

Reduce Plastics

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Japan has many serious problems now. For example, a declining birthrate, an aging population, climate change, food wastage, and so on. Above all, I think Japan should solve the problem of plastic garbage as soon as possible because Japan is one of the highest producers of plastic waste in the world.

Why should we reduce plastic waste? There are two main reasons. First, when plastic garbage is buried and rain falls, poisonous substances that are included in the plastics will flow out into the soil and have bad effects on crops and wild animals. Second, sea creatures eat plastics because they mistake plastics for their food, so some fish will die from eating too much of the plastics. Even if the fish don't die, they may have poisonous substances in their bodies forever. Moreover, we may ingest that poison and become unhealthy from eating those fish. To summarize, using plastics badly affects the environment. Therefore, we must reduce plastics to protect our health and other animals.

Then, what should we do to reduce plastic use? Many people say that we usually use eco-bags instead of plastic bags now, and the quantity of plastics are declining. But, out of the total amount of plastic products, plastic bags account for only 2%. Most of the plastic waste is from single-use plastic wrapping, so we must focus on that. We ought to refuse plastic wrapping when the staff are going to use redundant plastics for wrapping.

I came up with some ideas to reduce plastic waste and solve this problem. One of my ideas, a store can provide a new service to customers where the customers bring boxes themselves and the store will put the food and other items in the customers' boxes like how it used to be in Japan long ago. This service will not use plastics, so it is very kind to the environment. Also, using paper for wrapping is kinder to the environment than plastics. I think this idea is the most effective. It is difficult for us to do these things, but we can carry our own bottles, and chopsticks to help reduce waste. I will do that from now on to reduce plastics and protect the environment.

Thanks to the Super English Camp (SEC), I had the experience to think deeply about problems in Japan and tried to come up with ideas to solve the problems. In addition, I could discuss with many people and see how their opinions were different from mine, so my perspective has become wider than before. This event was a wonderful experience for me because I could try to speak English practically. So, I want to take part in the next SEC, too, and talk with other students.