

KIRITAKA English Journal Vol.36

~Stay Independent, Stay as ONE TEAM~ August 30th, 2024



Kiwi Corner



Welcome back to everyone! I hope you had a brilliant holiday and could relax and eat lots of wonderful summer food! I sure did! For this month's Kiwi Corner, I'd like to write about something that fascinates me; pseudo-Anglicisms, or in Japanese:

和製英語



A typical Japanese "salary man"

Some of these you may already know, but many are words that are commonly used in day-to-day Japanese life that I'm sure many people don't realise aren't actually used in English.

One particular pseudo-Anglicism that I come across almost every day is **サラリーマン**. This word comes from the English terms "salary", meaning a wage some earns for working, and "man." However, this phrase "salary man" isn't actually used in English. We would more likely use the term "**office worker**." While this term "salary man" isn't actually used, native English speakers would probably understand what is being said.

Another example of this is the word **カンニング**, or "cunning" in English. The term "cunning" means "able to get what you want in a clever way, especially by tricking or cheating someone." However, the way it is used in Japan is to describe the action of "**cheating**": "to act in a dishonest way in order to gain an advantage, especially in an exam or competition."



Cheating on tests is strictly forbidden!

While the word "cunning" – ずる賢い has a slightly negative nuance, "cheating", on the other hand, has a very negative connotation and should be used carefully.



Would you eat breakfast together?

However, there are quite a few terms that would mystify even a native speaker of English.

One example is often seen at hotels in Japan, where in the morning there is a "Viking" breakfast, right? If you said to a native English speaker, "**Let's go to the Viking and get**

breakfast!", you might get a strange look! A "Viking" refers to a warrior from Scandinavia (mostly Norway, Denmark, and Sweden) from the 8th to the 11th centuries. Personally, I'd rather not get breakfast from a "Viking!" We would usually call this style of breakfast a "**smorgasbord**," or in the U.S. a "**buffet**."

One last phrase is "**ハイテンション**" – high tension. When this is used in Japanese, it usually means that someone is excited, right? However, if a native speaker was to say there was "a lot of tension," it means there is an awkward or bad atmosphere in a room or between some people.



"High tension" hedgehog

This month I'd like to introduce a song that is by a famous Japanese band, whose singer is fluent in English. You can listen to it here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ckQwknZwcTo> (**Liam Campbell**)

Tea Time with Choy



Hello everyone and welcome to Tea Time with Choy! I am the new and shiny ALT (assistant language teacher) here at Kirikata. I would love to tell you a little bit more about myself and where I'm from!

My name is Choy Ting Law but you guys can call me **Choy**. I'm from Barnsley in England. Barnsley is a small town in the north of England, known for its beautiful nature. It's also famous for Yorkshire tea—the best tea in the world, in my opinion!

Brits drink a lot of tea... about 100 million cups every day!

The United Kingdom (UK) is made up of 4 countries, England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

England is a place where you will find people from all around the world, embracing people from any language or ethnicity. We celebrate all different cultures and their holidays such as Eid, Hanukkah, Lunar New Year, Diwali, Ramadan, and many more!

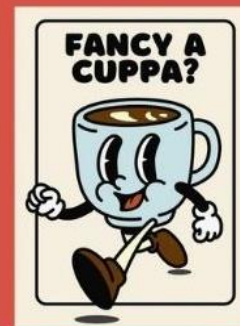
I feel very lucky to be British and have the opportunity to experience these things. This is probably why I love to travel so much! I have visited over 33 countries so far and hope to see more of the world.

Another interest of mine is also music. I love discovering new songs, going to music festivals and if you see me outside of the school, I'll most likely be bopping away with my headphones in.

So if you see me, please tell me your favourite song so that I can add it to my playlist!



Here are some fun phrases you can try to sound like you're from Yorkshire too:



Ey up! – A common Yorkshire greeting, meaning "Hello."

Reyt – Really or very.

Example: "It's reyt good, that!"

Fancy a cuppa? – "Would you like a cup of tea?"

Si'thi – See you or goodbye, as in "Right, I'm off now, si'thi."

Now that you know a little bit more about me and my country, I can't wait to learn more about yours! One of my dreams is to see the snow monkeys in Nagano, they are the ultimate chillers!

Fun fact: the lead singer, Alex Turner from Arctic Monkeys used to go to Barnsley college which is where I went too! Please have a listen here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c-wwK5QVv1Y>