



**JENESYS2025 The Philippines-Japan Japanese Language, Culture, Manufacturing,
Science and Technology Exchange (Invitation Program)**

**JENESYS2025 Singapore-Japan Japanese Language, Culture, Manufacturing,
Science and Technology Exchange (Invitation Program)**

**JENESYS2025 Thailand-Japan Japanese Language, Culture, Manufacturing, Science
and Technology Exchange (Invitation Program) Report**

1. Program Overview

【Objectives and Overview】

From November 11 to November 18, a group of 30 high school, university, and vocational school students from the Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand visited Japan with the primary aim of deepening their understanding of the Japanese language, culture, and Japan's manufacturing and science and technology sectors. Through lectures, site visits, cultural experiences, and exchange activities, the program sought to broaden their future opportunities, including studying or working in Japan, while fostering friendly networks between Japan and their respective countries.

During their stay, the group visited Tokyo and then Miyagi Prefecture, where they engaged in school exchange programs and homestays. Each participant actively shared their experiences, insights, and impressions of Japan through social media and other platforms.

【Participants】 Total: 30 participants

Breakdown:

8 from the Philippines (7 high school students and 1 chaperone)

12 from Singapore (10 high school students, 1 vocational student and 1 chaperone)

10 from Thailand (8 high school students, 1 university student and 1 chaperone)

【Locations】 Tokyo 30, Miyagi 30

【Schedule】

■ Online Pre-study Program :

Nov. 4 (Tue)

【Lecture on Japan】 “Attractiveness of Japan”

Lecturer: Mr. ODA Yuichi, Professor, General and Global Studies Division,
Institute of Global Human Resource Development, Okayama University

【Pre-departure Orientation】

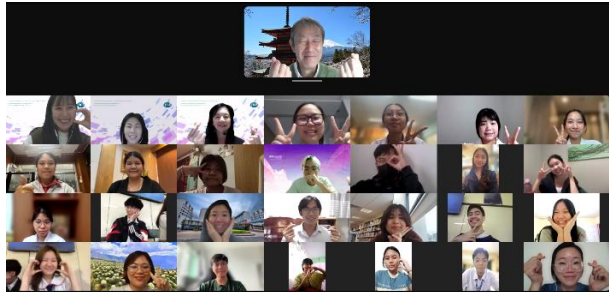
Set Period Prior to Arrival **【Task-based Learning (VOD)】** “Overview/Mission”, “Lecture on Japan”, “Virtual Home Visit”, “Allure Aichi -Industry / Cutting-edge technology-”, “Study Japanese Culture in Kyoto”, “Learning Japanese”

■ Invitation Program :

Nov. 11 (Tue)	Arrival at Narita International Airport and Haneda Airport 【Post-arrival Orientation】 【Theme Related Observation】 TEPIA (Association for Technological Excellence Promoting Innovative Advances)
Nov. 12 (Wed)	【Theme Related Lecture】 “History of Japanese TV Anime” Lecturer: Mr. OBATA Kimiharu, Academic affairs chief, amps international animation college (Pioneer Production) 【Theme Related Observation】 National Printing Bureau Tokyo Plant 【Observation】 Kyu-Furukawa Gardens
Nov. 13 (Thu)	Travel from Tokyo to Miyagi 【School Exchange】 St. Ursula Gakuin Eichi High School
Nov. 14 (Fri)	【Cultural Experience】 Meiji Village Museum of Miyagi (Tome City) 【Courtesy Call】 Mr. KUMAGAI Yasunobu, Mayor of Tome City 【Meeting with the Host Families】 【Homestay】 Tome City
Nov. 15 (Sat)	【Homestay】 Homestay and cultural experience
Nov. 16 (Sun)	【Homestay】 【Farewell Party with the Host Families】 【Workshop】 Preparations for the Reporting Session (summarizing program findings, confirming social media posts, preparation of action plans)
Nov. 17 (Mon)	Travel from Miyagi to Tokyo 【Reporting Session】 Presentations of Program Findings and Action Plans
Nov. 18 (Tue)	Departure from Narita International Airport

2. Program Photos

Online Pre-study Program

	
November 4 【Lecture on Japan】	November 4 【Pre-departure Orientation】

Invitation Program



November 11 【Post-arrival Orientation】



November 11 【Theme Related Observation】
TEPIA (Association for Technological Excellence
Promoting Innovative Advances)



November 12 【Theme Related Observation】
“History of Japanese TV Anime”



November 12 【Theme Related Observation】
National Printing Bureau Tokyo Plant



November 12 【Observation】
Kyu-Furukawa Gardens



November 13 【School Exchange】
St. Ursula Gakuin Eichi High School



November 14 【Cultural Experience】
Meiji Village Museum of Miyagi (Tome City)



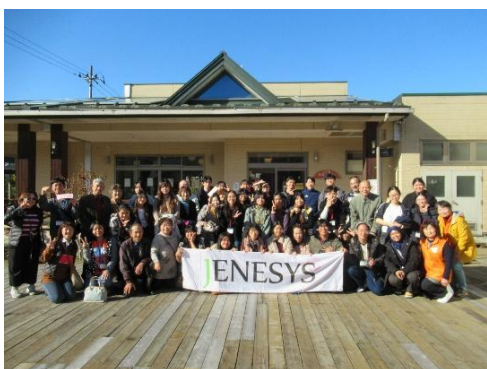
November 14 【Courtesy Call】
Mr. KUMAGAI Yasunobu, Mayor of Tome City



November 14 【Meeting with the Host Families】



November 15 【Homestay】 Tome City



November 16
【Farewell Party with the Host Families】



November 16 【Workshop】



November 17 【Reporting Session】
(Singapore and the Philippines)



November 17 【Reporting Session】 (Thailand)

3. Voices from the Participants (excerpt)。

◆ High School Student (the Philippines)

We were impressed with how nice and kind the students were, and how clean their school is. We're impressed with how creative they were with their games., because they have discipline in school and people. Their classroom is clean, the attitude of each student is good and well behaved. They taught us a lot with patience.

The beautiful and rich architecture of certain infrastructure in Tome city is truly one of a kind. We were deeply amazed with how intricate they were, and how amazing the quality of the infrastructure was. Kengo Kuma, the architect of the Tokyo Olympic Stadium, who also happened to be the architect of the Toyoma Nostalgia Museum (Toyoma Kaikokan), truly impressed me with his innovative works.

The homestay was the most impressive part of the visit. We learned so much more than we could have from a textbook or a tour, and we are grateful for the opportunity to have formed such a meaningful relationship.

◆ High School Student (Singapore)

The ability of TEPIA to think of so many real-world problems being faced nowadays and creating a whole space to share with visitors on some of the solutions they have crafted was amazing. I think the crafted designs have a lot of thought put into them such as the contactless touchscreen and could help achieve their aims of wanting to help solve these issues.

After visiting amps international animation college, I was surprised how anime had evolved over time! The videos from 1950-2010s really surprised me. It seems anime in the 1900s, had a certain style all across while anime from 2000s onwards started diversifying. I think it may be due to the technology that evolves overtime as well.

I was impressed with the school's structure in Meiji Village- how the building made entirely by wood has been able to withstand for the past century. I was also impressed by the history of Samurais - learning about their costumes, swords and historical figures.

No matter where I went, I couldn't get over how polite people were. Everywhere we went, people welcomed us with warm smiles.

◆ High School Student (Thailand)

At the National Printing Bureau, I was really impressed by Japan's banknote manufacturing technology. Compared to other countries, the level of detail is incredible, and it's amazing how much thought goes into a single bill. I loved being able to see the fine details of the notes in the gallery, and the glass that looks fogged from the side but shows the entire factory when viewed head-on was very impressive.

I appreciated the western style house. It was so beautiful and so classic when it showed up with roses, and I liked the waterfall area because it had ducks, and the maple trees were so gorgeous.

During the school exchange with St. Ursula Gakuin Eichu High School, it was great to see what Japanese students' school life is like and to actually talk and interact with them. Playing Japanese games like karuta together was a lot of fun too.

4. Voices from the Receiving Parties (excerpt)

◆ Lecturer

It was such a pleasure to see how seriously the participants were engaged during the workshop—it made my job so much easier. I will do my best to refine the parts of the workshop that really lit up their eyes.

◆ Exchange School Student

I've always dreamed of studying abroad during college, and this exchange has made me even more motivated to improve my English. I want to start gradually, first by working toward English proficiency tests like EIKEN and TOEFL, and then continuing to interact with people from other countries.

Another thing I discovered through this experience is how much fun it is to share the Japanese language with others. Once I meet the requirements, I'd love to volunteer to teach Japanese to foreigners in Japan.

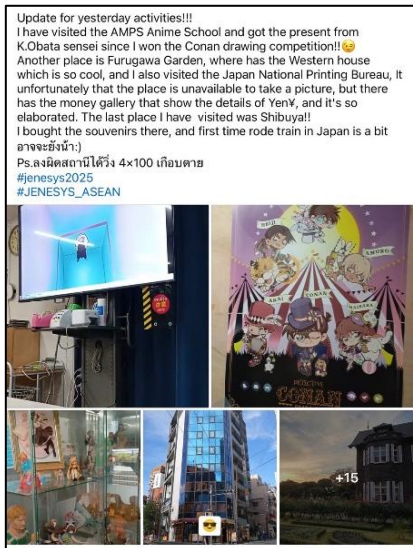
◆ Host Family

The participants were polite, genuinely curious about Japanese culture, and eager to take part in every activity. It left a wonderful impression on us.

◆ Host Family

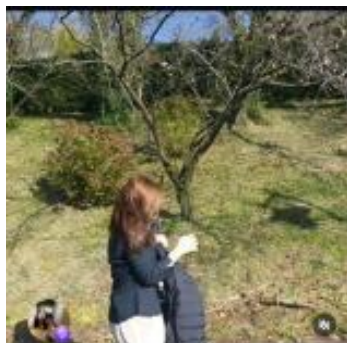
Whenever words failed, gestures bridged the gap. This experience made me realize—I really want to start working on my English.

5. Disseminations by the Participants (excerpt), Articles, etc.

 Update for yesterday activities!!! I have visited the AMPS Anime School and got the present from K.Obata sensei since I won the Conan drawing competition!! Another place is Furugawa Garden, where has the Western house which is so cool, and I also visited the Japan National Printing Bureau, it unfortunately that the place is unavailable to take a picture, but there has the money gallery that show the details of Yen¥, and it's so elaborated. The last place I have visited was Shibuya!! I bought the souvenirs there, and first time rode train in Japan is a bit อาจจะขี้เกียจ) Ps.ลงมือสแกนได้จริง 4x100 เกือบตาช #JENESYS2025 #JENESYS_ASEAN	 冷感温かく感じてくださり、本当にありがとうございます。一編に柿や菊を焼んで元ばらを作った時間は、忘れられない思い出です。新しい頃のお写真や人生のお話を聞いたことも、とても楽しかったです。お家の周りの楽しい自然にも心が癒されました。この素敵な経験に心から感謝しています。』
November 13, 2025 (Facebook) High School Student (Thailand) Here's a quick update from yesterday's activities! We visited amps international animation college, where I actually won first place in a caricature drawing contest—and even received a gift from Mr.	November 16, 2025 (Instagram) High School Student (Singapore) Thank you so much for welcoming us with such warmth. I'll never forget the time we spent together picking persimmons and chrysanthemums and turning them into delicious tempura. Listening to

OBATA. After that, we headed to the Kyu-Furukawa Gardens. The Western-style mansion there was absolutely stunning. We also stopped by the National Printing Bureau, where we explored a gallery showcasing the intricate details of Japanese currency. It was amazing to see just how precise and beautifully crafted it all is.

your stories and seeing photos from your younger days was such a joy. The beautiful nature surrounding your home was so soothing to my heart. We're truly grateful for this wonderful experience.



Sendai, Day 4!
Photo: Tome, Miyagi

After a half hour ride from Sendai in Miyagi, takes you to a place in Japan called Tome. Miyagi. Tome city is in the country side, a province. Full of beautiful scenery of nature, old roads, old infrastructure, buildings, and such.

Arriving in Tome, we had ceremonial tea (Matsuri) in a traditional old Japanese home with a very pleasing view of the autumn leaves. The vibrant red, yellow, and orange colors really gets rid of any sort of stress from you. We were given the opportunity to relax our tea, and have it with a Japanese sweet in the shape of autumn leaves (Mitsune).

We then arrived at the Toyoma Kaikokan Museum where the rich history of Tome and the Date clan was told to us. From the walls that were made out of clay, sand, and bamboo, to the roof and stepping stones that were made out of volcanic rocks, specifically from the volcanoes of the town.

The 120 year old school (from establishment) that is now a museum, was also shown to us. Followed by a hearty meal with dishes specifically from the local.

It was such a fun and insightful day where I picked up quite some knowledge. I enjoyed it so much and the previous days ahead. Now, as I am with my most lovely to this same wonderful city, all I want to do is enjoy it even more.

Thank you to Miyagi, Japan and its major which we were able to meet. Thank you to our guide earlier this day.

Sakura-san, He was very friendly and welcoming. His hospitality is on a whole "mother level" and I can't wait to see him again. Such a wonderful trip.

お世話になりました。秋の風景や歴史を勉強することができて本当に楽しかったです。そしてお会いすることができた方にも感謝いたします。また、今後のツアーやイベントにも参加させていただきます。最後は夕陽を眺めながらお別れです。またお会いできるのを楽しみにしています。本当に素晴らしい旅でした。🍁

Travelogue program
JENESYS AIGAN text
11/14/25



November 14, 2025 (Instagram)
High School Student (the Philippines)

About an hour and a half by bus from Sendai in Miyagi Prefecture, you'll find yourself in Tome City—a place where time seems to slow down. The city is surrounded by stunning natural scenery, old streets, and traditional buildings that still carry the charm of the past.

The first experience that welcomed us in Tome was a traditional tea ceremony in a Japanese-style house. Through the window, autumn leaves painted the landscape in vivid shades of red, yellow, and orange—a view that felt like a balm for the soul. We also enjoyed delicate wagashi shaped like autumn leaves and flowers.

Next, we visited the Toyoma Nostalgia Museum (Toyoma Kaikokan) where we learned about the rich history of the region and the Date clan. I was fascinated to hear that the walls were made from earth, sand, and bamboo, and that volcanic rocks from the local mountains were used for the roof and stepping stones.

November 16, 2025 (St. Ursula Gakuin Eichi High School's Instagram)

Japan's Friendship Ties Program “JENESYS”
A group of 27 students who are highly interested in Japanese culture, along with 3 attending teachers, from the Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand visited our school.

Twenty of our students who wanted to join the exchange got together multiple times and held several meetings to plan the program. They decided to create a cultural experience inspired by a Japanese festival, setting up booths for things like DIY candy kits, calligraphy, Beyblade, karuta, and kendama.

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We also toured an old school building that has stood for 138 years and now serves as a museum. After that, we were treated to a heartwarming meal of local dishes made with fresh ingredients from the area.

It was an incredibly fun and educational day—I learned so much. This day, and all the days leading up to it, have been truly wonderful. And now, as I spend time with my host family here in Tome, I just want to savor every moment even more.

I'm deeply grateful to Miyagi Prefecture and to the mayor, whom I had the honor of meeting. I also want to thank our guide for today—your kindness and warm hospitality were truly exceptional. I can't wait for the day we meet again. This journey has been nothing short of amazing.



November 12, 2025 (Royal Thai Embassy in Japan's Facebook)

On November 10, 2026, First Secretary Mr. Tanimura from the Embassy of Japan in Thailand extended his congratulations to nine high school students selected by the Thai Ministry of Education to join the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan's Friendship Ties Program "JENESYS2025 Japanese Language, Culture, Manufacturing, Science and Technology Exchange."

The program runs from November 11 to 18 in

November 12, 2025 (Facebook page of Mr. OBATA Kimiharu, Academic affairs chief at amps international animation college)

This morning, from 9:30 to around 11:30, I had the privilege of hosting an inbound event for 30 high school students from the Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand.

I was asked to give a presentation on the history of Japanese anime, and so I prepared some video clips. I knew *Voltes V* was seen as a classic in the Philippines, but I was still amazed when, the

Tokyo and Miyagi Prefecture. Activities include a visit to TEPIA, a lecture at amps international animation college, a school exchange in Miyagi, and homestays with local families. We hope that the experiences gained through this program will inspire these students to become bridges of friendship between Japan and Thailand.	moment its opening theme started playing, the Filipino students burst into cheers and began singing along—in Japanese! We also held a live demonstration on how to draw anime characters, followed by a hands-on workshop and a “Best One” contest, where the winner received a special autograph board. Judging by their smiles, I think everyone had a great time. To top it all off, I was showered with gifts from all three countries. Thank you so much for your kindness.
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6. Presentations of Program Findings and Action Plans at the Reporting Session (excerpt)

Locations: Tokyo, Miyagi – Presentation by a total of 3 groups

The Philippines	
	
【Results of the Program】 ◆ Learnings from the program We initially imagined quiet commuting scenes, advanced machinery, and infrastructure. Through the program, we learned that discipline plays a key role behind these aspects. ◆ Learnings about Japanese Culture We experienced firsthand the politeness and deep sense of consideration shown by the people. 【Action Plan】 • A 3–5 minute video will be completed by February with the aim of deepening understanding of the JENESYS Program, Japanese culture, and discipline, and how these relate to sustainable development. The video will be shared on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube. • A seminar and workshop will be announced and held in February. In the seminar, we will present our experiences in Japan, including cultural insights, historical background, and the mindset behind Japan's simple yet effective innovations. The workshop will feature cultural activities such as calligraphy, traditional Japanese games, and, if possible, a tea ceremony, in collaboration with various school clubs.	

Singapore



【Results of the Program】

◆ Learnings from the program

At TEPIA, we learned how cutting-edge technologies are being used to address various social issues. At Amps, we were surprised by the long and rich history of Japanese anime. At the Printing Bureau, we discovered various anti-counterfeiting technologies. We also realized how nature is integrated into urban areas in Japan.

◆ Learnings about Japanese Technology

Through site visits, we gained insights into technologies used to tackle social challenges and support essential infrastructure in society.

【Action Plan】

We will write an article about our learnings and experiences for the *Temasek LEADership Program Newsletter* to raise awareness about the program. Additionally, we plan to share the content on social media platforms such as Instagram and Outlook to reach a wider youth audience.

We will also promote the program during Temasek Polytechnic's Open House, which will be held from January 8 to 10, 2026.

Thailand



【Results of the Program】

◆ Learnings from the program

While walking through Japanese towns, we were able to see beautiful streets and stunning natural scenery. During school exchanges, we compared what we saw with what we had imagined from anime and movies. The schools were indeed clean and well-organized, and the overall atmosphere matched our expectations. However, we also discovered that students do not eat lunch on the rooftop as often depicted in media, which allowed us to see the real image of Japanese school life.

◆ Learning About Japanese Language, Culture, Manufacturing, and Science & Technology

Regarding the Japanese language and culture, we had many opportunities to use Japanese during communication with our host families during the homestay, which was a great learning experience.

At first, we thought miso soup would only occasionally appear at meals, but in reality, we learned that almost every household serves miso soup at every meal and eats plenty of vegetables. This gave us insight into the everyday life of Japanese families.

Furthermore, during the visit to AMPS International Animation Academy, we learned about the animation production process, which left a deep impression. At Meiji Village in Miyagi, we were able to learn various things such as the residences and lifestyles of samurai and the appearance of old Japanese elementary schools.

As for manufacturing, during the visit to a Japanese banknote printing factory, we learned that each country's banknotes have unique characteristics and that the printing process for Japanese banknotes is extremely precise.

Regarding science and technology, at TEPIA Advanced Technology Gallery, we learned about innovative technologies such as new materials created from waste and advanced robots—things we had never seen or heard of before.

【Action Plan】

Under the theme of culture, all participants of this program will share the knowledge and experiences they have gained with students who are studying Japanese or interested in joining the program, both in person and online.

For in-person activities, we will give presentations at each school and create infographics about the program.

For online activities, we will post photos and infographics through various social media channels.

In addition, we will provide advice on how to participate in the program, from the application and interview process to preparing for travel to Japan. These activities are scheduled to take place mainly in January and February.

Implementation Agency: Japan International Cooperation Center (JICE)