

## [JALT June Meeting]

A before M: English language histories show motivation follows arousal  
by **Brenda Hayashi**, Miyagi Gakuin Women's University;

The talk is an introduction to an on-going study that examines the English-language histories of Japanese women who are currently using English in their jobs. The participants graduated from a medium-sized private university in northeastern Japan, with no participant a graduate of the English department. Their ages range from the late 20s to the early 40s. The participants agreed to be interviewed and talk about their "English language histories."

Implementation of compulsory foreign language (mainly English) lessons in elementary schools from 2020 and the introduction of specialists of certain subjects (教科担任制度) in 2022 have created an environment where young learners are purposely exposed to English at an early age. Whether this will lead to an improvement of general English ability among the Japanese population will be evaluated only when these young learners become adults.

The participants who have disclosed their English language histories share some similarities: they did not start learning English until junior high school; they were not "English junkies" obsessed with English; and their EFL histories are filled with unexpected turns of events.



Brenda Hayashi, Professor Emerita, Miyagi Gakuin Women's University, is currently teaching students in the Faculty of Education who aspire to become elementary school teachers and/or English teachers in junior high school.

ブレンダ・ハヤシ 宮城学院女子大学名誉教授。現在、小学校教諭や中学校英語科教諭を目指す教育学部の学生を指導している。

*Sunday, June 18, 2023*

*14:00-16:00*

*M215, Aidai Muse Building, Ehime University Johoku Campus*

*<<https://www.ehime-u.ac.jp/overview/access/johoku/>>*

*JALT Members: free*

*One-day members: 1000 yen*

Endorsements:

Matsuyama City; Matsuyama City Board of Education

(後援: 松山市、松山市教育委員会)

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JALT link:

[Matsuyama Chapter] <https://jalt.org/groups/chapters/matsuyama>

[Events > Calendar] <https://jalt.org/calendar-node-field-date>

Matsuyama JALT website:

<https://sites.google.com/view/matsuyamajalt/>