



Let's Cheer Up! Relay Talk

みんなにエール！リレートーク

Hello, how have you been doing in these “Stay Home” weeks? We all have been forced to live in difficult circumstances, however, we can still share words of encouragement with each other!

Please relax and enjoy these messages sent by YNU students and staffs. We will be happy to hear your comments, and hope to find someone who would like to “talk” in this column, too;) Email us to isc2020.talk' ATgmail.com. (' AT → @)

The 1st Runner

Prof. Keiko Fujii

International Student Center

■How are you doing these days?

Things are changing very fast each day! I need to check the latest news and prepare for the new online classes. I am not so familiar with new technology, so starting classes online is a big challenge for me. It will take some time to get used to the new style, but I feel great each time I learn new things and improve my skills.

■Is there anything you are worried about?

Well, I'm worried about how it goes when my online classes start...

■Could you recommend some websites, videos, TV programs, etc., that you enjoy at home?

How about making Japanese dishes?

You can see various recipes on TV/internet. If you are a beginner, how about trying okonomi-yaki (お好み焼き) ? It's tasty and easy!



■Could you send a message to international students?

In these days, everyone feels uneasy. You can share how you feel with others. I believe that will help you reduce stress and feel better. You can tell your worries, ideas, fun memories, anything on your mind, to others. Take care!



The next runner is
a student from Korea:)

The 2nd runner

Mr. Bae, a doctoral
student from Korea

■How long have you been in Japan?

I came to Japan as a student for the Japan-Korea Joint Science and Engineering Student Exchange Program in 2009. I studied at YNU for 6 years and obtained a bachelor's and master's degree. After that I worked in Korea for 3 years, and then I started my doctoral study at YNU again from last October. In total, I have lived in Japan for 7 years.

■How are you doing these days?

I study properties of substances. I use computers and I don't need to do experiments directly, so I can continue studying as I used to do.

Because of the spread of novel coronavirus, all the conferences and other related activities were canceled. Many researchers including me have been busy working on submitting papers.

I live in Minesawa International Student Dormitory. There are few restaurants in the neighborhood and I have been avoiding going out to shopping districts such as Yokohama Station, so my meals fell into poor in variety these days...



■Is there anything you are worried about?

It is said that the novel coronavirus will cause diastrophism to our society. The modern history may be divided into "BC, Before Corona" and "AC, After Corona." I will obtain a doctoral degree next year, but it is difficult to foresee how things will turn out. I have no ideas of future employment environment, engineers working in foreign countries, etc. I feel stress with difficulty of making schedules.

■Could you recommend some websites, videos, TV programs, etc. that you enjoy at home?

I watch videos and anime on YouTube and Amazon Prime. I think YouTube, in particular, is convenient, as it covers almost all genres, and you can get a lot of information. YouTube Premium in Japan is a bit expensive, but I personally feel that Amazon Prime Student is reasonable.

■Could you send a message to international students?

I think current extraordinary situation is very hard for international students. Many can't go back to their home country, and some may get depressed to know that their airline tickets were canceled. I know many of us live apart from family and some still feel a sense of distance from Japanese people. So, why don't we talk to each other more than ever, and encourage each other as much as we can? Give a powerful cheer on Zoom or Messenger when friends are feeling down! Let's cheer up!

This column title "Let's Cheer Up!" was inspired by Mr. Bae's strong and warm message above. Thank you so much, Bae san!

If you would like to send some message here, please write to isc2020.talk@tmail.com. I believe we can support each other and all overcome the difficulty together! ('AT' → '@')



*The original text in this column was written in Japanese.