

**People should participate in elections.**

Good morning, everyone, I'm Rea kakazu a second year in the English department of Okinawa Christian Junior College. It's Nice to see you all here.

Do you have things you like to do?

I love being active and watching YouTube.

The reason we can do things we like freely is because we have that right, under the law.

To protect this right, we need to choose politicians who will protect our rights for us. Did you know that two years ago here in Japan the voting age was lowered to 18?

Elections are the only way we can have a say in how our country is run.

I'm going to talk about elections.

I went to Taiwan last year for a training program. Living in a different environment made me realize the good things about Japan. For example, the area is relatively safe, the public restrooms are clean, and the people are polite and hospitable.

Japan is a beautiful and wonderful country. However, I believe that it can become even better.

For that to happen, I think that it is necessary for young people to have power.

How can we get power?

I think the first step is to make university tuition fees free. By scrapping tuition fees, we would give many students the opportunity to enter higher education. I believe that if those who were previously unable to receive higher education could get it, they would be able to make a big contribution to society.

In fact, countries such as Sweden, Germany, and Norway offer free tuition and provide many subsidies to students.

As a result, many young people can fulfill their dreams of going to university or learning what they want to learn.

But the situation is different here in Japan. What I mean is that low- income families cannot afford higher education.

That is why I think it is necessary to make tuition fees free.

However, it is only politicians who can make tuition fees free.

But we are the ones who can decide who those politicians are.

That's what an election is for – deciding who represents us. I

think we need to pay more attention to our country and politics.

We young people can play an important role in shaping the future. By participating in elections, we can deliver our voices to politicians. It is they who decide important policies which directly impact our lives, such as tuition-free education. The candidates we choose may support equal educational opportunities and ways to reduce our financial burden.

Voting is a crucial means of reflecting our opinions. The voices of young people are often overlooked, but by voting, we can make ourselves heard and take a step towards building a better future. Let's participate in elections to choose

politicians and policies that will work for us. Our votes have the power to change the future.

With that thought I would like to conclude my talk.

Thank you so much for your kind attention.