



U. K.

Yui Kajita (Faculty of Letters)

Like most other countries in the world, there is no simultaneous recruiting of new graduates in the U.K. Even though some stages of the job hunting process are comparable to the Japanese 'shu-katsu', its major characteristic – that it is a mass movement, in which the majority of students begin trying to receive promises of employment in the same period, over a year before they graduate – is not felt as much in the U.K. Job hunting in the U.K. has a less rigid structure for several reasons, including these – because (1) the number of years one spends in university varies according to the degree; (2) both the rise in university tuition fees throughout the country starting 2012 (which has resulted in a significant drop in the number of university applicants) and the high rate of unemployment especially of youths under 25, even for graduates of higher education, have lead more students to consider options besides moving up to university, carefully analysing whether or not their degree (and what's more, going into debt for

their degree) will actually be 'worth it' when it comes to finding a job; and (3) job searching methods are often diverse.

There are many ways to go about looking for jobs. For graduates and non-graduates alike, there are careers fairs, where job seekers can obtain information about industries and companies, expand their network, and hone their interviewing skills. There are many websites specifically for seeking jobs in the UK and abroad, such as the government's 'Job Search.' In addition, one can find many articles and videos online, such as those on the BBC website, that gives constructive advice on how to land that elusive job: tips on writing an honest but effective Curriculum Vitae, dressing well to give a good first impression to prospective employers, and – perhaps most importantly – shining in interviews. Job hunters are encouraged to try various tactics according to the type of industry they are seeking to enter. (For instance, applying for work in the public sector means more standard procedures one must follow, whereas going for a placement in the media industry calls for much more networking and grabbing

opportunities.) It seems that much of job hunting is done on an individual level.

For university graduates, there is usually a careers service in each university that offers numerous kinds of information and support. Sometimes a talk or dinner with a professional is arranged in the university, providing students with the opportunity to build connections or acquire first-hand information about a certain career. According to their career interests, many students apply for internships – either paid or unpaid – or participate in volunteering programmes during vacations as early on as in their first year, or even after graduation before getting an actual job. There are also graduate schemes, which are usually run by large organisations in both the private and public sector, hiring many graduates in the autumn of their graduating year as full-time permanent workers, in which the first eighteen months to two years of their employment is a structured training programme. Especially in the last decade, many graduates have found it increasingly difficult to acquire full-time jobs that are suitable for their abilities, and oftentimes, the job searching they begin after graduation turns out to be a long struggle.

For those who turn away from university, there are alternative options such as entering into government- or

corporate-run school-leavers' job training programmes, doing a paid internship or apprenticeship at a company, establishing one's own business, et cetera. The idea of choosing a different path from university seems to be spreading and having a greater appeal in more recent years, since more education does not necessarily mean a better position, or even a better chance at acquiring a job.

Both for graduates and non-graduates, job-hunting in the UK is as daunting a prospect as it is in Japan, especially with the country's economic recession. It is hoped that the (supposedly temporary) boost from the London Olympics in the summer of 2012 will turn the UK's economy in a better direction.

In A Word

就活の必須アイテム

「履歴書」。

イギリス英語とアメリカ英語では呼び方が違うのはご存知ですか？

国	用語	語源の意味
英	curriculum vitae (CV)	course of life = 人生の過程
米	résumé	要約、概要

イギリスの curriculum vitae はラテン語。アメリカの résumé はフランス語が起源です。使っている単語によって両国における履歴書の位置付けや捉え方が見えて来る様ですね。



SPAIN

A special essay by Alvaro Martinez (B.A. in Economics)

How the Economic Crisis Affects the Spanish People

In 2008, the economic situation in Spain was knocked by the markets. It was a punishment caused by the really bad use of the investments in Spain.

Until 2007, Spain was living in a dream, which was only an economic illusion. Many people spent a lot of money on new houses, expensive cars, and luxury goods that they did not need. Banks gave people huge amounts of money, and most of those people spent all the money without any worries about how to return the money to the banks.

However, the main problem was that the Spanish economy was based in the construction sector, which would have been good if it was a country about to develop, but not for a developed country such as Spain. Accordingly, many companies started to invest a lot of money in buildings, states, et cetera with money that they borrowed from the banks. Despite the situation becoming worse than before, they continued with the same idea; and that is why everything fails. There were more houses than people who were looking to buy a new house, which means supply excess. Obviously, if there is a supply excess in housing, prices fall down; and like a "domino's effect", the companies have less income, which results in many workers being fired, as well as many companies closing down.

In this way, the situation was depressing; many workers from the main Spanish sector were fired. The companies that had been borrowing money from the banks started to fail with the payments, and the banks decided not to lend the money to customers as easily as they had been accustomed to do. Higher interest rates, unemployment, closing companies... Spanish economy was living one of the worst situations of its history. The people, who were afraid to

spend money, decided to decrease their consumption – as a result, other sectors of the economy started to get worse.

Another problem for the Spanish economy was the state's corruption. There are too many politicians in Spain. The last government tried to hide what was happening in the country, which had really bad consequences on the nation.

After all that had passed, the new Spanish government decided to invest less money in essentials like education or researching instead of using tax policies. Protests to this are more and more frequent in Spain, and many people show their opinions on the streets. The last measure, which was to increase the V.A.T. (value added tax), was controversial and many protests against it have been rising. These protests are supported by many people, the majority of which are young people who are suffering from the crisis more than anybody else.

What is happening with the young people? Are they affected the most by the crisis?

The government has reduced the investment in education. However, the young people are worried about their futures.

There are no jobs for them, but the problem is that most of them have a bachelor's or master's degree, or have done high qualification studies. The bad situation in Spain encouraged them to leave the country. It's a shame, for it is likely that most of them are leaving their families, friends, and life, just looking for a new opportunity far from home.

That was what happened to me. My name is Alvaro, and I'm a 27-year-old Spanish guy. I had been working in Spain in a business school for the last 2 years. I had a good job, but it was not the one I desired – which was one of the reasons that pushed me to come to Ireland. I knew the situation in Ireland was not the best for somebody who wanted to start a new life, but at least, I could improve my language skills learning English.

thought about the advantages and disadvantages; once I realised that there were more pros than cons, I moved to Cork. However, I was leaving my family, my friends, and home.

I had two challenges: one of them was to pass the FCE exam for Cambridge, which improves my CV and could be helpful to find a job. The second was to find a job. Obviously, both challenges were not easy, but everything was in my hands. If I wanted to pass the exam, I had to study hard. If I wanted to find a job, I had to apply as much as I can and wait for a chance to arrange an interview.

I surpassed my first challenge on July, passing the FCE exam. That was great, and I was really happy with this achievement. It was not easy to pass the exam because it consisted of different exams, such as speaking, listening, writing and reading.

Once I knew about my achievement, I started looking for a job. At the beginning I applied for IT Companies, which were the most common in Cork. A month later, I received a call from EMC². Surprisingly, they were looking for a person to work in the financial department, which was suitable for me. Suddenly, the same day I arranged the interview with EMC², a friend of mine

called me and told me about a job position at Deutsche Bank as an analyst. I was really interested in this position and the only problem was that I have to move to Dublin. I had the interview on Friday, which was more complicated than I had expected. I did two ability tests, such as comprehension and maths. After the tests, an interview was waiting for me.

It was a long day, which started at 7 in the morning when I woke up to take the bus from Cork to Dublin, and finished at 8 pm when I came back. However, sometimes it happens that you have to fight for your dreams. It does not matter how hard one day is, or how long it takes to find a job. Next Monday morning, I received a call from Deutsche Bank. I got the job, and I will start work on the 20th of August. I was over the moon – an expression that English people use to mean that they are really happy. I found what I had been looking for for a long time: happiness. Of course, it was not because of the job – I was happy because I overcame my challenges.

I would like to finish by telling you something that could be interesting for you:

"Life is a challenge, you have the choice, take it or leave it".

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ALINCO

NEW NHK DRAMA: DID YOU KNOW!?

Agathe Okumura (Univ. of Hamburg), Daniela Lemmermann (ibid.), En-Tzu Yang (Tamkang University), Yasuyuki Nakae (Faculty of Economics)

Begins: January 2013, 50 episodes / Executive Producer: Naito Shinsuke
Directed by: Kato Taku, Ichiki Tadashi, Suenaga Hajime, and others

Starring: Yae - Ayase Haruka / Jo - Odagiri Jo / Brother (Yamamoto Kakuma) - Nishijima Hidetoshi

Story: This new exciting drama shows how Yae fights for Aizu in the war. It tells the story of a strong, slightly manly woman, who is not to be compared to other women of her time. Details can be read below.

Historical background

After having studied in the United States of America, Neesima came back to Japan in 1874, thoroughly influenced by the Christian teachings that he came to know while studying abroad. So he came back with the desire to build a University based on Christian values. He thought about building this University, while working as a teacher himself.

However, at this time founding a christian University wasn't that easy. Neesima did ask for permission to build one in Osaka and Hyogo Prefecture for example but his request was resolutely turned down by the local governments.

Finally he met a man called Yamamoto Kakuma in Kyoto who was advisor to the chancellor at this time and who owned a big piece of land. This big piece of land is where the Imadegawa-campus is today. With the help and advice of Yamamoto Neesima finally got the permission to build a christian university in Kyoto.

Working very close together with Yamamoto, Neesima also happened to meet Yamamoto's sister, Yae, with whom he got along very well with. Before long he married Yae, and they stayed together until his death in 1890.

Compared to other women of her time Yamamoto Yae was a very forward thinking woman. She was a very strong-minded person with an extremely free and modern way of thinking. But not only her thinking was special, even her clothes were very individual. Yae actually participated actively in the Boshin-war, fighting to protect the place she loved, wearing clothes which usually only men were allowed to wear. Even after the war ended she still continued to practice shooting, wearing a kimono now, but still wearing boots.

Because Neesima was different from other men of that time he and Yae got along very well and he was able to accept her way of thinking and behaving, something not many people would have been able to do.



Manga



If there are some people who would like to find out more about Neesima, about how he founded our University, or how he met his wife Yae, we recommend *The Manga Story of Jo Nijima* (Japanese version available). *The Manga Story of Jo Nijima* consists of 2 books, which are produced by Doshisha University and sold for 952¥ (VAT not included).

We would also like to present one part of this book that impressed us. (*See right.*)

After having read the pages above there might be some that have become interested in the grave of Neesima. So we actually went there to have a look at it.



Visiting the grave of Neesima

Do you know where the grave of Joseph Hardy Neesima (Nijima Jō) is?

You can reach it if you walk around 4 kilometers to the east starting at Doshisha University. It is located between Ginkakuji and Nanzenji.

If you walk the Philosopher's walk nearly until the end there is a sign spelled "Doshisha Communal Burial Ground; Yae and Joseph Hardy Neesima Gravesite" which is leading in the right direction.



After you have reached this very sign you will have to follow a steep mountain path for 20 minutes to get to the burial ground. The entrance to this mountain path is behind an old, small gate, where there is also a sign that really surprised us. What is written on it is: "Beware of the boars."

Furthermore, we thought we cannot enter at first because the gate looked as if it were closed, but because the gate was also mentioned on the sign (it said to close it again after entering), we decided to give it a try and entered.

After a while of climbing the steep slope, which was exhausting, a lot of decrepit gravestones came into our view. Obviously, we thought one of these had to be the grave of Neesima at first. However, because none of the visible graves appeared to be well looked after and there was no sign either, we came to the conclusion that we would have to climb on even further. As we did so, slowly the path we walked became a proper way. Following this way, which was illuminated by the shining evening sky, we finally reached the top where there was a surprisingly wide graveyard.

Wondering where Neesima's grave might be, we realized that there were a lot of stones with crucifixes carved on them.

Suddenly very pretty, bright red *momiji* came into the view. At this beautiful place there was also a handsome gate, which led to Neesima's impressive tomb.



The tombs of Yae Neesima (1845-1932) and Joseph Hardy Neesima (1843-1890)

Peacefully resting beside him were his wife Yae and their children - nearby, Yae's brother and Neesima's close friend, Yamamoto Kakuma.

With the enigmatic feeling of having met someone who lived more than a hundred years ago, we could sense the greatness of Neesima once more.

What do you think now, about eventually going to visit this splendid place yourself?

How to Have a Merry German Christmas

Colette Miyoko Kronenberg
Katharina Kuhring

Even though Christmas season has just ended, we would like to introduce to you the German way of celebrating Christmas. While many American and European customs have already reached the Far East and took hold here, there are still a few you might hear for the first time.

Advent customs

The Advent season starts on the first Sunday after 26th November and ends 25th December. For Christians this time is viewed as preparation time for Jesus Christ's arrival ("Adventus" is Latin for "arrival"). Based on this belief, there are several customs that European countries usually do. One of them is the Advent wreath: This wreath is made of 10 to 15 cm long dark green fir branches that are fixed around a disc. It is topped off with four candles – usually red or white – that are to be lit one after another on every Advent Sunday so that all four candles will finally burn on Christmas Eve. You can also embellish the wreath with festive or wintry decorations such as stars, cinnamon sticks, or small fir cones.



An important part of Christmas – especially for the children – is the Advent calendar. From December 1st until Christmas Eve, one door of the calendar is opened every day. Behind each door, the children can find a piece of chocolate. Some parents like to make Advent calendars themselves, instead of buying one from a supermarket: therefore, they use 24 little bags or boxes filled with candy or little toys. This custom is not only reserved for kids: for those of you who are creative, it might be a nice idea for a pre-Christmas present for your girlfriend or boyfriend. ;)

My Christmas Eve Although Christmas is originally a Christian holiday to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, for many people today this Christian thought has taken a back seat. Unlike in Japan where people usually spend this day with their girlfriend or boyfriend, Christmas Eve in Germany is traditionally celebrated at home with the family. Nevertheless, the way it is celebrated differs from family to family – beginning with the size of the Christmas tree, the Christmas decorations, the obligatory church-going, and ending with the traditional Christmas Eve dinner. Below, we would like to introduce to you two families and their typical Christmas Eves.

Colette Miyoko Kronenberg (Tübingen University)

Unlike for most Germans, who for the most part go to Church on Christmas Eve, for my family Christmas is not a Christian Holiday. Since my elder brothers do not live at home any more, and they come back home only twice or thrice a year, we regard the Christmas holidays as an opportunity to get the whole family together and have a nice time.

Since I was a kid, the 24th of December has always been the same; in the morning, the Christmas tree is brought upstairs from the basement and is placed in the middle of our living room. Usually my mother and I are responsible for the decoration of the tree, but we often force one of my brothers to help a little bit. In the afternoon, my parents prepare the dinner, and everyone uses the time until the gift giving to wrap the Christmas presents or to make fancy hand-made gift coupons. Around 5 pm when it becomes dark outside, my brothers and I – the kids – have to stay upstairs while our parents prepare the gift giving. Next to the Christmas tree, there is a big table where they place the presents and for everyone a bowl full of hand-made Christmas cookies, chocolates, peanuts, mandarins and other candies. The fairy lights are turned on, and the candles of the Advent wreath and of the Christmas tree are lit up. Once everything is done, they ring the bell, which is usually used to show that dinner is ready, and we are finally allowed to come downstairs! Fully loaded with presents ourselves, we are still very excited every single year as we go down the stairs. When we were younger, we had to perform a Christmas song before we could open the presents: a real challenge for my brother, who has never learned any instrument and used to practice the easiest song he knew on the harmonica a few hours before the actual performance! My other brother plays guitar and I can play the piano, so for us it was not as much of a problem. But in the meantime, because of continuing resistance on our part this tradition has been successfully abolished.

Before the unpacking of the presents begins, we always try to take the perfect Christmas family photo first, as you can see on the right. Of course, our tomcat Luzi must not be missing! The actual gift giving is always very fun. In our family, every member does not only get one present from each person but one or more. Often we get together in groups; for example, my brothers and I find a present together for my father or my mother. Therefore, in the end there are always mountains of wrapping-paper under the gift table! Our "traditional" Christmas meal, which is in fact very untypical for a German Christmas, is a Swiss dish called raclette; you put cheese and vegetables such as corn, sliced onion, mushrooms and bell pepper, or bacon and wiener, on little pans, and you heat them with a special electric table-top grill. After the cheese is melted, you scrape it off and eat it with some baguette or cooked potatoes. There are various ways to eat raclette, so you can just add whatever you like. After the dinner we usually watch a movie together while eating Christmas cookies and enjoying our presents. Later in the evening, we usually get calls from relatives, or we call them ourselves to wish them a merry Christmas and to thank them for their presents.

Unfortunately, this year I couldn't celebrate Christmas at home with my family, but thanks to my lovely host family and new friends, this year's Christmas was different but just as nice as usual. (^_^)/

Katharina Kuhring (Tübingen University)

Although I am not very fond of cold wintertime, Christmas has always been my favorite holiday since I can remember.

My typical Christmas Eve usually starts with a wake-up call from my mom to tell me what still has to be done before lunch. So I spend my morning by giving our house the final Christmas touch and preparing food for lunch and dinner while constantly listening to Christmas music. When all preparations are done, it is time to call relatives and friends to wish them a merry Christmas and thank them for their Christmas cards and presents. Of course we aren't allowed to open the presents until the "Christkind" hopefully brings the presents we've wished for.

During Advent's time, everyone, especially my grandma, is very busy with baking tons of Christmas cookies. Unfortunately it is always a big challenge to save some of these delicious treats until Christmas Eve. Whenever my mom does not tell us kids to eat "normal" food, we would end up having a diet of different flavored Christmas cookies. They are just too good to eat them only during Christmas!

My family normally spends most of the time in the living room; and this is where the Christmas tree glitters and sparkles in all its splendor. The "evolution" from normal tree to Christmas tree is carried out by us children before 24th December. It always calms my mind and gives me the pleasant thrill of Christmas Eve anticipation. A decorated Christmas tree is not only nice to look at, but also fun to mess with – at least that is what our pets seem to think. If it isn't the cat that tries to eat the shiny tinsel, then it is the dog that may bring down a Christmas ball with one swift whip of its tail. Once or twice, my dog, a hybrid of a German shepherd and a Bernese mountain dog, even managed to knock over the whole tree! Luckily my dog did not get hurt and only a few Christmas balls broke. During the more quiet moments, I often snack on Christmas cookies, chocolates or healthier food like walnuts or mandarins until my family goes to church. The service usually starts around 6pm and takes forty-five minutes. After listening to the story of Jesus Christ's birth and singing along to religious Christmas songs, the worshippers part with merry blessings. Because of my eight-year-old brother, my mom would take a few minutes longer to wish everyone "Fröhliche Weihnachten," so that my other brother and I can sneak back to our home and place the Christmas presents under the tree. Then, when my youngest brother finally enters the house, we would rush over to him and announce that the "Christkind" must have come because there are presents under the tree now. With a happy scream and smiling face he storms to the tree, ready to open them. However, he has to be patient until dinner is over – which always is kind of a hassle for him. Who needs to eat when there are presents waiting to be unwrapped, right? Dinner is traditional potato salad with Vienna sausages and a cup of hot glühwein or tea. After that the best part of Christmas has finally come: Christmas presents! Everyone is looking for his or her name that is written on the gifts and starts guessing what the wrapped something could be. This typically does not take too long, and in a few seconds everywhere around the Christmas tree there are scraps of wrapping paper. After thanking the present giver (the "Christkind") for their generosity, my family spends the rest of the evening with playing the new board game or reading the long-wanted book while enjoying festive music and the family evening at home.

Christmas Market

From the end of November until 25th of December, it's Christmas market season! During this time little wooden huts and booths with very Christmassy decoration are set up at the marketplaces throughout Germany. In the evening people like to meet there with their friends, strolling between the cute little huts while searching for Christmas presents or drinking a cup of hot wine. Typical foods you can eat at a Christmas market are for example "Schupfnudeln" (finger-shaped potato dumplings) with sauerkraut, "Germknödel" (yeast dumplings with plum filling and vanilla sauce and "Kartoffelpuffer" (potato pancakes) with applesauce. There are also sweet snacks like roasted almonds and of course gingerbread. In some cities you can find different kinds of Christmas markets like for example the medieval Christmas Market in Esslingen. The oldest Christmas market in Germany is the "Striezelmarkt" in Dresden, which is held every year since 1434. Other very famous ones are those in Cologne, Nuremberg and Stuttgart with up to 5 million visitors every year.



For those who would like to experience a real German Christmas Market, it's not necessary to travel all the way to Europe: Thanks to several German societies every year from the mid of November until Christmas, in Osaka, Tokyo and Sapporo it's possible to taste original Christmas Market food like mentioned above.

Glühwein / Hot Wine (or Mulled Wine)

Thinking of Christmas, every German will definitely think of drinking a delicious cup of hot wine. Being an essential part of the Christmas Season hot wine is not only enjoyed at the Christmas Markets but also hand-made at home. Even though it's difficult to get the so-called "Glühfix" – an instant mixture you just have to add to heated red wine – round here, you can try this very easy recipe to make your own hot wine:

Ingredients

1 litre of red wine
3 cloves
½ cinnamon stick
1 Star anise
2 lemon slices
50 g white rock candy



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Preparation

Fill the spices - cloves, cinnamon and star anise - in an empty tea bag. Heat the red wine together with the lemon slices and the teabag in a pot - but don't boil it! When the wine is heated, add the rock candy and wait until it's dissolved/melted.

Pour your self-made hot wine in cups and enjoy! ;)

