

Students' reports of WYM2021

University:

- **Nihon Fukushi University & Partner schools**
- **Ritsumeikan University**
- **Kyoto Sangyo University**
- **Kansai University**

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Senior High School:

- **Ritsumeikan Junior and Senior High School & Partner schools**
- **Ritsumeikan Uji Senior High School**
- **Ritsumeikan Moriyama Senior High School & Partner school**
- **Nara Ikuei Junior and Senior High School**
- **Kobe University Secondary School**
- **Nihon Fukushi University Affiliated High School & Partner schools**
- **Maruoka Senior High School**
- **Nagoya City Kikuzato High School**
- **Nagoya City Nagoya Commercial High School**
- **Nanzan Kokusai High School & Partner school**

共通言語としての英語

日本福祉大学&ミンダナオ国際大学

安井 悠

振りかえって

今回の WYM の活動から反省点、良かった点、気付いた点が挙げられる。そして、それらの点を通し学べたことがいくつかある。

まず、反省点として挙げることはペアの学生との英語力の差である。WYM 本番までにプレゼンテーションを作り上げるため数回ペアの学生とオンライン会議を開いた。しかし、そのときに自分の英語力の低さから相手の学生が言っている意味が理解出来ず、上手く意思疎通が出来ないこととペアの学生は私が理解していないことを把握し伝えたいことを何回も説明してくれることが何度かあった。また、会議をするときに私が言いたいことはこの英語であっているのかという不安から話し出せないときが多くあった。これは自分自身の語彙力や知識量を増やすことも大事だと思うが、相手が言っている意味が理解出来ない、自分の伝えたいことを英語でどのように表現すれば分からないとしても積極的に意思疎通を取ろうとする姿勢が大事だと考えた。

プレゼンテーション

次に挙げる反省点は、プレゼンテーションのやり方である。私達のグループは、本番までにペアの学生とオンライン会議を開きプレゼンテーションをする練習はした。しかし、本番になると緊張してしまい、相手に伝えようとするのではなく自分が担当するスライドを読むということだけに集中してしまった。実際に、自分達の本番のプレゼンテーションの録画を見返すと話し方にあまり抑揚がないように感じ、ただ原稿を読んでいるという風に感じた。そのため、本番だけでなく練習の時点から自分がプレゼンテーションをしている様子を録画し自分自身でどのように話しているか知り、確認することをするべきだと思った。

言語の働き

良かった点と気付いた点として挙げることは、普段使っている言語が違ったとしても英語という 1 つの言語を使用することでコミュニケーションが取れ、同じ課題に向けて私達は活動が出来ることだ。私はペアがフィリピンの学生でゴール 5 のジェンダー平等についてプレゼンテーションをした。プレゼンテーションを作り上げるためにペアの学生とフィリピンと日本でどのような課題があるかを話し合った。そのとき、フィリピンの学生が日本の課題について SNS やインターネットの情報から日本の政治家がこのようなことを言っていたなど直近の情報でも調べて知っていた。そしてそのことについて、実際に日本に住んでいる私の意見や他の国から見た意見など様々な意見交換をすることが出来た。このように、WYM の活動を通して、国関係なく今起こっている問題について話し合うことが出来た。

発表スライド

WYM を通しパワーポイントの作り方次第で相手への伝わり方が違うということを学べた。日曜日に開催されたセミナーでパワーポイントのスライドには重要な言葉だけをのせ写真を中心にした方が良いということは学んでいたが、実際に WYM で他の学校のパワーポイントを見てその大事さがよく分かった。文字を中心的に作っているスライドと絵や写真を中心的に作っているスライドでは絵や写真を中心的に作っているものの方が情報としてよく入ってきた。自分パワーポイントを作るときは自分が何を伝えたいかもう分かっているため文字が多くても違和感がないように感じる。しかし、自分がプレゼンテーションをする相手は全く何を伝えたいか知らないということを頭に必ずいれパワーポイントを作らなければならないと思った。

今回の WYM を通して英語の能力やパワーポイントの作り方など様々な反省点や気づきを学ぶことが出来た。この学び得られたものをこれからの大学生活や海外の人と活動するときなどに活用していきたい。



SUGGESTION TO ENHANCE THE WYM

Heng Chhay E
Provincial Teacher Training College
Siem Reap, Cambodia (PTTCSR)

English communication skills

For improving my English communication skills, I like to:

- Pay attention to what others are saying.
- Learn English phrases rather than words.
- Take it easy. I don't expect myself to be able to talk a foreign language as quickly as I can in my mother tongue. Speak slowly and pronounce correctly.
- Ask questions when I feel like I only understand something partially. In this case, I ask questions to clarify any information I'm missing.
- I also use body language while I'm talking.



Collaborative work

I learned a lot of things during creating the collaborative English presentation such as:

- improved my English communication skill
- allowed me to work as a team and collaborate with overseas friends together
- developed my level of thinking skills due to I had to use simple English sentences to deliver messages to the audience who from different English level. Keep it simple and smart (KISS).
- My confidence and self-esteem have also increased
- learned how to work with various types of learners and develop my leadership skills.

Counterpart

I worked well with my counterparts through collaborative work even we live in different times and countries. We also did a good presentation during the WYM. It showed that we tried our best for the team.

Suggestion

My suggestion for Japanese students further is to please don't be hesitate to express more opinions or feedback while the rehearsal presentation.

Giving more feedback can lead the process of the presentation better than before.

Skills acquired

I got many new experiences such as:

- English speaking skills. For example, I listened to the record of my speaking after rehearsed the presentation many times to make sure the speed and pronunciation of every sentence I had spoken.
- presentation skills to people from different backgrounds
- more flexibility and creativity as a teamwork
- skill to work with others to achieve a common goal

Others

In conclusion, it was the best moment for me to make friendships with overseas friends by joining the international online meeting, and everything was a happy ending.

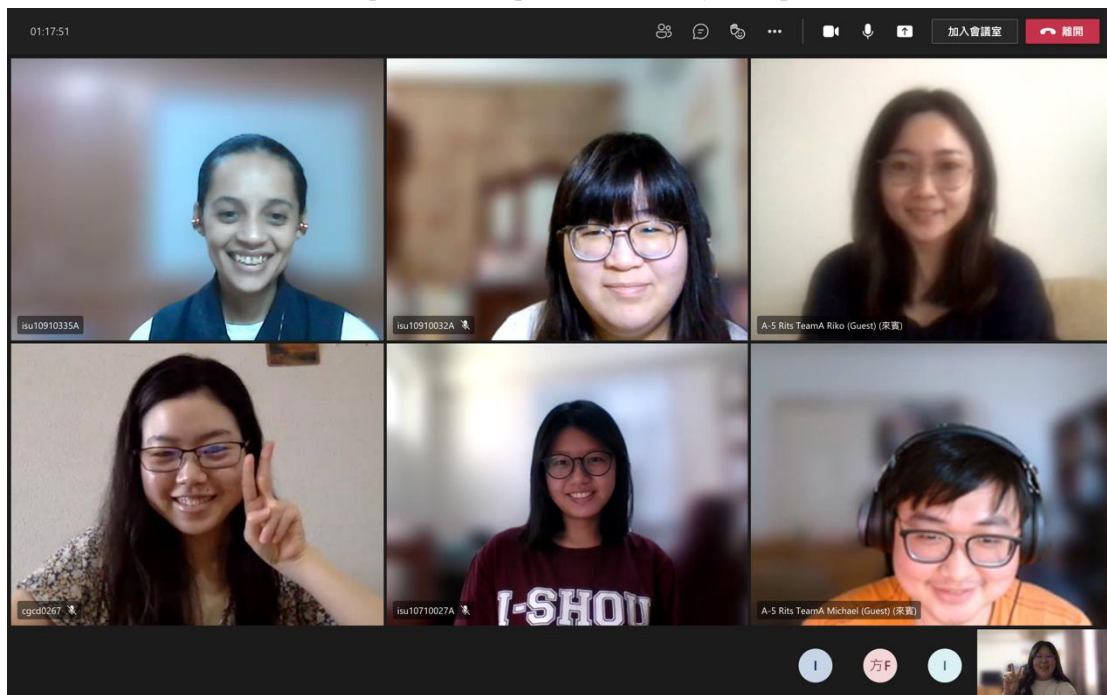
Thanks to the WYM committee for all your hard work on this event. Especially, I appreciate Dr. Makoto Kageto for always supporting us and gave me the best opportunity to show my Cambodia flag at this event again.

2021 WYM Reflection

Michael Evan Santoso
Ritsumeikan University (Team A)

During this World Youth Meeting, I learned a lot of cultural differences from Japan, Taiwan, and Honduras; especially, regarding the gender issue and quality of education in each country, they are significantly different from Indonesia. Moreover, from this meeting, I learned how to do team presentation and how to facilitate and deal with a Q&A session. I am glad that I joined this World Youth Meeting, I find a lot of friends from around the world.

There are several challenges such as communicating our ideas in English, scheduling for our meeting, and deciding on our topic. For future reference, we hope that we have more time to decide on our topic and also to make a better action plan that are practical and easy to implement.

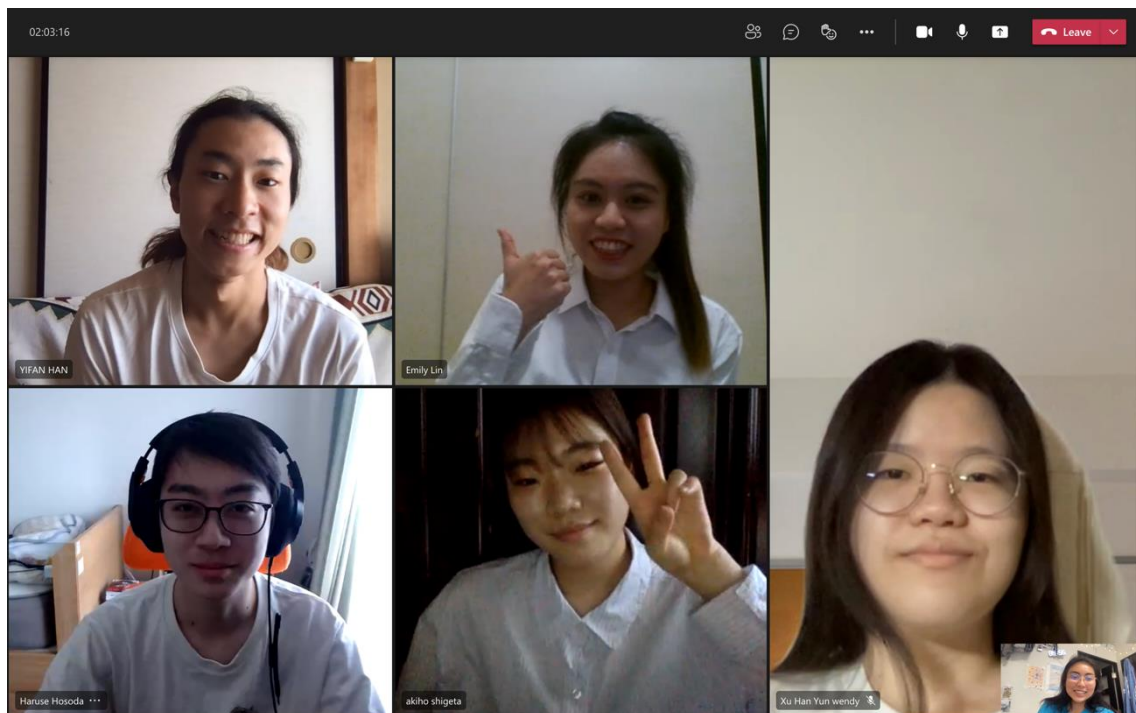


Comments on 20201 WYM

Karin Kurata

Ritsumeikan University (Team B)

We have learned to accept other members opinion through discussion and to be open minded about expressing thoughts and opinions. Also, we were able to improve the skill to use MicrosoftTEAM as well as being able to present in front of number of people. There were few challenges we had to face in the process of preparing our presentation, not being able to finish each task on time and not able to join the group meeting was challenging since we all had schools and other tasks. In this case, as a member of this group it was important to communicate within members to assist and help each other in order to get each task to be done. For the future, we believe in using this experience of WYM to be flexibly adjust difference of age, culture and country which can be seen boundries to achieve the goals. We have realized that there is possibility of each of our capabilities to be patient, cooperate and face the difficulties of differences through online meetings and knowledge of language, respect different cultures and other members opinion can be the assist for best solution and ideas to be made.



事後報告書

京都産業大学 中屋敷舞

1 参加目的

私の WYM への参加目的は、2 つある。1 つは、英語を使ったコミュニケーションを通して英語運用能力をアップすることで、もう 1 つは SDG s（社会貢献）をキーワードとして、大学在学中に社会貢献の経験を積むことであった。

2 最も苦勞したこと

私が今回の WYM で最も苦勞したことは、日本語の通じない相手とのミーティングの時間設定や、それぞれの役割を決めて準備をしなければならなかったことである。準備期間が大変短く、その上時差のある 2 国間で予定を合わせて準備をするということは今まで経験したことがなく、新鮮に感じたとともに非常に大変な作業であった。

3 失敗したこと

私が今回の WYM で失敗したと感じることは、準備のための会議にあまり参加できなかったこと、発表中に緊張で原稿を忘れてしまったという 2 点である。自分では納得のいくまで練習したと思っていても本番には何が起こるか分からないため、何手も対策を考えておく必要があると感じた。

4 経験から学んだこと

私が今回の経験から学んだことは、英語で共同製作する難しさ、スケジュール管理の大切さの 2 点である。前者では私にとって英語を使って自分の考えを述べる、相手の考えを理解する 2 種の難しさがあり今回の経験から考えを漏れなく伝える点において力不足を感じることが多々あった。全く能力が足りていないと感じ、新たな目標が出来た。後者においては、期日までにグループで何かを製作する際には、メンバーをマネジメントする力が非常に大切だと学んだ。自分ひとりで進める場合は逆算をしてスケジュールを管理することが出来るが、他に人がいる時はその考えを押し付けることはできないため、メンバーが楽しく効率的に作業が出来るように、チームをまとめる力を身につけたいと感じた。

WYM 事後報告書

京都産業大学 江口歩海

1. 参加した目的・動機

今回の WYM に参加した動機は、外国の学生と協働で何かを制作できるチャンスであり、「学生ならではの」の経験を得たいと考えたからです。また、英語を実践で使うことで、自分の英語力アップに繋がりたいと思ったからです。

2. チームのために貢献したこと

チームのために貢献したことは積極的に制作のサポートを行ったことです。WYM 当日に参加できないことがあらかじめわかっていたので、プレゼンターの負担を少しでも減らすべく、私に出来るサポートを出来る限り行いました。主に PowerPoint の修正やミーティングに参加できなかったメンバーへの連絡伝達を行いました。

3. 最も苦労したこと

最も苦労したことは、ミーティングを開くスケジュールを合わせることです。短い時間の中で完成させなければいけないにもかかわらず、日本側のスケジュールがなかなか合わず思うように進みませんでした。結局、全員そろってのミーティングをほとんど行うことが出来ず、参加できなかったメンバーに内容を引き継いでやり取りしていたので連携が大変だったように思います。

4. 失敗したこと、後悔したこと

苦労したことと同じではありますが、ミーティングのスケジュールをうまく取れなかったことが今回の失敗の原因だと思います。日本側だけでもスケジュールを合わせるのが難しく、なかなか全員揃ってのミーティングを開くことが出来ませんでした。カンボジアの学生にはかなり迷惑をかけてしまったと思います。もう少し前もって相談してスケジュールを合わせておけば、もう少しスムーズに話し合いが進んだのではないかと思います。

5. この経験から学んだこと

カンボジアの教育について調べるとともに日本の教育問題についても調べることができました。カンボジアの教員、教材不足が基本的なテーマでしたが、調べていくと日本の小学校英語教育でも同じ問題があることがわかりました。国ごとの教育問題を比較する良い機会になりました。

The team's efforts and results in WYM 2021

**Kansai University
Yamamoto Iroha**

Purpose of participation

1.The purpose of our participation in WYM is to acquire the ability to face the problems that occur in the world and to try to solve them from multiple perspectives. To win the prize, we needed not only presentation skills, but also the ability to propose feasible solutions and creativity, so we had a lot of discussions and worked hard to make a better presentation.

What we learned from WYM2021

1.We participated in WYM together with Cambodian students. The first thing we did was to understand the problems and situations of each other's countries. Also, we wanted to make a presentation that would allow both developed and developing countries to face the SDGS at the same time, so we decided to expand fair trade in Japan, sell local Cambodian products, and support education in Cambodia under the Corona situation.

2.During the Corona disaster, we communicated with both schools mainly through zoom, but it was very difficult to communicate our opinions online and we struggled with it. Therefore, it was important for us to communicate our opinions clearly and in detail, and also to convey our requests and advice to the Cambodia team accurately, so that we could have better communication.

3.As a result of our efforts, we were able to win two awards: the platinum award and the chair of judges award.

What we need to improve

1.It was difficult to get a sense of each other's feelings because we were talking with the camera off when we were meeting in zoom.

2.Too much time was spent in the preparation stage and there were not enough times to rehearse.

3.It was difficult to deepen friendships through zooming, and individuals tended to communicate their questions and opinions to the leader rather than to the line group. Therefore, I feel that it was a heavy burden on the leader.

4.There were many evening meetings, and sometimes the students were too busy or too tired to participate. So, I think it would have been better to be flexible with the meeting times.

Looking-back on the WYM2021

Kansai University
YAGI Maika

Purpose of participation

1. We wanted to experience once again the sense of accomplishment of completing a presentation in the field of SDGs in which we are interested through international collaboration. In addition, WYM2021 was the culmination of the international presentation events for us, and as it was the last opportunity of our student life, so we decided to participate, hoping to receive a Platinum Award.

What we learned from WYM2021

1. We need to be clear about the time and agenda of our meetings. According to our reflections on last year's WYM2020, "When we had a meeting, we should have decided on a goal for the meeting. When we did not, our discussion was abstract, and time was just passing by." This time, thanks to the cooperation of the teachers from the other school, we felt that there were a lot of active meetings where it was clear what was to be discussed today and what needed to be done by the next meeting.
2. We also learned the importance of sharing information with the other team's leader and members behind the meeting. This way, we can understand each other's thoughts and ideas outside of the meeting. Also, I felt that by thinking about the agenda beforehand, the meeting will go more smoothly and efficiently. We are a little disappointed that we could not win a Platinum Award, but we would like to use these skills what we learned from this precious experience.

What we need to improve

1. It would have been better to start with a clear direction (conclusion) for the presentation because in the process of making it, we lost track of what we wanted to tell the audience about.
2. We spoke too fast because we packed too much information into our presentation.
3. We should have thought about what to do and what to talk if we didn't get any questions in the Q and A session.
4. In Japan side, we regret that we left a lot of the work to the Taiwanese side. They created the framework and PowerPoint for the presentation, so we should have used Google Drive and other tools to share the work efficiently.

WYM2021 Reflection

Ritsumeikan Junior and Senior High School

立命館高校 S.A.

今回のWYMでは、うまくいった点と反省点の両方が挙げられます。まず、うまくいった点はプレゼンテーションの重視すべきポイントを意識して取り組むことができた点です。例えば、5月行われた RitsBattle (立命館高校で行われたディベート大会) のようなディスカッションの場においては、自分の意見を主張すること自体にフォーカスされますが、今回のようなプレゼンテーションの場では、それに加えてどれだけ効果的に聞き手に主張を伝えられるかにも焦点が当てられます。そのため、いくら内容が良くても伝え方が悪ければ評価されないということです。それに伴い、私たちには話し方を工夫する必要性が生じました。具体的に言うと、抑揚や英語らしい発音などです。それが私にとって、今回の WYMにおける最初の難関でした。私のこれまでの英語学習では、主に「読む」「書く」「聴く」の三点に注力しており、発音や英語のリズムの練習をした経験が乏しかったからです。しかし、今回のディスカッションビデオを制作するにあたり、自分の声を録音してアフレコしなければならず、いざ録音してみると自分でさえ聞き取れないようなひどい発音をしている箇所が多くありました。その結果、自分のセリフのパートを納得できる状態で録音するのに3時間もかかってしまうという事態に陥りました。最終的には、その甲斐もあつてか私たちのグループのビデオは好評だったようで、賞を獲得できたため、3時間は無駄ではなかったと思います。また、このビデオ制作で発音の重要性に気づいたことで、プレゼンテーションの方でも話し方の工夫をすることができました。そのため、これはうまくいった点であると言えます。ですが、私はこの経験を通じて自分の発音を強化する必要があると痛感しました。これからは、自分の声を録音したり、単語を学ぶときにはスマートフォンのソフトを使うなどして正しい発音やアクセント、熟語の時はどちらを強調するのかなどを確認したりする必要があると思います。次に反省すべき点です。

今回のWYMでのパートナーは台湾の高雄女子高校の生徒たちで、小さなアクシデントや不具合がありましたが、スムーズに準備を整えることができていたように思います。ですが、海外生がリードしてくれることへの甘えが生じ、自分たちの意見をプレゼンテーションの内容に反映させることがあまりできておらず、アクションプランのスクリプト制作も海外生に任せてしまった手前、疑問を感じても逐一指摘することが難しくなっていました。ですが、意見を出さないようではそこにいないも同然です。そのため、もっと積極的に議論に参加して自分たちと海外生との共通認識を確認したり、均衡点を探ったりする努力をするべきだったと思います。それができなかった原因は積極性や英語力の差だけではなく、やはり思考レベルの差にあると考えられ、今の日本の教育では海外に勝てないと言うことを感じさせられた、というのが率直な感想です。日本は海外と比較すると議論をする機会が少ないと言われる国で、私自身も義務教育の過程で議論をしたことなど数えるほどしかありません。そのため、海外生と対等に議論するのが難しく、結果的に今回のような事態を招くに至ったのではないかと考えます。では、どうすれば良いのか。まずは意見を持つこと、そのためのリサーチを徹底することが大前提だと思います。今回私たちが扱ったテーマは高齢化社会でした。この場合、リサーチは高齢化社会の原因やメカニズムだけでなく、それによる損害、各国が行っている政策にまで及ぶ必要があります。これにより、アクションプランを考えやすくなったり、既にある案とかぶることを防いだりできるからです。それができて初めて、相手の意見と戦わせたり折衷案を模索したりということが可能になります。今回のWYMを通して、私が発見した課題は以下の2つです。

1. 英語の発音、リズムの改善
2. 議論の力の向上

次のイベントまでに、これらの課題点の解決に努めたいと思います。

立命館高校 Y.U.

I experienced a lot of things by joining this WYM. Before WYM project is started, I was very nervous to make a big presentation with foreign people. At the first team meeting, I also worried about whether I can achieve this project. However, I could do presentation with my team members and experience happiness to do the project beyond the borders.

I spent a happy time doing this project, but I have future subjects. At first in the presentation, I speak too fast, and I had some mistakes pronouncing some words. I learned particular words that I can't pronounce well and also learned and how to give a presentation more attractive.

Second, in several team meetings, I was not able to suggest anything and speak a lot. I was very impressed that the Cambodian students suggested many things and tended to do project as smoothly as they could. I could understand what my team members said, but I did not tell them what I wanted to suggest because of lacks of my English skills and my efforts to research our team's topic. I usually tend to study reading and writing more than speaking, and I thought I can speak English if I can read and write English, but my thought is wrong. I have to train speaking more. I depended on my team members too much.

Through this WYM, I feel I could attain big achievements and this project let me think about my lack of my skills. I have to practice English more and get more information about global issues in my daily life to join other events. My dream is to be an International conference coordinator. To get this job, I will have to improve my English skills and enhance coordination skills.

Joining this event let me get accustomed to speaking with foreign people. I want to take part in many international events, and also I would like to make and plan some events. I think English skills, particularly speaking one, will grow more and more as we use them, and therefore I think I need to get more opportunities to speak with people, either on line or in person, so I will join as many events as possible and progress myself, step by step.

Partner school's reports

Ritsumeikan Junior and Senior High School

高雄女子高級中学 A

First, I would like to thank my teacher, who allowed participating in this incredible event. And, I have to say thank you to all our Japanese teammates. They gave me a different point of view on lots of things while in this meeting. Also, thanks to all the staff and judges, you make this journey memorable. What makes the event so unusual is not only because of the organizer's contribution but also things I learned through this experience.

Over the years, Taiwan is hard to be seen by the world, which is difficult for the Taiwanese to build up a global view. Therefore, participating in such an event not only broadened my horizon but changed my way of thinking. For instance, in Taiwan, people usually consider the Philippines an underdeveloped country. However, after I saw their advanced idea of turning re-used paper into notebooks and perfect English speaking took my breath away. This event really removed most of my stereotypes and a whole new perspective.

Although the whole activity is remarkable, I still have a few suggestions. First of all, I propose that maybe we could change the main topic, SDGs-wise. Perhaps focus on one theme, such as deforestation. Because talking about the same topic might evoke more creative ideas. If we gain more inventive ideas among the contestants, we can make this event more meaningful. Second, we can hold a review meeting for the participants after the presentation to see what we can learn from others so that the atmosphere wouldn't be so competitive. Meanwhile, we can bring back lots of valuable experience, aside from awards. Isn't it great?

After so many words, I still need to appreciate everyone's fascinating achievement in this event. You have all inspired me so much. And now, I want to conclude it in one quote said by Samuel Johnson "Great works are performed not by strength, but by perseverance." Thank you!

Indonesia SMAN3&9

SMAN 9 Yogyakarta - A

GIVE MORE GET MORE

Collaborating with Ritsumeikan students is really fantastic. Before taking part in World Youth Meeting, I had to prepare myself not only collecting data but also knowing my teammates both from SMAN 3 students and my senior. Besides, making friendships with Rits's students will make the gaps could be bridged. After knowing all them well, the cooperation could be created nicely. No awkwardness, no shy, and no tension anymore. We discussed, shared ideas, even argued freely to keep my own opinion that I considered right. I felt comfortable working with my teammates since we respect and rely on each other.

The way Rits's students created animation in the presentation amazed me a lot. They chose creative animations that really supports the content of it. It was simple but able to represent things in our mind. For example when we were talking about Economic development, Rit's students could easily find an understandable animation through an interesting chart. On the other hands, Yogyakarta's teams had capability of elaborating theme through written contents. Therefore, taking, giving, and sharing were the process of making the presentation. Cooperation and collaboration brought us to intimate friendship within or outside the presentation.

Being one of the participants in World Youth Meeting (WYM), a worldwide event, made my dream come true. Before I knew WYM, I imagined of being able to mingle with people all over the world, making friendship, communicating, and learning from them. By learning the way of their thoughts in accomplishing crucial issues during Covid-19 era really opened my view points. Learning from their presentations arose my desire to involve other peoples' hindrances. We cannot live only by thinking about ourselves, meanwhile there are a lot of nations should be supported and helped. Since then, I started to think how I can involve in global issues stated by SGDs goals.

World Youth Meeting (WYM) was organised perfectly. Each steps ran smoothly. The steering committee worked professionally. I could not almost see its shortages except unintended noise, coming out from microphones. In terms of English as international language for communication during WYM, all participants spoke fluently and clearly. The listeners could understand easily what they were presenting, since they had clear pronunciation and idea. The way they presented their presentations were able to accept easily. The audience were attracted to listen to the presentation attentively. I feel very lucky to be able to participate in this great and valuable event.

India-The Shri Ram School Aravali

· From brainstorming ideas about the presentation to the final day of discussion, it was an enriching experience for us to work with students from another country. Through this, we also learned to appreciate others' viewpoints, work through the language barrier, and further their ideas and passion for sustainability.

Cambodia CIA First International School - A

Hello this is my personal report/self-reflection on the World Youth Meeting 2021. As it was my first participation, I was really excited about it. I enjoyed learning new things and meeting new people. The competition has also helped me improve my communication skills. Before the contest, I had practice with my team to prepare for the presentation. After choosing a topic for the presentation, we have started contacting and communicating with the student from another school. I personally think that by joining this competition, it helps us improve our communication skills. It also helps develop team coordination allowing us to work together effectively. Working together with people from different countries to achieve a certain goal allows us to better understand the world around us. This competition allows us to better understand the problems that occur in the world. Allow us to use our imagination, innovation and creativity to find ways to solve the problem. It was a really fun learning experience as many people from different countries were brought together to share their personal experiences, perspectives and ideas. The interactions or conversations elicited by events helps us students build relationships, understand different perspectives and engage other cultures. Social events provide an opportunity to expand toward our social circle. Participating in this event also teaches you these soft skills. Joining this event is the best way to learn to communicate with both individuals and large groups. The event allows you to apply classroom experience, and also develop leadership and life skills that help you become more effective in classroom team projects. The event was such a great opportunity to learn but since it is online that is the only complaint I have. As people have difficulty with the connection, I feel like some students were not able to show their full skill. In conclusion, the World Youth Meeting is an amazing way to innovate upon your ideas about the world around us. Great way to make new friends and learn from different people around the world. I highly recommend this event to all students who seek to learn new things and meet new people.

The meaning of having an interaction during the pandemic

**Ritsumeikan Uji Senior High School
Rena Yamamoto**

“To fulfill until the end what I decide to do and to make new friends in abroad”. That was the reason why I joined WYM this year. I was regretting not joining any online events last year, so I thought that joining WYM would be a good experience for me to have in my high school life. As I imagined so, I feel confident with the decision I made. Even it wasn’t happening to have the event in person, the days I had google meets meetings with Taiwanese students and the final presentation on the days of WYM are valuable for me. Before I participated WYM, I individually thought that online events held during this pandemic condition are meaningless because I often feel the distance with people in the screen, and I believed that the things I can learn and gain from such events would be less than the ones held before pandemic, in face to face. However, I really liked each online meetings planned with Taiwanese students, and I noticed the significance of having a bond with people in abroad under the COVID’s circumstance to cooperate to make the world better and to terminate the pandemic.

I realized the importance of that “we”, people living in this moment and this era especially teenagers like me, must take actions for making a sustainable and a comfortable world to pass down to the next generation. To do so, I thought that it’s necessary to have discussion with people all over the world, despite the obstacles caused by pandemics. Though the time I had for working with a project with Taiwanese students was short, I felt it interesting to hear the measurements that their government has been setting, in short, it’s usual for people in Taiwan that no plastic cutleries are distributed at stores to decrease the amount of plastic waste.

Also, the most surprising fact for me during the talk with the Taiwan side was that more Taiwanese students know about “green hotel” which doesn’t provide any single use of amenities compared to Japanese students. For me, it was the first time to hear the name and its concept at that time. Like this example, it was a great experience hearing the daily life of Taiwanese students and any special eco-friendly measurements being done in Taiwan. Even I couldn’t meet them in person, I think this is a meaningful opportunity that I could meet them through devices and reached our own solution which is to promote green hotel in both in Japan and in Taiwan on the website we made, by sharing what we individually and usually see, feel, and think, and compare them. After the final presentation, I felt the feeling of accomplishment which I’ve never gained before. Because I joined WYM, I was able to meet with the Taiwanese students and we were able to encourage and cooperate to create our best work. I’m so happy that I got new friends in Taiwan and more and more excitement of going to Taiwan after pandemic is in my mind now.

In conclusion, I found it so much fun of exchanging the ideas of global issues crossing the borders and working on one project by having online meetings. WYM of this year is ended, but I'll keep in touch with my Taiwanese friends, and I want to cherish this new friendship. Moreover, I'll cherish each moment of the present, and join such online events positively.

Picture: One of the times when we had an online meeting



Tough Work and Sense of Accomplishment

Haruka Yamaji

Ritsumeikan Uji High School

I was surprised and delighted when our presentation was selected as chair of judges award. Though we had hard time making our presentation and brushing up our ideas. Because we have totally different time schedule, we were unable to gather and discuss the topic we have often. We used slack to communicate with another school in Taiwan, however, we had stiff problem. It was students from both schools do not understand how to use slack at first, and the conversation was not smoothly done. Even though we had difficulty with that, we came to use them efficiently. I think the point of goodness of our work is that we didn't have waste of time when we are working on something or discussing the ideas. We worked efficiently and effectively. Thanks to this, we were able to make great presentation in that short period. Thinking the idea of how we enable people all over the world to be educated not only the basic academic skills but also the knowledge which is able to provide the better qualities of lives, we had to make questionnaire to make sure that this kind of education is needed and to know what people are demanding for education thinking back their lives. We used lots of connections to gather the opinions, and finally got over 50 answers from our connections. From these experiences, I learned the importance of the connections, and how big our connections are, and this made me think that we can do anything what we want to do by using the connections we have. No matter how high the walls are, we can just keep trying and erroring for the day when we can finally overcome the wall.

World Youth Meeting 2021

立命館守山高等学校 辻 瑚遥

1. 参加しようと思った理由

私が WYM に参加しようと思ったのはコロナ禍で参加できる国際的なイベントだったからです。私は海外との交流がしたいという気持ちがありましたが、新型コロナウイルスが流行して、海外とのつながりがなくなり、思っていた高校生活とはまるで違った生活になりました。けれどやはり、何かできないかなと国際交流に詳しい先生に尋ねると、WYM に参加するのはどう?と提案していただきました。はじめは自信がなかったので迷いましたが、ここで参加しなかったら今までと変わらないなと思ったので勇気をだしました。

2. WYM で学んだこと

私は WYM で相手への思いやりの大切さ、団結力と協働性の大切さを学びました。まず、オンライン上では相手のことをよく考えて行動することが鍵だなと思いました。お互いのことを考えてより良いコミュニケーションを図るために LINE を交換しましたが、やっぱり直接会うのではなく、文面のみの交流なので戸惑ったこともあったからです。しかしより良いプレゼンテーションを行うために沢山のコミュニケーションを取って準備を進めていきました。結果、プレゼンテーションは成功したので、会えなくても、国が違っても、みんな同じ目標に向かって頑張ろうという気持ちが一つになったら結果はついてくるのだなと思いました。



3. 今後、この経験をどう生かすか

今回の WYM は私にとって普段できない非常に貴重な体験となり、参加してよかった!と心の底から思えたので、これからは「やってみようかな。でも怖いな」と思ったことは失敗することを恐れずにチャレンジしていこうと思いました。また、同年代の外国人と交流したということは普段普通に生活していて関わることがない人と交流できたということです。私は交流したことが新鮮で、とても刺激的で楽しいものでした。世界にはいろいろな人がいるということも実感できました。だからもっと海外の方と関わって行きたいと思いました。また、他の学校のプレゼンテーションを聞いてフードロスの問題や環境問題など日本だけでなくそれぞれの国にそれぞれの問題があることがわかりました。同年代の高校生たちがプレゼンテーションを行なっているところを見て、日本の問題やほかの国の問題は遠いものではなく、私たちの身近なものということを実感できました。だから食べ残しをしないことやゴミの分別をすることなど私くらいやってなくても変わらないだろうという考えは捨てて、この私の行動が問題を解決することにつながるという考えに変えて行動も変えていこうと思いました。

4. このプレゼンを通して私たちにできること

私たちは私たちの学校がある守山市の多文化共生にフォーカスしました。取材や調査を通して、外国人の方は日本語の難しさに 1 番困っていることがわかりました。そこで私たちにできることはやさしい日本語を話すことや英語表記を増やすことだと考えました。やさしい日本語を話すということはそんなに難しいことではありませんが、日本人はやさしい日本語を話さないと外国人が困るということを知りません。だからもっとやさしい日本語の必要性を広めていくため私たちにできることは、パンフレットの学校での配布や授業への取り入れなどです。英語表記についてはメンバーがお店のメニューを英語表記に直すボランティアをしていました。私たちにできることは意外と沢山あります。だから、自分にできることを積極的に探して行動に移していきたいです。

World Youth Meeting 2021

SDGs#12 Responsible Consumption And Production

Ritsumeikan Moriyama Senior High School, Mayu Kimitsuki

I participated in the discussion session at the World Youth Meeting.
I played the role as an MC during the discussion.

Theme “Is donating important?”

“Donation”—I think many people had heard or done donating in our life. There are various types of donations, such as money, clothes, stationery, and so on. We also have different destination for donating too. Are we going to donate to support animals and wildlife? Are we going to donate to preserve artistic and cultural heritage?? In our discussion, we talked about donating to development countries. Many people do donate for goodwill. However, donations can make people who lives in developing countries suffer. NGO gives free foods or clothes by donations to developing countries. The growth of local economy is the most important for developing countries to become independent. However, things don't go well as planned. For example, in Haiti, there was a big earthquake in 2010. After the disaster many free rice from other countries as donations, and it's still going even now. Because it is for free, people stopped buying rice from local farmers. Thereby many farmers have no other choice but to quit their jobs. We discussed if it is a good idea to donate.

Opinions from the participants

Every participant agreed to the discussion. They say that people should provide the minimum standard of living by donating. If they can have a livable environment, it can also lead to a safety life. However, when we donate things, we have to understand the situation in the beneficiary country. It's meaningless to donate something that the country doesn't need. I do agree with their idea. We sure need to know the situation if we want to take some kind of action.

Through the discussion

Though this is my first time participating WYM, I really enjoyed a lot. It was awesome because people from different ages and countries, gathered in one place to discuss the problems that we are all facing. Due to the corona pandemic, it is really difficult for us to communicate with people face-to-face. I hope this horrible pandemic will end sooner, and we could have a wonderful interaction face-to-face.



Feedback of WYM 2021:The most impressive event up to now

BingYu Li, Yi Ting Kang, Jyun Kai Wu & Yu Tung Chen from
Kaohsiung Municipal Jhong-Jheng Senior High School

Abstract:

We're happy to participate in the 2021WYM, where we can make friends with Japanese people and improve our English through this meeting.

Cry me a sad river



Our preparation:

Hello everyone! We're happy to participate in the 2021WYM, and we got the platinum prize at the end of the event, which was totally out of the blue! Besides being happy, we also have some reflections during this competition, and here are the information we organize.

Motivation:

The reasons that we attend this activity are because we can make friends with Japanese people, being able to communicate with them by sharing each other's ideas. Besides, it is great to broaden our horizons, and we have an opportunity to understand other's perspective on the same issue. Also, we can improve our English through this meeting.

Process:

However, we encountered many difficulties during our conversation, such as heavy accent, in congruent time, different ideas. But we still overcome these setbacks by spending time discussing with them. To sum up, WYM is a good chance for us to not only improve our English but let us know how to solve problems.

WYM で学んだこと

西野 夏未 奈良育英高等学校

1. 作業での問題点

プレゼンテーションの準備を進める中で、お互いに母国語ではない言葉を使っていることもあり、なかなか準備が進まないことがあった。グループ同士で話していると、つい同じ国の生徒と話しやすい言葉で話してしまう場面が多々あり、それが話し合いを停滞させていた。英語自体は台湾の生徒たちのほうが慣れていて、よくこちら側をリードしてくれていた。しかし間違えることが怖くなり、積極的になれなかった。

活動の最中でお互い常に連絡を取れるというわけではなかったもので、いざ自分の国側の生徒でまとめた意見を SNS で伝えるのは、タイミングや意見が噛み合わず難しい。そのこともありなかなか意見がまとまりきらなかったり、ボツになる案が多かった。実際、自分たちで考えていたことがうまく相手の考えと合致することはほとんどなかった。その結果、役割がきっぱりと分かれてしまい、ここの作業は、相手校の生徒に丸投げ、といったこともあって、チームであることの良さがうまく活かしきれなかった。

2. 練習での問題点

チームの中には、クラブ活動などでとても忙しいメンバーもたくさんいて、予定に折り合いがつかないこともあった。基本的にミーティング練習は夜に行われていたが、遅れて入らなければならないメンバーもよくいた。ミーティング練習は深夜近くまで続いたこともあり、時には食事を後回しにする人もいた。私も積極的に参加する意欲はあったが、どうしても参加できないときがあったり、情報を見逃して、ミーティングに遅れてしまうことがあったので、自分で思うより早め早めで予定を組まなければならないと実感した。

今回の一連の活動で自分に一番足りていないことがこれだと痛感した。声量は客観的に見ると、自分が思っている以上に小さいし、進行もリーダーに任せっきりのところがあった。予めセリフが決まっているものなら、練習で少しでも改善することができたが、Q&A で、ほぼアドリブ状態になるとかなりしんどいものがあった。

3. 今後の課題

今回こういった形の催しに初めて参加して、全体の雰囲気も手探りで、文句無しで良い発表ができた、とは言えなかった。特にまだまだチームメンバーに引っ張られていたことも多く、自分の意見を英語にして、相手に伝えようとする意識が低かったのだと考えた。この大会では相手チームの頑張りもあり、幸い良い結果を残すことができたが、手放しでは喜べなかった。今年の冬にももう一度大会があるため、そのときには自分もしっかりとチームメンバーとして意識を持ち、機能していければと考えている。

WYM で学んだこと

藤 田 瑞 希 奈良育英高等学校

1. 台湾の生徒たちとの交流

今回の WYM ではパートナーの台湾の学校と LINE でやり取りを行った。コロナ禍で対面での交流ができない中、実際に会ったこともない相手との交流には正直戸惑いがあったが、少しずつ本番に向けての準備を進めた。そして、このような状況下でも台湾の生徒たちが積極的にコンタクトを試みてくれたので大きな刺激を受けた。

大会が近づいてくると、プレゼンテーションの練習はビデオ会議で行った。画面越しで初めて顔を合わせ、お互いの発音を確認し合ったり、タイミングやスピード感などをチェックしながら練習を進めた。自分の英語の発音は日本語に影響されてしまうが、日本語以外の言語に影響された英語の発音を聞くことは新鮮だった。練習中に声が途切れたり画面が停止してレスポンスがなくなることも度々あり、スムーズに対処できなかったことは、ビデオ会議における課題点だと思った。

2. 英語力

プレゼンテーションでは日常会話よりもさらに抑揚をつける必要があり、これが自分にとっては難しい点だったので、文全体のイントネーションや抑揚を付ける場所を覚えた。私は、覚えた文章を言うだけでも精一杯だったので、抑揚を付ける部分まで覚えるのは苦労した。普段から抑揚に注意してネイティブの発音を聞くことが対策になると思う。

当日のプレゼン終了後の質疑応答や二日目のディスカッションでは英会話力が必要だった。当日の自分の役割は暗記したことをそのまま話したり、原稿を読むことのみで、会話への参加からは一歩身を引いてしまった。英語での応答が必要な場で通用する英語力の習得が今後の自分の課題である。相手の発言中で聞き取れない部分や未知の単語があると応答できなくなること、自分の意見を即座に英語で表現できないこと、質問に対する答え方が分からず戸惑うこともよくある。しかし、会話を継続させるためにも、常に何らかの発言をする練習を行いつつ、語彙力もつけていきたい。

3. まとめ

今回の World Youth Meeting で印象的だったのは二日目のカフェトークだった。他の参加者同士が積極的に会話に参加する姿勢から刺激を受けたからだ。文化の違う同年代の人たちの会話を聞くだけでも面白かったが、自分も積極的に会話に参加している状態がベストだと思う。プレゼンテーションやディスカッションで感じたリスニング力、語彙力、英語の抑揚、イントネーションなどに加えて積極性も身につけていきたい。そして、WYM を通じて知った自分の課題や他者の良い点を思い出しながら、今後の活動に取り組みたい。

What I had learned through WYM

Halu Miyake (Kobe University Secondary School)

What I learned and thought through preparation.

First of all, it was my first time to join a program like WYM so I did not know what to do. In addition to this, because of the spread of COVID-19 we needed to communicate online such as using Google Meet but I am shy and I do not speak English on a daily basis, so to prepare for the presentation was tough at the beginning. I learned that to express what I really want to tell in English online is hard but it was a good way of improving my English skills at the same time.

My issues in a presentation

As I said, it was my first time presenting in front of a large amount of people. I do have a presentation at the class in my school but I know my classmates and I usually do not get nervous when I present. This time, anyone can ask question for the presentation so I needed to answer the question after I saw the question and it was like 10 seconds preparation and 1 minute answering. My issue was not practicing for the questions, I was able to guess the question before the presentation starts. That is what I regret about my presentation.

My impressions

In these days, SDGs are the most attractive problems. I learned about goal 6 in my class but I do not think it was enough, it is better than nothing but the most important thing about studying SDGs is to connect some of the problems. Studying in school, we did not have enough time to connect them. Based on that, WYM was such a great opportunity to talk about SDGs with foreign students and we also had different interests so we were able to connect these different things and we connected to our daily lives.

Future perspective

It was my first time to join a program like WYM, but not the last time. Everyone research and most of them does not research again even though second time is much more important than the first time. So, I am going to study about SDGs and other problems continuously and deepen my thoughts against global issues.

Review on the World Youth Meeting 2021

Hinata Ogawa (Kobe University Secondary School)

1. Achievements

First of all, my biggest achievement through this program is the improvement of my initiative. As I have participated in a similar program before, I was the leader of my team and had to lead 10 people, which was a total new challenge to me. I have always wanted to take initiative in something that I'm confident with, but I didn't try to get the position spontaneously for some hesitation and fear. However, I got to be a leader in the WYM for almost the first time in my junior high and high school life, and was able to improve my leadership skills thanks to all of the teammates who followed my clumsy ideas.

Secondly, I was also able to gain some skills for communication regardless of languages. Since the WYM was held online due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we had to pay attention to how much we could make ourselves understood without discussing face to face. There were a lot of difficulties such as the internet connection, but all of them made us try to convey our thoughts desperately, and get close to each other.

2. Challenges

For my challenges, I thought I needed some more calmness and cooperativeness both while preparing and making a presentation. I was focusing too much on achieving the goal and showing good results, and forgot the main purpose to have fun cooperating with the companions. I guess I was pressuring myself too much from the feeling that I have to do what I have to do as the leader, and couldn't stay calm although that is what a leader is supposed to do.

One more realization is that I need to enrich my vocabulary in English to express my thoughts more clearly. Especially among non-natives, misunderstandings are almost 100% sure to happen. I realized how important a wide vocabulary (synonyms in particular) is, in order to discuss things without a discrepancy of the theme.

3. Future Prospects

I learned so much from the WYM. While I was able to achieve and experience a lot of things, I also noticed a bunch of problems about me. However, I believe that all of them will improve my abilities, and even grow me as a person in the process of trying to make them turn to something better.

Overall, I would definitely like to say that I'm very glad I participated in this program. I hope to get another chance to participate in the same program offline next time, when the pandemic ends. Thank you.

WYM2021 Reflection

日本福祉大学付属高校 A



「海の豊かさを守ろう！」 澤田佳伶

今回、WYMを通して、海の問題やSDG'sについて改めて考えることが出来ました。今までは、SDG'sも詳しくは知らなかったし、プラスチックを減らそうという取り組みもあるということしか知らなかったの、環境問題について考える良いきっかけになりました。調べていく中で、日本の海の現状や魚などが苦しんでいることを知り、とてもショックを受けました。けど、台湾の人とプレゼンを考えてゆく中で、他の国の海のゴミに対する対策やプラスチックを減らす取り組みを知り、こんなことまでしていたんだ！というような発見もありました。コロナウイルスで海外に行けなかったりする中で、いろいろな国の人とオンラインで交流ができてとてもうれしかったです。今年の冬も国際プレゼンテーション大会があるので、次回は、今回の経験を生かしてより良いものができたらと思います。

What I learned in two days

MOMONA Inaba
Nihon fukushi High school

It was a good experience to me to participate in WYM. I think what I learned is two things thought WYM.

First, It's very important to have own opinions and insist on my opinions. It was difficult for me to insist on my opinion even when I was considering in Japanese. Also, I was worried because I have been so shy since I was child. I was impressed with seeing students from different schools. They expressed themselves and their opinions in English. When I saw them, I couldn't speak English very well. I recognized my weak points, but I tried to communicate with people were from foreign countries and students from different schools.

Second, I was able to know LGBTQ while I joined LGBTQ group discussion. I have heard of it before but I could not express my opinion. Because I did not have enough knowledge about LGBTQ. At the same time, I was surprised that other high school students were talking about the topic well. Actually I thought that it's none of my business, but I realized that we need to consider about the topic deeply.

I could not participate in all schedule because I belong to dance club. However, I was glad that I was able to participate in it 2days. I spent very good time and learnt about a lot of issues.

When I study abroad in Canada, I want to have to more knowledge and skills than now. So, I will study English hard and think about world issues to achieve SDGs!

World Youth Meeting 2021

Ayumi Honda, Nihon Fukushi University Affiliated High School

1 . What made me join the WYM

I had three reasons. First, I wanted to improve my English. I wanted to be confident in my English. Second, I'm not good at speaking in public, but I wanted to overcome it. I wanted to be confident in myself. Third, I'm interested in SDGs. I wanted to find out what I could do with SDGs.



2. Joint work with PNJKIS using ICT

We used LINE, Zoom, Microsoft Teams, Google Classroom, etc. For example, we talked to each other using LINE phone and zoom. We used Google Classroom to make a questionnaire about papers. We made the slides using Power Point. We often practiced the presentation using zoom. Thanks to these tools, it became easier to work together smoothly.

3. My reflection on the preparation period and the day of WYM

We exchanged LINE addresses first. Then we talked about the problems of each other's countries and had meetings with LINE. When the content and script were decided, we often practiced it together. My English pronunciation was not so good, so I practiced again and again. As a result, the presentation on the day was successful.

4. My reflection on the preparation period and the day of WYM

I have two accomplishments. First, I got a little confidence in English. Second, I managed to speak English in front of many people. I have two regrets. First, I couldn't make a gesture at all. Second, I was relying on PNJKIS students and couldn't answer even simple questions after the presentation.

5. My reflection on the preparation period and the day of WYM

I will use the recycled notebooks we suggested in our presentation. And I will go on thinking about the SDGs and do what I can.

WYM2021

Shekinah B. Benemerito (Philippine Nikkei Jin Kai International School)

World Youth Meeting: Before and After

It was my first time talking with other people from another country, and when I met the Japanese students, I got excited because I never met anyone from a different country. We shared our culture and were able to get along with them. While we waited for our chance to present, I watched the other team presentations, and I thought that it is amazing how young people are working to support the Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations. It might take a long time to implement the action plans we presented. But we have already taken the first step to improving the issues in the world. I'm grateful for the opportunity to participate in an event like WYM2021. I treasure the memories and experiences that I gained from this event, and I look forward to participating in events like this in the future!

Working with Japanese Students

It was fun and exciting! It was fun to talk with them during rehearsals and when we celebrated together. I also had fun teaching one of them how to pronounce words in English. Because of that, we got closer, and I improved my teaching and English skills. They had many ideas for the action plan, and I was thankful for that because it helped us add more details to the presentation and finalize it.

My Thoughts after Collaborating as a Team

It was not easy at first because of the language barrier and shyness but, we got past that by introducing ourselves and sharing our culture. After that, we were able to talk with each other comfortably. The students had a lot of ideas, so it was easy to finalize our action plan. There were also times when the Internet or our device interrupted our meetings. Overall, we were able to meet and organize our thoughts before our presentation.

Reflection on Preparation Period

When I first met our Japanese teammates, I realized that I should speak slowly and simplify my words to hold a proper conversation. I keep this in mind every time we talk to them. We were also able to communicate by ourselves to talk more about the presentation and chat. We shared pictures of sample designs for our action plan.

Reflection on rehearsals and presentation

We worked hard to practice our presentation to fit the time limit given to us. We worked together on revising the script and giving a comprehensible presentation for the audience. We had a lot of fun practicing, and we got to bond during the time we had.



世界が広がる体験、WYM

永田優杏（日本福祉大学附属高等学校）

1. 練習段階で気づいたこと

今回、私達がペアを組んだ Silay Institute Senior High school (SI) の生徒、教師方とはとても優しく合同練習や個別発音指導で英語がままならない私達に分かりやすい単語を使ったりしてスピーチ力向上に努めてくれました。それが当日プラチナ賞を頂けた理由の一つになっていると思います。

個別発音指導で SI の先生方が、私達日本の生徒に事細かく発音を指導してくれたのですがどの先生も「大切なのはエナジーをもって話すことだよ」と教えてくれました。スピーチする内容も必要ですが、何よりも話し方によって内容に重みが出るということを身を持って感じました。

2. トラブルを超えて

本番前に回線トラブルで私達の番になってもスピーチをはじめられずにいました。10分程遅れて回線が復活し、スピーチをすることができました。予定よりも遅れての発表だったので焦りを感じていましたが、最初のセリフで SI の生徒が元気に落ち着いて話始めていたので、私自身も落ち着いて練習の成果を発揮できたと思います。

結果プラチナ賞をいただき、SI と電話をつないだら SI の生徒が涙を流していました。このプラチナ賞は SI の目標だったそうでとても喜んでいました。私自身、練習を頑張ってきたので凄く嬉しかったです。さらに SI の生徒の目標と一緒に達成できたということもほんとうに誇らしかったです。

3. 今回の WYM を通して

私は SDG s になんとか興味があったので WYM に参加しましたが、たくさんの高校のそれぞれのスピーチを聞いて、今まで以上に SDG s に興味を持ちました。私は英語を完璧に聞き取れないので、単語で聞き取ったりスライドを見てスピーチの内容を理解していましたが、WYM のスピーチの良いところはペアを組んだ他国の高校と日本の違いを詳しくリアルに知ることができる点です。これによって SDG s の必要性が更に実感できました。

唯一私が悔しいと思ったのは、WYM に参加した生徒たちの中を深める時間に積極的に話せなかったことです。私が全く話せない中、同じ高校の先輩はいろいろな人と交流をしていて、凄く格好良く見えました。来年も WYM に参加したいです。それまでに英語を話すことに重点を置いて勉強し、次はもっと沢山の人と交流できるようにしたいです。

WORLD YOUTH MEETING 2021

RENJ MARTINNE ABELLAR (Silay Institute Senior High School)

World Youth Meeting Experience: Before and After

My journey when I was an 11th Grade student at Silay Institute was not that exciting. I wasn't looking forward to activities nor joining some organizations. I really didn't like to socialize because I didn't feel that comfortable, especially with the people I haven't even met before. I wanted to work alone or by myself all throughout the school year. Before classes start for my 12th year, SI contacted me to be one of the representatives for this year's WYM, I tried my best to interact with new people, especially that I am working with Japanese students. When we won our school's first ever Platinum Award, I was motivated. Motivated to achieve more in school. I reached out to one of my teachers if I can join an organization, and I even got to put off my guards and interacted with my classmates during this year's school orientation. I am very thankful for this experience because it made me look forward to my last year in high school, and made a better version of myself.

Working with Japanese Students

Working with Japanese students is what I look forward to the most in WYM. I was really happy meeting them for the first time after I heard that most of us have the same interests. Aside from discussing about our presentation together, we also talked about the things we have in common. I like the thought that we connected immediately because it made a special bond and it was easier for me to interact with them. Because of the closeness that we have, I get to personally contact them and help them with their English during our free time. Not only that we made a team, we also built a strong relationship as friends. I am looking forward to meet them someday as soon as this pandemic is over.

My Thoughts After Experiencing Collaboration as a Team

My thoughts after experiencing to work with others made me reflect that I have to work on my load or share in a group. Each one of us are given different parts and we have to deliver our parts properly in order to have a satisfactory result. Having a team made me realize that I do not work alone so I do not have to worry because I have a team or support system with me.

My Reflection on Preparation Period

Preparation Period made me reflect on a lot of things. One of the biggest reflection was that you have to put in mind that not everything will go according to plan. You have to be ready in facing obstacles along the way. Having a Plan B is also a must given that there might be last minute changes.

My Reflection on the Rehearsals and Stage Performance

My reflection is that rehearsals and stage performances are different. There's a lot of pressure when you're already performing. But I have reflected that you have to give your best during rehearsals as if you're already performing so that teachers or facilitators will see or picture out what your presentation will look like. Having to give your best in rehearsals is as important as doing your best in stage performances.



WORLD YOUTH MEETING 2021

ALDREI S. ABELLAR (Silay Institute College)

“Two heads are better than one” this speaks to the potential of working as group are rather productive, creative, and motivated than individuals on their own. Working as group serves as a mode of learning where everyone work together towards a common vision.



World Youth Meeting Experience: Before and After

This is not my first time doing a presentation. But this is my first time doing a presentation with students from other countries and as well participating in this kind of event. At first, I was really nervous. After all, this wasn't a presentation in front of my own class mate, but with other students. But now I can say that, if it wasn't for this event I wouldn't be able to realized that I'm also capable, it boost my confidence and as well as I learned a lot. At the end we won the “Gold Award” and we are happy about. The practice and the effort we put were all paid off. But for me, this event is not just really about getting award but also experience like to take advantage of each group members individual strengths and work as a team.

Working with Japanese Students

Working with other students can be a challenge as we thought because we have different language and this can pose a barrier between our communication. But luckily, we worked well with Japanese students. As a group, we were able to brainstorm ideas together via Zoom meeting, we asked everyone about their available schedule for everyone to know what we will be the meeting about. Working with them is so easy because they are very open to any suggestions and they are friendly at the same time.

My thought after experiencing collaboration as a team

It was such a great experience to work well with them. We are a group of 5 and each person on our group has strengths and we help each other to make up our weaknesses. Also, understanding a variety of perspectives by sharing our view points and really to listen and understand where we are coming from. We may be from different countries, we may be differ on opinions or stand point, we may be differ on beliefs. But these make us unique and make this entire experience fun and eventually we make friends.

My Reflection on the Presentation Day

We spend the week before the presentation day to practice our speaking phase, pronunciation and giving feedback as to what part we should improve. At the day of the presentation, we still feel uneasy but our confidence prevails. There was an unexpected thing happened, a technical problem. But we chose to be optimistic and we ended up having another chance to present again so we give our best and made it through. Things may not go as we expect them to be, but we able to go with the flow.

WORLD YOUTH MEETING 2021

IMAE E. SOLINA (Silay Institute College Student)

World Youth Meeting Experience: Before and After

It was a fun and new experience for me. I am more expressive and comfortable in writing than speaking. I can say that I am conscious in my speaking ability. The World Youth Meeting helped me big time to boost my confidence in speaking as well as helped me to meet new people.

Working with Japanese Students

I am an introvert person. I don't know how to socialize. The first time I was able to contact them was in the chat application. I was so happy when we met in the seminar. Unfortunately I can't meet them in person because of the pandemic. We only contacted each other in communication applications. Despite this I was able to learn a lot from them.

My thought after experiencing collaboration as a team

I was used to do things alone. It's not because I refuse to ask help from others but, it's because I'm shy. Working with them really helped me to be able to brain storm and give ideas about what I want to include in our work and presentation. We helped each other to produce good results for our team.

My Reflection on Preparation Period During our Preparation

I was able to know my weakness in speaking. I lack conviction and confidence in my voice. While I improved my English before our preparation, I was not able to improve what I lack in. We revised our presentation many times to fit the time limit that was given to us. Together we improved our weakness during this period.

My Reflection on the Rehearsals, and Stage Performances

We met every other day to rehearse our presentation. During those days we did our best to attend meetings despite the poor connection in our home. When the WYM day arrived we had our final practice. I was so nervous because this is so new to me. I keep on forgetting my lines during the practice. Something came up our connection was really bad when we had our presentation. Thankfully we had our second chance to continue. The lesson and experience I have learned in WYM was very memorable to me and I will treasure it in my whole life.

For All Contingencies

～thinking about what we can do～

氏名 白川悠大 学校名 福井県立丸岡高等学校

Introduction : We participated in WYM 2021 without our partner school this year. Our challenge was tough, but we talked a lot with the members to build up the ideas and reach our action plan. Now let me review our activities. We followed the DIE and gave a presentation on “gender equality”.

1. Reviews of WYM

1. 1 The concept of DIE

In this WYM, we were able to make presentations and ask questions in accordance with the DIEs. This time, we focused on the fifth goal of the SDGs, gender equality, which is particularly relevant in Japan, and used school life as an example to raise gender issues that are still deeply rooted. Then, we thought about actions we could take.



1. 2 Technical accidents

However, a technical accident occurred during the performance, and the sound did not come in. Thanks to the subtitles on the video, we were able to avoid the worst-case scenario of the information not being conveyed, but we were worried that it would affect the outcome. However, since we were able to win the award, I felt that our efforts were not in vain. From this, I learned the importance of being prepared for anything that might happen online.

1. 3 Future prospects

In my presentation, I was conscious of my voice inflection, movement, and ease of conveying information, but I felt that my pronunciation was still not perfect, so I would like to work on improving my pronunciation.

Though there are still some difficulties with online interactions, it has made us connect each other wherever we are in the world. We should make good use of those interactions to broaden our ideas by sharing opinions from now on.

After the World Youth Meeting

Nagoya City Kikuzato Senior High School

Nahoko Okamoto

I belong to an English club in school. In this club, students have the opportunity to interact with foreign people such as guiding them through Nagoya Castle. However, ever since the Coronavirus pandemic, we struggled to find such opportunities. When we were informed about the World Youth Meeting, I was more than excited to participate. Needless to say, there are always a few hardships when taking part in a program where two countries from different time standard and languages are involved.

For starters, our teacher was informed about the program from our soon to be partner, Fengshin High School, no more than a few days in advance to when we started preparing for the presentation. The students were caught off guard by the sudden notice, but agreed that this was what we had been eager to do for a long time. For the first few weeks, none of us really knew the exact format of this program so getting started on the preparation was already a hurdle.

Eventually, we had to face the reality that the presentation day was inching closer. Using LINE as our only communication tool, both countries started giving suggestions to each other on how we could possibly find a way to create one whole project. Our biggest challenge was the time difference and deciding when to hold zoom meetings to share each country's presentation. Memorizing the script, practicing countless times and incorporating hand gestures, to make it the high-level presentation we aimed for... and the list goes on but we somehow managed to do it. In the last week, we were rehearsing on a daily basis. Then finally, we welcomed the big day.

Listening to the other school's presentations, I felt myself getting nervous, but also felt a great confidence that we can pull off an amazing performance after all of the intense practice. Everything went according to plan for the most part, and I recognized the atmosphere in the room as satisfaction and excitement. The last words of our project were, "Let's find a solution, and wipe out pollution", which both countries cried the phrase in unison. When the last word resonated throughout the room, I could feel the same satisfaction and trace of excitement, even from our partners through the computer screen.

Taking part in the WYM event was by far one of the most memorable experience I had as a high school student. Looking back, every minute of the interaction with Taiwan was meaningful and definitely worth the hard practice. Who knew that two countries coming together to create a project would turn out to be such a treasure? --- I didn't, for sure, and it is something I would like to tell to my past self in July and to everyone else around me who has yet to have this adventure.

Experience of WYM

Misaki KINA (Nagoya City Nagoya Commercial High School)

I became a little more confident in my English ability. I participated in last year's WYM, but at that time I was not confident in my English and had difficulty speaking positively in English. Therefore, in this WYM, I made it my goal to speak more and more without worrying about making mistakes. During the rehearsal, I was able to understand their opinions and also express our ideas. I wasn't confident in my English ability, but when I was able to communicate what I wanted to say, I realized that what I had studied so far had been learned properly, and I decided to keep working hard at studying English.

It was very difficult to work together with high school students from overseas to create one thing. However, I was able to learn about the cultural differences between Japan and Taiwan, and it was a very memorable experience. We were late on starting preparation, we didn't have much time before the performance, but we were able to create a PowerPoint and script at a fast pace and we did a lot of rehearsals. During the rehearsal, we gave advice to each other and practiced together to make our presentation more wonderful. Thanks to this, we were able to give a presentation that we were satisfied with at the performance.

I realized again the importance of teamwork. I was very nervous about working on one thing as a team with the students from Taiwan. We were late on starting preparation, we didn't have much time before the performance, but the Taiwanese team and the Japanese team were able to share the roles and complete the project. Then we rehearsed a lot and gave advice to each other until we were completely satisfied with the performance. When you work on one thing as a team, there will be hard times such as differences of opinion. However, I thought that respecting each other's opinions was the secret to building a good teamwork.

I think that WYM is an event that we can have valuable experience with. Working in a team with students from other countries is a lot of work. However, we will never forget a sense of accomplishment of success with them. You can also learn more about the issues that are happening in each country. After listening to the presentations from other schools, I realized that there were many things I didn't know about the SDGs, the theme of this event, and I decided to learn more about them.

I was able to actively share my opinions. The first time I participated in WYM, I was not confident in my English skills and I was afraid to speak English on my own so I made it my goal to speak English without fear of making mistakes this time. What I couldn't do was to participate much in deciding the theme of the presentation. Even so, we were able to complete our roles by working together, and I believe that we were able to make a successful presentation through a lot of practice.

This is my second time participating in WYM, but looking back, I think there were many things that I have grown from the last time. Not only exchanging ideas with Taiwanese people in English, but also getting used to using the computer, we were able to start the project more smoothly than before. Also, I think we were able to create a good balance of roles so that everyone can be active in the team. We had a lot of rehearsals and advised each other to make our presentation better, so we were able to give our performance without being too nervous. I believe that we were able to win the platinum award because each member of the team was enjoying working together. I was glad that I was able to participate in WYM2021.

Through the WYM

Hanami HORINOCHI (Nagoya City Nagoya Commercial High School)

I've participated in ASEP before. At that time, the students from our affiliated school in Taiwan and the other students spoke very good. I was surprised and shocked. I didn't want to have to go through that again. So, I wasn't sure if I would participate in this WYM. However, I was able to share my opinions with the Taiwan's students and cooperate with them to create presentation. It was a great sense of accomplishment and a very valuable experience. I learned that continuing to take on challenges leads to myself growth.

Now that we can't talk face-to-face, it's important for us to use SNS to have conversations. However, I thought it was more important to talk face-to-face on the phone. There was a downside to that. This means that if I don't reaction, our affiliated school will not understand what I'm thinking. So, I felt it was necessary to speak positively. There were times when I was worried that my ideas were not being conveyed to the students in Taiwan. At that time, I wished I had better English skills. I decided to try harder to learn English.

We can't meet with Taiwan's students right now. So, sometimes I wondered how to cooperate with them. However, the Taiwan's students covered for us where we are lacking in strength. We asked each other questions and exchanged ideas well. I think we've worked well together through this process. As a result, I was able to make a successful presentation. I was glad to be able to work on WYM with everyone.

Most of the Japanese students were participating in WYM for the first time. We're not used to thinking about presentation content, action plans, or sentence structure. So, I felt the preparation period was short. At first glance, we seemed to understand the SDGs, but as we delved deeper into the issue, we could not see the goal and often had to go back to the starting point to understand what was going on. I thought that if I couldn't understand what Japanese students were saying to each other, there was no way I would be able to communicate it to the Taiwan's students, so I went through a lot of trial and error. As a result, I was able to give a satisfactory presentation and receive the Platinum Award.

When we rehearsed the day before the show, we had an extra minute, so I added some additional content. And then it was over six minutes, and I was in trouble. However, the Taiwan's students made some corrections and we were able to fit in exactly 6 minutes in the rehearsal before the show. I remember how happy I was to feel that we were working well together at that time. We were able to finish my presentation in exactly 6 minutes. However, during the question-and-answer session, the Japanese side took so long that the Taiwan's students were given very little time. They responded flexibly in the given time and answered firmly. Thanks to that, we were able to succeed.

By researching the SDGs, I felt the difficulty of achieving them. And I think I would need the help of many people to achieve it. It was difficult to work with students from other countries over the Internet to create a presentation. On the other hand, I had a lot to gain. For example, experience and knowledge, perspectives on Global Issues and so on. I realized that it is important to try everything instead of being afraid of what you cannot do.

Participating in WYM for the First Time

Ren Higuchi (Nanzan Kokusai High School)

[Before the actual presentation]

It was a new experience for me to make a presentation with foreign students online, but I had a really enjoyable time. This year's main theme was "SDGs", and as I was researching about each development goal, I was surprised by the fact that if we spontaneously take action, we could easily achieve the 17 goals for a better world.

However, I had a few difficulties when creating the slides. I tend to put in a lot of sentences in each slide, but when thinking about the audience who will hear about our presentation for the first time, I realized that it will be more intriguing if we incorporate pictures instead. It would be catchy and easier for the audience to understand the main points that we want to express. Thus, for most of the slides, we took school photos and edited the renovation ideas onto the photo and put it on the slides. This caused the audience to get a better image during the presentation while we explained more in depth in words. Therefore, by making the slides, I learned the importance of putting myself in the audience's shoes and focusing on the ease of understanding. I think that overcoming this struggle made me acquire a sense of professionalism.

[At WYM 2021]

At WYM day 1, I was impressed by the persuasiveness of each school's presentations, so I felt nervous until my school's turn. However, I believed in myself and the members who worked hard until this day. As a result, my school's presentation ended in a success, and I was relieved and felt a sense of appreciation to every member that was involved.

On day 2, I participated in a discussion session. This was a great opportunity for me to test my English skills, since students from various backgrounds participated. It was challenging, but when expressing my opinion to the group, they seemed to understand the point that I wanted to address. Other than improving my English skills, I was able to absorb new perspectives of my peers which was very interesting. I was able to broaden my view on the topic and to respect the different perspectives that were coming out of each person.

[Conclusion]

I enjoyed all the other events and this valuable experience made me gain new things. Throughout WYM, I was able to break my shell and actively communicate with other schools. Although due to the pandemic, we were not able to participate in-person, I think I was able to change inside and outside with the influence of other students. This would probably be my first and last year participating in WYM, but I will never forget what I learned here.

My last WYM

Yukino Yamamoto (Nanzan Kokusai High School)

World Youth Meeting 2021 had a positive effect on me and gave me some “re-recognition”. I really had fun participating in WYM. Two days of this wonderful online event and the preparation weeks became one of my precious youths.

This year, we had less preparation time than last year. When I saw the schedule, I was surprised how short the remaining time until the event was. To tell the truth, I was really worried about our presentation. It was not only the time but the topic and the quality.

< Worries about the topic >

Our team chose SDGs Goal 11 Sustainable Cities and Communities as the topic. Goal 11 was the one which I had the interest in, but at the same time it was the one which I thought hard to work on and I was not familiar with. I was worried if it was really a suitable topic for us. However, when one of our members suggested the idea of renovating our school which will be broken up and rebuilt into another school in future, my concern faded away. The news of our school being breaking up in the future was quite a hot topic in our school because many students love the school, and since I also wanted to do something for our school, I think we had a nice choice.

< Worries about the quality >

Next, I was also worried about the quality of our presentation. This was because like I stated above, we had less time to search for the information, to wonder about the idea and to think about the script. Of course I did my best, but compared to last year, we didn't have things like an interview. So in my opinion, I felt like it's a bit lacking. However, it wasn't what I expected. I don't mean to brag but all the information and ideas were extremely good. I was really proud of ourselves. Having something like interviews makes a presentation rich and interesting, but I realized that that's not the only thing to make a presentation better. What is important is to make an effort in every process and impress our true opinion. This can be said to many situations. I'm glad that I was able to re-recognize an important basic thing.

< What helped me grow as a person >

WYM helped me grow as a person. Especially, the re-recognitions through WYM were the biggest factors of my growth. I re-recognized my love and my friends' love towards our school. I re-recognized an important thing that makes sense to every work. Both enriches my heart and my life. WYM is a wonderful learning event. This was my last WYM to participate in so I really miss it. Hope to see my teammates and all the participants in the future.

WYM Student's Report

Ren, Yu-Ting (Ivy)

Shute Home Economics & Commercial High School

This is my first time participating in WYM. To be honest, my mood is both nervous and excited. Although I have previous experience in competitions, this is the first time I have communicated with students from different countries. I am worried that my pronunciation is not good enough, and I am afraid that Japanese students will not understand what I am talking about. Therefore, I kept silent during the online meeting.

During the discussion, I encountered many difficulties, such as disagreements and inability to accurately get the meaning of the other party. However, we have each other's opinions. In fact, at the beginning, I didn't know the subject well, and I didn't even know what we were going to do. I just followed the teacher's arrangement and collect information, but in fact I didn't know what I am doing. However, I don't think I should be like this, so I looked at all the materials in the google classroom carefully. To understand our theme bit by bit.

Next, I am very happy to talk about the gains of this WYM. First, I think I have become more confident. Because I didn't dare to speak at the beginning, I was worried that my pronunciation was not perfect. But later, when I had to speak, I mustered up the courage to speak. To my surprise, no one corrected my accent, and they could understand what I meant. I have become more and more courageous, so I am very confident now.

Second, I didn't know much about ppt production. So none of the ppts I have done before are perfect. I didn't know how to arrange the position of text or pictures reasonably, which also annoys me. But by participating in WYM2021, from the lecture to the production of ppt, teamwork is required, so in this process, I have grown a lot. During the competition, I also watched other people's ppts and found my own shortcomings. I learned from them. I really learned a lot.

Third, I learned the presentation skills. Before the game, we had many practice sessions. During the practice, teacher Nishi made suggestions based on our shortcomings. For example, my voice is not loud enough, my tone is very flat without many ups and downs, and there is no gesture. This will make the audience lose interest in listening to my speech. If I want to attract the attention of the audience, I must keep in touch. So I am very grateful to the teachers for their guidance.

I am really happy to participate in wym2021. This will be the most precious experience in my life. I will always remember teacher Nishi and the Japanese students.

WYM2021 student's report

Chen, Yi-Chun (Jean)

Shute Home Economics & Commercial High School

This is my first time joining the World Youth Meeting. Due to Covid-19 pandemic, we prepare the presentation at home, and have to use Google Meet and Google Classroom to finish our discussions.

When I heard about WYM, I really wanted to join the event because I like to cooperate with other people and share opinions with each other. Besides, I can improve my English ability of speaking and listening. During the discussion, I had some internet connection problems, and this interrupted me for finishing the discussion. At that time, I was in Taoyuan so I didn't see any group members face to face, but the good news was the camera gave me a lot of courage so I could talk to everyone naturally.

On the first day, I think every part goes smooth, not just for our presentation, also I wrote some questions. Some groups answered my questions, so I was happy on the first day. On the second day, I went to Room B for discussion time, I talked to some Japanese students about my experience for using the electronic devices for class. I was proud of myself because I improve my English-speaking skills, compared to the last year time of ASEP.

I was excited that we won the platinum prize and I think everything worth it. For me, I improved my social and English skills. I learn to listen and understand each one's opinion, and that could be pretty difficult for me. I overcome my difficulties for social skills. I learn that if you don't give yourself a chance, you can't overcome your difficulties and make the dream come true. Thanks to the WYM and the group members, in spite of the distance, I have the wonderful experience, and I wish to have discussions face to face for us next time.

