

# The 1<sup>st</sup> Kanegasaki English Dojo!

This month my topic is the English Dojo that was held on January 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>. The goal of the English Dojo was to give the Junior High 3<sup>rd</sup> year students an opportunity to study and improve their English with the help of their teachers for their upcoming exams.

This year we had 27 students, 10 student volunteers from Kanegasaki High school and 10 foreign teachers from various counties.



About the English dojo:

This year's English Dojo was a two day event held at the Ikigai Koryu Center near Tanpopo Hoikuen.

The first day of the event was for students to practice the skills they will need for their upcoming tests. The kids were able to understand where their strengths and weaknesses were.

The second day of the event was split into two parts. The first part was continued practiced of the skills they worked on the previous day. The second part was our "Black belt" test. The "Black belt" test was a challenge that required students to use the skills they had been practicing for last day and a half.

## 1<sup>st</sup> day

Opening  
Skill building 1  
Lunch  
Practice time 2  
Free Talk time  
Practice time 3

## 2<sup>nd</sup> day

Opening  
Practice time  
Lunch  
Challenge time  
Closing

In language study there are 4 main skill categories, within those categories many sub-skills exist. When planning the activities of the English Dojo, care was taken to ensure all the skills that our students needed for their exams were practiced. We had a total of 9 activities and one final challenge before the students could receive their “black belt”.



### Reading

- Reading aloud
- Reading quiz
- Unscramble the dialouge

### Writing

- Arrange the words
- 5 in 5



### Listening

- Listen and choose
- Filling in the Blanks

### Speaking

- Please Explain
- Topic talking



### Final Challenge



Once the students had completed the task at each station, the “master” would write a short message on their belt. At the end of the day the belt should be covered with messages from all 10 masters. This year all of the students were able to complete the “10 Challenges” within the time limit. It was a great success.

