

Why do I study English?

私立杉並学院高等学校

〒166-0004 東京都杉並区阿佐谷南2丁目30-17

1年・新村魁・15歳・男

Niimura Kai

Private Suginami Gakuin High School

“What a wonderful feeling it is!” That is my first thought when I always start to read English novels. Maybe you would ask “How about Japanese ones?”, my reply is “English ones are way better to me”. There is a unique feeling waiting for me when I read, write, and listen to English. This is my story.

On my thirteenth birthday I got a book from my father. The title was “THE HOBBIT”. It was a big, fat and heavy fantasy book with wonderful pictures in it. I soon became a bookworm of it. I hadn’t seen such a book in Japan. The story became more and more interesting and I could not stop reading. One hour felt like it were only ten minutes. I always thought books were just a bunch of paper with some useful but uninteresting information on them. However just then I recognised that this thought was wrong. I wanted to read more books in English. So, I bought some fancy-looking books at a bookstore. As I was reading the books, I found some strange form of English like “there’s”, and “ain’t”. They are called colloquial English, improper spoken English which is used at some countries. These words made me more interested in studying English, and I wanted to find more about them. I went to the library and borrowed some other ones from the same author. Studying something new made my brain fresh. One year later at a book store I found some of the novels I read previous year translated in English. I bought them and read them again; I was really surprised when I couldn’t find any of the colloquial words. I also couldn’t feel the excitement when I read these in English. I also read some Japanese novels. They were interesting but I couldn’t find something new. Of course Japanese novels have their good points, but I couldn’t find them, and if you can’t find them, I think that subject doesn’t fit you. In this case English was the more fitting one. This is my reason for reading English novels.

I think that you can find many new things which give you a new feeling by studying English. Those new experiences are waiting for you in novels, talks, DVDs, reports, and so on. Next time I would like to listen to an English speech, and hope there will be some new types of words or some new kinds of English use. When I graduate from high school, I am planning to go abroad by myself. It must be wonderful to go to a place where only English is used to find many things which are new to me. When you understand something new, it will be nice to study it more and use it. I want to find more about English and the things which are new to my brain.

(469 words)