

Started off the month by taking the Japanese Language Proficiency Test on Tanabata. I am a nervous test taker, so I decided to start with the lowest level and go up from there. I'm well aware I didn't get 100%, but I'm still hoping I did well enough that I can move on to the N4 in December without a problem.

The following weekend held a Japanese speech contest. I, of course, did not participate but I did go to support my friend at Shiroyama and my friends from the Japanese community class. It was a lot of fun. There were recitations, instruments, and inspirational stories. I was really cool to see everyone's interests and what they chose to present about.

Then as the semester closed, as did the time for many of Shiga's ALTs. We even had to say good-bye to one of our own Koka JETs. His farewell party was a lot of fun, and I hope to see him and his family again soon. After 5 years, this ALT has hit his max number of years for JET. Don't feel sorry for him though, he found a great, new job in Japan.

As JET is a circle that doesn't end, leaving ALTs means new ALTs are coming. So, we will get to meet the new ALTs next month, and as much as I'm sad that some of my friends are leaving, I'm excited to meet the new friends coming.

To all the ALTs leaving this year, it was a pleasure meeting you and laughing with you.

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