

ID 200091
Name Haruka KUDO
Title Environmental Consciousness: Through Comparison between Japan and the U.K., and Ecotourism
Supervisor Prof. Chihiro KATO

Summary

These days, environmental problems are becoming worse and it is necessary to act for a sustainable society. The purpose of this thesis is to help Japanese people to act for environmental preservation through ecotourism and this thesis aims to clarify whether ecotourism can be effective in influencing people's actions. The method is a comparative analysis of the government policy of Japan and the UK, the environmental consciousness of Japanese and British people, respectively, by using the data of the previous studies, and through investigation of ecotourism.

First, according to the result of previous research by Murakami (2021) and Boston Consulting Group (2022), most Japanese people do not act towards a sustainable society even though they realize that extreme weather is caused by human action. In contrast, the majority of British people changed their lifestyles to deal with abnormal weather. Accordingly, I state that Japanese people are less environmentally active.

Secondly, I argue that through ecotourism, tourist can enjoy nature and the culture, which leads them to make environmentally considerate decisions in their lifestyle. Post-COVID-19 more Japanese have a desire to travel, so the demand in the domestic tourism sector should increase. Due to the increased tourism and Japanese interest in nature tourism, there is a probability that ecotourism will experience a surge in popularity in Japan.

Therefore, I found that ecotourism contributed to Japanese people's awareness of environmental conservation. However, ecotourism is unfamiliar to many Japanese people and few of them have participated in ecotours, so it is essential to disseminate it through advertising such as conducted by the national trust in the U.K. The significance of this paper is that it clarifies Japanese people's environmental awareness by comparing with the British and aims to reform their consciousness by taking advantage of tourism as they are highly interested in sightseeing. This is important to raise awareness regarding sustainable society and increase the use of ecotourism in Japan.

Keywords: Environmental consciousness, Ecotourism, Sustainable Society

ID 200111
Name Akari SAITO
Title Women's Oppression in *The Moon and Sixpence*:
From the Perspective of Feminist Criticism
Supervisor Prof. Chihiro KATO

Summary

The purpose of this thesis is to critique *The Moon and Sixpence* written by William Somerset Maugham from the perspective of feminist criticism. This work describes the life of the main character Strickland, an ordinary stockbroker, who one day abruptly leaves home to become a painter. Many researchers have studied this work from various perspective; however, few studies have focused on the female characters in the work. Therefore, by analyzing the text with a focus on female characters, this thesis aims to reveal whether gender issues that were not considered in the past are hidden in the text.

First, I confirmed what had been revealed in the reference studies, for example Wang&Pancheng(2021). Second, I analyzed two male characters; Strickland and Strove, and three female characters; Mrs. Strickland, Branche, and Ata from the perspective of feminist critique and compared how they were portrayed as male and female. Finally, I considered what view of gender this piece was written based on.

I found that one of the common features of male characters was that they imposed their ideal roles on women, for instance Struve expected always kind wife. I also discovered that the common feature of female characters was that they were subject to various forms of oppression because they were women. From these I elicited the issue that this work was based on masculine-centric values which had been overlooked in previous studies.

In conclusion, in addition to the gender inequality present in this work where women cannot have the freedom that men can have, male ideals are imposed on women. Therefore, I identified the problem that this work affirms the evaluation of women based on masculine-centric values. The significance of this thesis is to compare the portrayal of male and female characters, which has not been done in previous studies. Additionally, I pointed out a problem that this work affirmed male-centric values.

Keywords: *The moon and sixpence*, Feminist criticism, Women's oppression

ID 200162
Name Nana TAKEDA
Title The Japanese image of Butler in Manga and Animation:
Manga "Black Butler as an Example"
Supervisor Chihiro KATO

Summary

Today, "Manga" has become popular content not only in Japan but also in the world and come to be recognized as a part of Japanese culture. The purpose of this thesis is to analyze manga, "Black Butler" and its difference from anime and movies. The aim is to examine how the modification of the story influences cultural understanding by comparing manga, animation and movies, and analysis of interviews and questionnaires with authors and audiences.

First, I compared the differences in butlers between the UK and Japan, as well as historical and modern. Hiring a butler is now shown as a "symbol of wealth and glory" for a moderately wealthy family. Manga "Black Butler" showed that while the occupational names and job descriptions were based on the traditional English butler, it was understood that the servants' jobs were not assigned as faithfully as in the historical account to give priority to the characters' personalities and competencies.

Second, I analyzed the anime and film adaptation, and translation of "Black Butler" and discussed the differences from the manga. There were instances in which the names and genders of the characters were changed, and new characters were created, but these changes differed from the elements of the anime and films that viewers were expecting. In addition, the British culture, tea and manner lessons from the butler came to be associated with the butler portrayed in the manga.

In this paper, I observed that as the manga "Black Butler" has been translated and adapted, it has influenced the understanding of one aspect of British culture, the butler, and the formation of a unique image of the butler in Japan. In conclusion, the influence of the diverse content of the manga Black Butler was significant in creating a uniquely Japanese image of the butler, with its links to the flexible modern butler. The significance of this study is that it points to the impact of the image of the butler on the viewer by comparing various content with British culture as the main focus.

Keywords: manga, butler, cultural understanding, Japan and the U.K.

ID 200164
Name Mii TAKENAKA
Title The Study of British Tea Culture and Women: Comparative Research of Tea Culture between the UK and Japan
Supervisor Chihiro KATO

Summary

The UK is famous for its love of tea, and people regardless of gender and class consume a large amount of tea every day. The subject of this paper is the role of women in British Tea Culture during 17th to 19th century, and the purpose of the paper is to clarify how British women have contributed to the establishment of Tea Culture. The study analyzes the previous research of the British Tea Culture and compares British and Japanese Tea Culture from a gender perspective.

First, based on the study of British tea history, I clarified that tea industry had developed especially in the period of 18th to 19th century, possibly causing the increase of tea consumption in the country. Secondly, I found that the tea party had been the custom among wealthy women, where authority and opulence were proudly shown off by the furniture and tea set of the host and the behavior of participants.

Furthermore, I researched the traits of British Tea Culture by comparing with Japanese Tea Culture, conforming that British tea parties were held mainly by women. Finally, I categorized and investigated three factors of the women's contribution to British Tea Culture; the women belonging upper class had the influence to promote tea drinking nationally; the media such as newspaper and illustrative advertisement contributed to attract women's interest of tea; and the gender role of women had encouraged them to hold and join tea parties more frequently at home during 19th century.

I concluded that more women in the UK had actively participated in the Tea Culture during 17th to 19th century leading to popularizing and accepting tea. Also, the femininity of Tea Culture is ascribed to the trait that Tea Culture in the UK had been developed mainly by women. The significance of this paper is that by focusing on the role of women in the Tea Culture and conducting comparison of Tea Culture between Japan and the UK, new points of view were illuminated.

Keywords: Tea Culture, women, UK, Japan

ID 200239
Name Takeru Horiguchi
Title The Practice and Possibility of Multicultural Education in Japan:
A Case Study of the United Kingdom
Supervisor Prof. Chihiro Kato

Summary

These days, international exchanges within Japan are becoming increasingly active. As a multicultural society is predicted in Japan, where people of diverse races live together, multicultural education is indispensable for the creation of such a system. Therefore, the purpose of this paper is to present a concrete proposal for the development of multicultural education in Japan as a curriculum. As a research method, the multicultural education policy in the UK will be analyzed and specific proposals will be discussed.

First, I confirmed the concept and definition of multicultural education in this thesis and clarified how such a concept emerged from the US Civil Rights Movement in the 1960s. I also discussed the education that could be introduced to Japan from multicultural education in the UK. Points to be learnt from multicultural education in the UK included: language awareness education, religious education, and citizenship education.

Secondly, I clarified the current situation of multicultural education in Japan and discussed what kind of UK multicultural education could be utilized in Japan. The solutions identified included: strengthening educational support in terms of language, reviewing teacher programs, developing teaching materials that better promote intercultural understanding, and increasing opportunities for intercultural exchanges.

In this paper, I observed the need for multicultural education in contemporary Japan and the content of multicultural education in the UK, as well as feasible educational policies for Japan. I concluded that multicultural education in Japan was inadequate because opportunities to learn are still limited and improving this situation was the first step towards developing multicultural education. The significance of this paper is that it presents multicultural education not just for students, but also for teachers and the community as a proposal for improvement.

Keywords: Multicultural Education, Intercultural Understanding, Immigrants, UK, Japan

ID 200251
Name Chika MIZUIDE
Title Guaranteeing the rights to education of pregnant high school students in Japan:
Focusing on initiatives related to teenage mothers in the U.K.
Supervisor Prof. Chihiro KATO

Summary

In Japan today, there is an issue that women suffer disadvantages because of pregnancy and maternity in receiving higher education. The subject of this paper is guaranteeing the rights to education of pregnant high school students in Japan. This thesis aims to clarify the causes of losing access to education because of pregnancy and maternity among high school students, and challenges in improving current situation. The method is a comparative analysis of policies and laws implemented by Japanese and British authorities, and social attitude in Japan and the U.K. towards marriage, having children and the rights to education based on statistics by previous works.

First, based on previous research, I argued that some Japanese high schools believed getting pregnant at high school age was punishment worthy and they recommended pregnant students leave school due to unfair reasons. I also claimed that there are not enough legal frameworks and initiatives to help pregnant high school students access to education in Japan, but the U.K. has a law to protect pregnant students from discrimination, and an initiative to help the students retain access to education.

Furthermore, based on statistics by previous works, I advocated that getting pregnant at high school age could be considered as a negative thing in both of Japan and the U.K. due to age norms for getting pregnant. Finally, I argued that Japanese government downplayed the rights to education of pregnant high school students, but British government respected the rights, and this difference determined whether initiatives to help pregnant students access to education were launched or not.

I concluded that the reason why pregnant high school students lose access to education is that Japanese government downplays the rights to education of the students and does not protect the students from being treated unfairly by schools. It is essential that Japanese government respects the rights of pregnant high school students and create policies to help the students access to education. The significance of this paper is that it analyzed cultural backgrounds in Japan and the U.K. based on previous works.

Keywords: pregnant high school students, the rights to education, Japan, the U.K.

ID 200279
Name Hina YOKOMORI
Title The Challenges of Gender Pay Gap in Japan and Remedies for Improvement:
OBN as Japanese Cultural Stereotypes and a comparison with Spain
Supervisor Prof. Chihiro KATO

Summary

In Japan today, the persistence of gender pay gap stands out as a significant obstacle to achieve gender equality. The subject of this paper is correction of gender pay gap in Japan, comparing wage and employment systems, as well as gender stereotypes, between Japan and Spain. The aim of this thesis is to clarify the challenges faced in Japan, explore the factors contributing to advancing gender equality in Spain, and assess the feasibility of implementing Spanish system in Japan.

First, I examined the global, Japanese, and Spanish perspectives on the gender pay gap, revealing a shared history of women's rights oppression in Japan and Spain. Secondly, I investigated the wage and employment laws in Japan and Spain. There is a difference of the concreteness of law. Furthermore, I pointed out that Spain's progress is attributed to corporate recommendations, frequent revisions, and the proactive approach of the Spanish cabinet.

I investigated gender stereotypes in Japan and Spain, attributing Japan's gender pay gap to Japanese traditional stereotype called Old Boys Network (OBN). In Spain on the other hand, there is a significant improvement of gender roles and job stereotypes. Finally, I concluded that Japan needs systemic reform, emphasizing concrete legal measures, corporate input, and increasing policy revisions to address gender pay gap.

In conclusion, it is necessary to change Japanese system to break down OBN and initiate a positive cycle. The challenges to achieve this are the lack of public understanding and limited accessibility of women's voice. Therefore, it is crucial to improve Japanese education and to increase the number of congresswomen. This paper's significance lies in its dual approach, examining both the political system and cultural values, comparing laws, systems, and gender stereotypes between Japan and Spain.

Keywords: gender pay gap, OBN, gender stereotypes, Spain, Japan