

Inheritance of Classical Literature

1. Introduction 1

These days, we sometimes hear the question, “do we still need classical literature?” in Japanese educational circles. The argument became heated after classical literature classes were decreased by law. This research paper will elucidate upon the importance of studying classical Japanese literature.

2. Introduction 2

The purpose of this research is to find better ways to pass on classical literature to the next generation, so I research three points of view. First, I find the significance of classical literature teaching in schools from previous research. Second, I will collect materials and consider the effects and problems of various methods that are used today as a gateway to contact with the original text of classical literature. In particular, I would like to examine how interest in the original work has increased due to multifaceted approaches such as animation, manga, and drama, using information such as the number of searches on the Internet and book sales at bookstores. Finally, I researched foreign classical education and considered whether there is a method that can be used in Japan.

First, some studies say that current Japanese are based on classics. When children study classics, they can learn about points that are emphasised in current Japanese language education. In addition, in order to learn more effectively, create

an opportunity for each student to think about the significance of learning before the start of class.

Second, the term of this research is "The 13 Lords of the Shogun", which was released on January 9, 2022 in Japan. The TV drama based on "Azumakagami", which is a Japanese classical literature. According to Wikipedia, the number of Internet searches increased more than six times before publication. In addition, publications that include "Azumakagami" as a reference material are ranked in sales rankings at multiple bookstores. These two facts show that TV dramas make people's interest in the original. However, at this stage, there is no data showing an increase in sales of directly related materials such as the modern language translation of "Azuma Kagami" itself. In conclusion, it has enough functions as a clue to get interested in the original, but it is considered that ingenuity is still necessary to connect to reading the original.

Finally, in England, there is a tradition of incorporating drama based on the classics as part of the school curriculum. This activity is considered to be an effective means of learning the classics and a feasible means in Japan. The reason for this is that using the five senses makes it easier to remember, and it is possible to expect the effect of being able to feel familiar even if it was written a long time ago as one's own experience. In addition, many junior and senior high schools have opportunities for presentations such as cultural festivals, and if it is part of extracurricular activities separate from class time, it is thought that allocation can be carried out according to the teaching guidelines. For these reasons the use of theatre is thought to be an initiative that should be adopted in Japan as well.

In conclusion, the significance of studying the classics is that language skills are cultivated in the process of translating ancient texts into modern language. On top of that, as for how to pass it on in the future, in addition to lowering the threshold through mediatization, it is also considered a useful idea to devise ways to deal with it at school. For example, before the class begins, we will create an opportunity to discuss what the purpose of learning is and what significance it has to raise awareness, as well as use theatrical performances to depict emotions and eras and eras in which the stage was set. As a future issue, there is a possibility that the burden on instructors will increase significantly if activities are outside of class. Another issue is the lack of data on media, the second factor to be considered. This time, I researched about dramas, but since manga and games have a big influence, I would like to collect materials based on that point as well.

Through this research, my reasons for studying the classics solidified and my motivation increased. Just thinking about the significance of learning can change the interest and seriousness of learning, so I would like students who are just starting to learn to find an opportunity to think about why they are learning. I would like to continue reading classical literature, and participate in activities such as volunteer activities at the library to convey what kind of classical stories .

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