

Multilingual activities at universities:
On the effects obtained through the instruction of multiple languages

HIRAYAMA Kinue, MURATA Mikio

In Japan, there is a hesitation to use English amongst certain parts of the population. This hesitation is caused by the fear of making mistakes while speaking in public, and it tends to create further tension when speaking in English. In order to overcome these feelings of inadequacy, we conducted "multilingual activities" in university classes with the goal of learning multiple languages simultaneously. These multilingual activities do not follow the traditional learning methods that are based on the grasp of grammar, reading comprehension, and writing, but rather a listening method that focuses on listening and speaking. Participation is spontaneous rather than passive, with a focus on playing and group conversation.

This paper covers the results of these activities.