

## Meguro UNESCO

### Japanese Language Classes: Online and In-person



After Japanese classes closed due to the coronavirus in March 2019, they restarted online in response to the strong request by the students.

We worried whether we could teach the students online just as well as we did in-person. Due to the physical distance, we couldn't directly check in with the students across the screen to see how they were doing.

However, by utilizing image cards and sending materials prepared in advance, the online classes have been going well since 2019.

We noticed that online classes have some advantages.

Since we don't have to be in the same location, we've been able to invite students from Indonesia, Hawaii, and Tokyo all together in the same class. This has opened the opportunity for many more students. We plan to return to in-person classes from September while considering how to retain the advantages of online classes.

online class staff: Chimiko Hotta

Meguro UNESCO Japanese language in-person classes are gradually coming back. We are taking many precautions, including reducing the number of students, taking the student's body temperature before class, sanitizing, and ventilating the room.

The Midorigaoka facility staff are helping us to conduct these in-person classes.

The online classes have had advantages such as students being able to participate from outside Tokyo.

However, for beginners, in-person classes are better since the teachers can visually see how the students are understanding the class. Beginners tend to be nervous, and teachers want to make sure that all students are enjoying the class. In a face-to-face classroom, it is easy to feel the emotions and struggles the students are facing.



Although there are still restrictions, we have started our in-person classes again due to the above reasons.

We sincerely hope that the day will come when more students will be able to participate comfortably, online or in-person.

in-person class staff: Mizue Cyrus

# Meguro UNESCO

## 7<sup>th</sup> Younger Generation Festival 2021, on Meguro UNESCO YouTube Channel

Reva Watanabe



Greetings from Meguro UNESCO Younger Generation group. We would like to share news of our festival 2021. As you may know, every year, we plan, organize and host the face-to-face festival at Meguro Persimmon Hall to enjoy international cultural experiences and friendship with children, but COVID

restrictions have stopped us from doing this. Thankfully, we had been able to gather virtual younger festival on YouTube in 2021.

There were two virtual sessions, the first, “Ideas about Country flags of the world” was held by a high school student from Japan. The second, a college student from Indonesia showed “Real life about teenagers living in Indonesia” and “Benefits of overseas study” was hosted by a high-school student from Japan. Overall, it was a fully immersive experience that gave us a chance to feel heart-warming friendship through the virtual festival despite the COVID-19 Pandemic. We would like to thank you all for supporting Meguro 7<sup>th</sup> Younger Generation Festival.

Translation and English editing by staff writers and editors



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