

THE EASYEIGO NEWS

Published by Easyeigo - Ryogoku

August 2007

Good Company, Good Party



The 2nd Easyeigo school party turned out to be better than the 1st. It was a full house, with 12 students and myself, but we all had an excellent night.

After most of the students had left, those of us who live in or near Ryogoku went to Karaoke. I went home at 3 o'clock, but my students stayed until 5 o'clock. Oh my God!!! I'm getting too old for this.

Easyeigo parties are for speaking English freely with me and other students, and if we have space, you can bring a friend too. Usually Japanese people are a little reluctant to practice English with other Japanese. But I've been very happy to find that is not so at Easyeigo parties.

When students drink alcohol, their English improves. But, when I drink alcohol, my English worsens. (>.<)

Somehow, my camera managed to paint beards and moustaches on this photo. Sorry about that. Maybe my computer has a virus. HAHAHAHA!

The Next Awesome Party

Because not every student can come to a party on a Friday night, we will have an extra party on:

Saturday the 29th of September

We will start around 7:30pm, so if you would like to come, please reserve a seat by writing your name on the party list.

Like all Easyeigo parties, it is free to attend, but if you can, please bring a little of your favourite alcohol and perhaps some snacks too.

See you there!

Student Essay - "In Turkey"

Etsuko Kagi

It was a sunny day in Turkey. We were on our way to a tourist attraction in the countryside. There was a recorder seller and a water seller wearing old Turkish costumes. It was a peaceful landscape.

On the right, there was a fence and there were many trees behind the fence. We were walking casually along the fence, but I couldn't see inside because of the many trees.

I found a notice on the fence which was written in Turkish, so I couldn't understand. But I thought it was a dangerous area like a power substation or something, so the notice was telling us to keep out.

On the notice there was an angry-faced illustration which meant prohibition. The illustration was very simple and plain. I was very pleased with it, so I took a photo of the illustration.

Suddenly, soldiers who were working near the fence with shovels, sprinted toward me shouting "No photo! No photo!"

I was surprised and knew it was a military facility. I was upset.

Although I apologized to them, I thought I would be forced to give them the photo-film from my camera. But they looked me over and knew that I was not a spy.

They forgave me and didn't take my film. I was ordered to move along. Perhaps they thought I would disappear from their sight at once.

At that time, I realized keenly that military countries existed in the world.

I'm Fine. And you?

When I speak to a Japanese and say "How are you?", the answer is almost guaranteed to be "I'm fine, and you?"

Among foreigners in Japan, this is a very famous story. Even if a Japanese person had blood coming out of their eyeballs, I imagine they would still probably say "I'm fine, and you?" hahahaha.

When someone asks this question, *please use a different phrase. Or tell them the truth.*

For example.

Q: How are you feeling?

A: Not so good.

or Great!

or I'm a little hungry.

or I have a headache today.

or I'm sleepy.

To use the same phrase again and again in English, is considered insincere. So, you should find new vocabulary to express common feelings.

For example, instead of saying "delicious", what other phrases or words can you use?

