

Closing Address at the Party for Students from Overseas

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M. Shibata

Good evening, everyone.

I'm a vice president in charge of education and student affairs at this university.

My name is Masayoshi Shibata.

First of all, let me talk about the relation between my ability of speaking English and parties of this kind.

In general, when I don't drink I can speak only poor English.

And when I drink a little I can speak smooth English, but I'm drunk now, so I can speak perfect English!

OK now, let's turn to a more serious topic, but a short one.

Tonight we had a very exciting and pleasant party.

And I hope you've got many precious experiences in your classes.

Education enhances your value in the life.

About seven years ago, JAL, Japan Air Line fired a pilot of a jumbo jet aircraft, Boeing 747, due to his illegal action to a co-worker, a charming lady. He had put a small device in the lady's phone to listen in on her private conversations.

At that time JAL had heavy financial troubles, so even the president got only ten million yen as his annual income. But the pilot's salary at that year was twenty million yen, a double compared to the president's. Of course we can condemn his action as totally stupid.

But why was his salary so high even in such a crisis of that company?

The answer is Education.

Education tremendously added value to him

As a matter of fact, it costs a hundred and sixty million yen, that is 1億6千万円 in Japanese, to bring up a pilot of Jumbo jet. So the society as well as the company also suffered a great loss by his dismissal.

I'm not sure whether this short story encourages your study or not.

Anyway this is the end of my closing address.

Thank you.