



Introduction of New Teachers

Welcome To Ehime University!



Danielle Kurihara

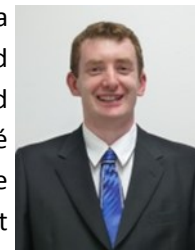
Andrew Tidmarsh

Hello everyone, I'm Danielle and I come from Canada. I was raised bilingually in English and French. When I was 12 years old, my uncle married a Spanish woman. I was fascinated by her culture and decided to teach myself Spanish so that I could communicate with her. After that I went to her country for further study and stayed with a family in a small town near Madrid. I worked as a translator in Canada and then traveled around the world for two years and finally settled in Taiwan where I taught English and French. In Taipei I met a Japanese couple who invited me to Tokyo. That was many years ago and I'm still here! I love teaching languages and learning them too. One of the ways I studied Japanese was by watching dramas on NHK!



In my free time, I take long walks with my three dogs. Thanks to them I spend a lot of time outdoors! I love to follow the news both in English and French and watch movies too. I hope learning English becomes an enjoyable part of your life.

Hi, my name is Andrew. I have lived in a few places in England, but I have not lived in London. My favourite place in England is Stonehenge because there's a nice café near there. You should visit if you get the chance, but please don't feed the cat there!



In Japan, I have some favourite places. I especially like Matsumoto in Nagano and Hikone in Shiga. I like those places because they have very cool mascots and the people are very friendly. I am thinking of visiting Nikko and Hirosaki next, but they are a bit far from Matsuyama.

If I have some free time, I sometimes try playing squash, go to a calligraphy class or take in an art exhibition with some friends. There are lots of galleries in Japan and I want to see all of them.

Teaching is fun for me because I like seeing students improve and have fun in class. If you see me, please say hello and tell me about yourself!

Glenn Magee



This is me—Magee. I do not remember exactly when I came to Japan from England, it was a very long, long time ago. As you can imagine, I have many stories to tell; I hope to share them with you in the classroom. I could write about my impressive academic history but you might be more amazed to know that I am very interested in happiness—aren't we all?

If you think so, you are right!

happy, Happy, HAPPY!

To tell the truth, happiness, or rather the application of findings from neuroscience, psychology, and education in the classroom is my research interest. Our brains produce happy chemicals, dopamine, oxytocin, endorphin, and serotonin. Put simply: they create our sense of joy, safety, and security. My challenge is to make the classroom a place that you feel safe in, secure in, and that fills you with smiles and joy.

Learning needs to be personal, it needs to mean something to us, and it needs to fire our creativity. This demands excitement. We must use language to study about the world because that is where we are going to use it, and to quit using language to study about language because that is about as-boring-as-it-gets. When we read words on a page we can make them exciting by thinking like actors shining the spotlight on understanding and enjoyment. As learners, we get to decide how we feel. We can be as original as we want to be in the classroom. This is our English class, our story, and we get to write it the way we want to.

If you are not yet lucky enough to join one of my classes, don't panic! You can see me around campus or come to my Talk, Talk, Talk class on Mondays. See you there!

GOOD-BYE Ehime University

Mr. Heffernan and Mr. Tang have left Ehime University in March. These are messages from them.

Farewell message from Neil Heffernan

I have been in the English Education Center since April, 2008, and have really enjoyed my time here. I have worked with some wonderful colleagues and will forever be grateful to them. I have learned a lot in the past seven years and will take this knowledge with me on the next stage of my career. I will be moving to a university in Fukuoka and I look forward to the new challenges that this brings.



The students at Ehime University have also been part of my learning experience. I have encountered many fantastic students who have a real zest for learning English. I hope you keep this up and use your knowledge in your future.

I wish for the continued success of the EEC and the students who study in the EEC. You have some fantastic teachers, so please make use of their expertise to help you further your knowledge of learning English. Good luck!

The staff in the EEC has been extremely helpful over the past seven years. The members of staff in the office are always willing to answer teachers' questions, fix their computers, translate memos and generally be kind to the teachers in the EEC. You make all of our jobs easier, so thank you!



Finally, to my valued colleagues: Please keep in touch and know that I will always keep you close to my heart, as you have played a special role in my development as both a teacher and an expat living in Japan. We have made some very special memories together, and I hope we can continue being colleagues, but most importantly, friends.

Farewell message from Kevin Tang

I can't believe that it has already been three years. The time has just flown by. It has been a great pleasure teaching you English and a little bit more of American culture. Some of you may think, "I'll never use English again", but I hope you will get a chance to do more with all these new skills you have acquired. Remember, the future hasn't been written so you never can tell, and you should never, ever stop learning.



One of the best comments I have ever received from a student survey was this: "Kevin is angry. Why is Kevin always angry?" I really like this comment because first, I'm from New York City, and one of the things that New Yorkers say is that we're New Yorkers. It's our right to be angry. Second, while it has been rewarding teaching you all, it wasn't always sunshine and rainbows.

I am grateful for the amazing support I have received from the other educators and staffers. I have learned so much from them, and I will think of them as I move to Kyushu to teach at APU in Beppu. I'll be there for a few years, and then who knows where. Perhaps our paths will cross again...some day.

It is time though to say goodbye, so I wish you all the best and I want you to follow your feet. They'll take you to some very great places, but only if you make those leaps and take chances.

In closing, here is part of a song from "The Muppets Take Manhattan" called "Saying Goodbye":



Saying goodbye, why is it sad?

Makes us remember the good times we've had

Much more to say, foolish to try

It's time for saying goodbye

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