Park

You have two ways to get to Goryokaku Park from Hakodate station.

1. To get to Goryokaku Park, you can take the street car. You have to get off "front of Goryokaku Park". It takes about 10 minutes. Then you walk about 15 minutes.
2. To get to Goryokaku Park, you can take the Hakodate bus. You have to get off "entrance of Goryokaku Park". It takes about 20 minutes. Then you walk about 1 minute.

### ● Telephone Numbers

- Goryokaku Park 0138-51-2864
- Goryokaku Tower 0138-51-4785
- Hakodate magistrate's office 0138-51-2864

Mami Yota

## Harvester Restaurant in Yakumo

Harvester is a restaurant with a lot of delicious food and a souvenir shop in Yakumo town near Hakodate. Yakumo town sits between both the Pacific Ocean and the Sea of Japan so there are beautiful sea views. Harvester is also a farm and you can see some animals such as rabbits, guinea pigs, and cute sheep.

To get to Yakumo station, you can take the express train from Sapporo station. It takes 2 hours and 30 minutes. From Yakumo station, it takes 10 minutes to get to Harvester by taxi. The train

costs 4,200 yen per person. It takes 3 hours to drive from Sapporo. The best season to go is summer but Harvester is open every day of the year.

Nakamura Yorino

## Otaru Aquarium

Otaru Aquarium is a great aquarium in west of Hokkaido. There are many kinds of animals such as dolphins, seals, and river otters. Some



shows are held in the aquarium, like the South American sea lion show and the dolphin show. They are held from March to November. In this aquarium, there is a small amusement park where children can play from April to October. This aquarium has a souvenir shop with cute original goods such as very pretty small towels with pictures of animals. There is a restaurant which serves delicious food such as ramen, hamburgers, and curry and rice. Hattyan and Nanatyan are characters of this aquarium. They are cute, and they welcome you at the entrance. You can take pictures with them.

This aquarium is open from 9 am to 5 pm in the summer and from 10 am to 16 pm in the winter. The aquarium costs 1300 yen for adults, 530 yen for elementary and junior high school students, 210 yen for children over 3 years old, while children under 2 years old are free. To get to Otaru, you can take the JR train from Sapporo station. It takes 40 minutes to get to Otaru station and you need to take a bus from there to Otaru aquarium.

Saki Fujita

## Trick Art Museum

The trick art museum is in Furano in the center of Hokkaido. The museum has many optical illusion pictures. There is a lot of 3D art at the museum. You can not only enjoy seeing the pictures but also touching them and taking photographs with them! At the museum you can physically experience this strange art.



(<http://tokachidake.com/art/sakuhin.html>)

Moreover, there is an ice cream shop, a Ferris wheel, and a barbecue terrace near the museum. The ice cream shop has many flavors like pumpkin, yoghurt, and lavender!

# to Hokkaido



(<http://tokachidake.com/ice/>)

## ● How to get there from Sapporo?

First, to get to Asahikawa, you can take the train from Sapporo station. The express train leaves every 30 minutes. It takes about 90 minutes to reach Asahikawa. Second, to get to the art museum, you can take the bus from Asahikawa station. The Furano bus leaves every 1 hour. It takes about 1 hour to get there.

## ● Information

The museum is open from 9am to 5pm in April, October, and November, and until 6pm in May and September, and until 7pm in June, July, and August. The museum is closed from December to March.

## ● How much does it cost?

The trick art museum costs 1300 yen for adults, 1000 yen for junior and senior high school students, 700 yen for children over 10, while children under 11 are free.

Miyu Kaneta

## Mikasa Municipal Museum

The Mikasa Municipal Museum is in Mikasa city between Sapporo and Furano in Hokkaido. You can learn about the history of Hokkaido's first coal mine which was opened up in 1886. In the museum, there are many fossils such as ammonites, sea lizards, and many reptiles. There are many trees and mountains around Mikasa, so you can enjoy the natural environment.

To get to there, you can take the train to Iwamizawa from Sapporo. After you get off the train at Iwamizawa, you can take the chuo bus bound for Ikshunbetu, and get off the bus at last stop. It takes about 50 minutes to get there. Next, you can walk for 5 minutes to east. Then, you'll see the museum.

The museum is open from 9 am to 5 pm. The museum is closed every Monday. In case Monday is holiday, the Museum is close the next weekday. From December 20 to January 4, the Museum is closed, too. The museum costs 450 yen for adults, and 150 yen for elementary school and junior high school students. If you want to know more about the museum, please call this number: 01267-6-7545, or please mail this: [hakubutsukan@city.mikasa.hokkaido.jp](mailto:hakubutsukan@city.mikasa.hokkaido.jp)

Yuria Ikeda

## Noboribetsu Jigokudani

Jigokudani, located in Noboribetsu, Hokkaido is a volcanic crater that is appeared 10,000 years ago because of a volcanic eruption. When you set foot in the crater, you can feel the atmosphere is filled with the smell of sulfur, and when you go to the inner part, you almost can't see anything because of the steam rising from a hot

spring. You can circle the crater in about 10 minutes by foot.

There are some hot springs and hotels around Jigokudani, and you can see the leaves turning color in autumn. The nearest hotel, which is called Daiichi Takimotokan, is located at the south of Jigokudani and there are some huge hot spring baths with some healing effects; for injuries, for mind healing, and for beauty. If you don't stay at the hotel, but you want to take a hot spring bath, it costs 2000 yen for adults and 1000 yen for junior high school students and younger from 9am to 4pm. And from 4 pm to 6 pm, it costs 1500 yen for adults and 750 yen for children. You can also eat lunch from 11:30am to 2pm if you pay an additional 500 yen.

You can go there by JR and bus from Sapporo. First, take a train from Sapporo to Noboribetsu. It takes you about an hour. Next, take a bus from Noboribetsuekimae to Noboribetsuonsen.

It takes you about 15minutes. Then, a 10minutes walk will bring you to the Jigokudani. It will cost you 4490 yen to go there by JR and bus. You can enter Jigokudani for free.

Yuki Sarodo

## Rusutsu Resort

Rusutsu Resort is famous in Hokkaido for skiing and playing golf. It is located near Mt. Yotei. In addition to skiing, you can experience snowmobiling, snow rafting, cross-country skiing, horseback riding, and dog sledding. You can rent ski boots, ski suits and snowboarding boots. In summer, you can play golf on the Tower course, River course, Wood course, and Izumikawa course. You can golf from April 29 to October 30.

There are many hotels in Rusutsu. Rusutsu tower has suite rooms and the North and South Wing has deluxe family rooms, standard rooms and Japanese style rooms. It takes only 90 minutes from New Chitose Airport and a round-trip fare is 4000 yen. There is a free shuttle from Sapporo. A one day ski pass costs 5100 yen for adults, 2550 yen for children and 4300 yen for seniors. You can also get 2 day, half day, night, and season tickets.

Miho Yoshida

## The Sapporo Art Park

The Sapporo Art Park is largest and the most famous museum in the Sapporo. The Sapporo Art Park has exhibitions and performances all year except winter when there is too much snow. There are displays both inside and outside, so you can enjoy art everywhere. Therefore, you are able to enjoy everywhere around in the art park and you can find the art with a guidebook in hand. If it is difficult for you to find the art, you should try a walk with a volunteer tour guide. You should apply for volunteer guided tours at the ticket office. A music festival takes place on the outside stage in summer. Famous foreign musicians and orchestras come to play music from around the world.

You can go by public transport or car. It takes 15 minutes to get to the Sapporo Art Park by bus from Makomanai subway station. If you go by car, you have to pay 500 yen for parking a regular-sized car and 1200 yen for a full-sized car. Sapporo Art Park costs 700 yen for adults but is free for children junior high school age and younger.

Yoshiki Fukushima

# Tech Talk

## Cellphones

These days, having a cellphone is routine among young people, even elementary school students. They bring them and go out everywhere. However, is it OK to bring them to school or in class? On this point we have a lot of opinions.

Some people are in favor of this point. First, cellphones can be used as a way to prevent crime. Some cellphones have GPS functions, so parents are able to know where their children are.



Also, if you have accidents or something, you can connect with someone you know. Second, you can use the Internet, so you can research anything you want to. If you forget to do homework, you can

post it by cellphone. In addition, you can read news sites and watch TV, so you can get a lot of information.

You might think having a cellphone is a good thing, but some people have the opposite opinion. First, children can't concentrate on studying. If they get E-mail during class, they feel that they have to reply soon, so they try to send E-mail under the desk even if they were studying hard before they got the mail. Second, cellphones are made for only one person to use. They have some games, social networks, YouTube, and so on. You enjoy using it by yourself, so you aren't able to share. School is a social place, so students should communicate with each other. The third problem is malicious bullying on the Internet or by E-mail. Someone might write bad things about a person on the site. It's hard for teenagers, and there are some cases that some of them are not able to come to school because of these things.

In conclusion, cellphones are very useful, so they enrich our lives, but also have dangerous points. For example, children can't distinguish a safe site and dangerous site. They should wait to have them till they become an adult, and also they should concentrate on studying during classes. Therefore, they shouldn't bring cellphones to school.

**Nanaho Oki**

## The E-Book

The E-book is one of the best symbols of modern American culture. Recently, many people in the world as well as many Americans use E-books. In Japan, 2010 is called "Denshi Shoseki Gannen" (The first year of electronic books), and many Japanese people were attracted by E-books in those days. However, I'm sure it all started from a part of American culture. In other words, it was E-books made in America such as iPad and Kindle that many Japanese people were attracted by. Moreover, many people in America use E-books to read newspapers as well as books. This report explains how American people use E-books, and the reason why E-books are made.

I think E-books were born in America because America is a large country. Despite being such a big country, the number of bookstores in America is similar to that in Japan. In Japan, people can go to bookstores easily when they want books, because there are some bookstores nearby. However, it's difficult for some people who live in America to go to bookstores because bookstores are too far away. E-books made it possible for them to buy the books which they wanted to read easily without going to any bookstores. That's why some types of electronic books were made in America and many people in America use electronic books. Therefore, I'm sure one of the reasons many Americans use E-books has something to do with such a vast land area.

It seems that the popularity of E-books in America is related to the letters of the English alphabet. As you know, there are the 26 letters in the English alphabet. The number of letters is much fewer than that of Japanese. Japanese includes thousands of Chinese characters, which are called Kanji, so the number of letters of Japanese is so heavy. Moreover, the letters of English are much

simpler than that of Japanese. As you can see, many Chinese characters are so complicated. For these reasons, English is more appropriate than the other letters such as Japanese and Chinese because of the minimal data volume and ease of display. That's why the shape and number of characters are so important for E-books.

Actually, Amazon, which is a US-based multinational electronic commerce company, announced that E-book sales by Amazon overtook paper books on May 19th. I'm sure that this data shows many people, mainly American people, use E-books such as Kindle. Moreover, recently, it seems that some Americans have started to use it to read newspapers. In short, not only publishing firms, but also newspaper companies have no other choice but to sell them through E-books. Surely, they don't have to deliver their newspapers every morning if they let their subscribers read the newspapers by E-book. Also, it is great for the environment due to the fact that they don't have to use paper and ink. That's why E-books are loved not only by readers, but also publishers.

For all of these reasons, E-books are truly the best example of modern American culture. The reason why many Americans use E-books isn't just that they have a weakness for things that are new. The reasons are related to some American culture such as the letters of English, the land area, and technology. Compared with the amount of sales in America, E-books won't be a bigger seller though people around the world use E-books. Someday, E-books will be used as textbooks by many students, due to the fact that they are eco-friendly. It's certain that most people on Earth will use E-books to read and study many things.

**Daiki Hisamatsu**



# Accidents Happen

## Accident

Last year, when I went to my part time job, I rode my bicycle. Then, I had a traffic accident on a crossing. I crossed on the green light and from the other side the taxi came to turn left so the taxi crashed into me!! I was surprised but I wasn't injured. The taxi driver was ever more surprised than me and he called the police. The police and taxi driver said to me "you should go to hospital immediately!!" Although I thought I wasn't injured I thought I should see a doctor. So, I went to hospital. At the hospital, the doctor asked me "Where have you hurt yourself?" "I don't feel any pain anywhere in me body." I answered.

The doctor frowned and said "So why did you come here? I'm busy!! Go away!!" I wasn't satisfied with him.

Isamu Nagano



happening but after a few seconds I noticed that my right arm was bent and broken. I could not believe it, or I did not want to believe it. After that, I went to hospital by ambulance. In the end, I stayed in hospital for about a month. The operation was a success and after that, I left hospital safely. But I can never do judo again now because I am afraid of having another accident.

Naohiko Tamura

## My Accident

When I was 5 years old, I cut the sole of my right foot. I went camping in the mountain with my family. My father and my mother set up tent. My mother said that I could go to the playground. I decided to go there with my elder sister. There was a small river in the playground. My sister and I decided to play in the river. It was very fun. However, my sister's face changed from smile to pale. I could not understand what happened. I looked at my foot and my right sole was bleeding so much. My sister took me to my parents. My mother patched my sole quickly. My sister found a piece to broken. She said that it was in the river. I could not understand why my right sole was cut so badly. I stepped on the broken glass. Fortunately, my right sole healed well soon. I can't believe people that throw away glass in the river. These days, whenever I play in the river, I wear shoes like sandals.

Marie Fujii

## Accidents Happen

When I was ten years old, I nearly drowned. That day, the weather was nice, so I went to the sea with my family. We arrived at the beach at about twelve o'clock. At first, we pitched a tent, and I changed into my swimming trunks in the tent. After that, I dived in the sea at once.

Suddenly, my older brother called me, but, as I was approaching him, I slipped in the water, and I nearly drowned. My brother carried me to the shore. I felt sick, but he saved my life.

Shingo Kamikura

## Accident

From the age of 10 to 17, I went to a private judo school. Of course, I practiced hard to improve my skills. One day, when I was practicing with someone, I injured my right arm. One of the instructors threw me down and started riding on top of me. I noticed I could not move my right arm and it was very painful. I did not know what was

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## EDITOR'S NOTE

We are on the lookout!

*North-Sea Lookout* aims to publish as much student writing as possible.



*Have a Happy Winter Holiday!*

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

North-Sea Lookout is a place you can publish your own opinions about any topic that concerns you. If you want to write a letter to the editor, please put it in Prof. Zeff's mailbox. If you prefer, you may have your name withheld from publication with your letter.

This issue shows the high level of writing in English achieved by Hokkai-Gakuen University students. An ongoing interest of our writers is the international homestay and travel experience. In addition, past issues have contained topics as varied as cooking rice and surfing the Internet.

*North-Sea Lookout* needs your viewpoints on whatever interests you. Your opinions, concerns, and experiences are important. Please don't hesitate to write about them, and then submit them to us. We welcome all submissions.

Fiction, Poetry and Photography Wanted!

Please contact us at our email address: [bbzeff@hgu.jp](mailto:bbzeff@hgu.jp)