

## KGC Newsletter

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## Japanese Lunch at KGC & interview with Lexie Atherton

By EPP 6 Students



**T**o congratulate and honor level six students Mei and Jing, who passed the BCIT entrance exam last month, we had a Japanese lunch on Friday, June 25th, in KGC's lunch room.

First, our managing director Harvey Leong started the party by congratulating Mei and Jing on their hard work and success, and introducing Lexie Atherton, who manages the International Student Center in BCIT. Then, the celebration started. All the students in KGC were present on that special occasion.

Mei and Jing were presented diplomas and some gifts, and then they spoke to the audience. They told everyone about their nice experience at KGC, their future plans, and they wished the best of

luck to other KGC students. This was a good opportunity for everyone to get together and exchange the experience about studying and ways of being successful.

When this ceremony was finished, we had Japanese food for lunch. Everybody was enjoying themselves, chatting, and having fun.



Photo by Stanley

We took this opportunity to interview Lexie Atherton, and this is what she told us:

**Q:** What is the most popular major at BCIT?

**A:** There are several popular majors and they are Accounting, Marketing, International Trade and Transportation, Operations Management, Integrated Management Systems, Professional Sales, Tourism, and others.

**Q:** Can students find a job easily after graduating from BCIT?

**A:** It's always challenging to get a job, but, if you have a BCIT diploma, it helps your chances a lot. When students graduate from BCIT, about 80% of them get jobs.

**Q:** Can BCIT graduates get a good position in a company?

**A:** The position will be better than the entry level. When you have a diploma from BCIT, you will not be at the bottom of a company.

**Q:** Do companies focus on experience or

education?

**A:** Experience is important. Because BCIT programs are so intense, and you have a lot of projects to do, when you finish, you have a lot of skills and some experience. In this way, when you start a job, you know how to do things. You just have to learn how that company does things, because every company has its own systems.

**Q:** Can international students get a part-time job when they start studying at BCIT?

**A:** No, as long as you are studying at BCIT, you cannot work, because you are here on a study permit, unless it is a part of your curriculum.

**Q:** Is there any difference between local and international students?

**A:** Not really. The only difference is that you need to learn the language well first. You need to pass COMM 4 and COMM 5 at

75%. It is important that you speak and understand English before you start your studies. A lot of instructors speak fast, as if you were born and raised here, so it might be difficult for you to understand unless you know English very well. That's why you need to study hard here at KGC.

**Q:** How long have you worked at BCIT?

**A:** 12 years. I started in 1992, and I've been in the International Department all the time. I really like it, and I think it is important. If you do something every day, you'd better like it.

Thank you very much for this interview. You are very welcome. I look forward to seeing you at BCIT in September.



# MUSICAL MIRACLE



"I'm a rose blooming in the desert..." "I can't stop loving you. Stop my tears, stop my loving...kill my memories..." Does this sound familiar? The best rock band in Japan, which has affected people in Asia a lot, is already a part of history. Even though they do not exist anymore, the spirit of their songs still lives on in people's hearts. This is the story about the miraculous band -- **X JAPAN**.

The band was formed by **Yoshiki** (the leader, the drums, and the piano), **Toshi** (the vocals), **Hide** (the first guitar and background vocal), **Pata** (the second guitar), **Heath** (the bass), and **Taiji** (the bass, who had already left the band before Heath joined).

Although **Yoshiki** wrote almost all their songs, other members also contributed a lot to many lyrics and tunes. Still, he was the leader of the band, as he signed all the songs, and played the drums and the piano.

**Toshi** sang the songs beautifully and uniquely. The tone of his voice was very high, so he sometimes sounded as if he was screaming. That made all their songs unforgettable.

**Hide** amazed and fascinated people a lot by playing the first guitar perfectly, and very fast. This is why he was named of "The King of Psyborg Rock". However, he died on May 2, 1998 after the band had already been dismissed. It seemed like a suicide, but it was never confirmed.

**Pata** also played the second guitar beautifully and followed Hide smoothly. Together, they made the melody of their songs sound perfect.

**Heath** and **Taiji** performed the bass in the same way as Hide and Pata. When they played the bass, it gave more energy to the songs.



www.xjapan.de/index.html



By Ching-Lin



At the time when they were very popular around Asia, their songs always stayed on the top of music lists. Here are some of their most popular songs, which I hope will help you get to know the band better.

1. **Silent jealousy** ---One of the most popular songs and also the name of the tour they had.
2. **Kurenai** ---The only song written by all the X JAPAN members.
3. **Art of life**---A 29-minute-long song which was made by Yoshiki when he was in the hospital as a result of a bad fall during one of their concert. It describes all his emotions during the hospital days.
4. **Endless rain**---One of the saddest songs. All fans would sing it together when it was performed.
5. **Crucify my love**---The audience used to be very silent while they were performing this song. It sounds really sad and hopeless.
6. **Forever love**---This song has a deep meaning. It is also one of the main songs of the band.
7. **X**---The representative song of the band. Everybody would jump when the song was performed at a concert.
8. **Amethyst**---This was always an opening song at concerts. It was composed by the band and a U.S symphony orchestra.
9. **Dahlia**---Toshi used some special sound affects when he sang this song, so it sounded unusual.
10. **Tears**---The most romantic song of the band. People, especially couples, had a variety of emotions while listening to this song.

**X JAPAN** has affected people a lot by making the deeply emotional songs. Their songs not only described some situations, but also feelings. You may really feel sad, happy, angry, hopeful, or helpless when you listen to the songs of **X JAPAN**. If you have never listened to their songs, it is time for you to get to know the best rock band in the world.

# European Cup 2004



By John

Nowadays, more and more people like soccer and every year there are some championships in the world such as Soccer League, World Cup, Euro Cup, and so on. This is a story about Euro Cup.

The history of Euro Cup is over 40 years old. It has been called UEFA European Nations Cup from the beginning and it is held every four years. The first Euro Cup was organized in 1960, and since then, 13 championships have been held. In 1980, the final round was increased from four to eight teams. So far, Germany has been the most successful team in Euro Cup because it won it three times- in 1972, 1980 and 1996. The team of England has been very unlucky because it has never been the winner before although it is very strong and has many fans. The team is also famous for its handsome players, such as Owen and Beckham. I personally prefer Italy because I really like to watch their league and I also believe their team is very strong. There have been some amazing events in the history of Euro Cup. In 1992, Denmark created a miracle by defeating all of its competitors and winning the cup, although they qualified instead of war-torn Yugoslavia. In 2000, at semi-finals Holland VS Italy, Toldo was the hero of the Italian team because he defended four penalty shots, which put Italy in the final.

The latest Euro Cup, which has just finished, was held in Portugal in June-July, 2004. Overall, it was a championship full of surprises. After the first round, Italy, Spain and Germany were all out. It was very strange because they all have very good teams. I was also very disappointed because Italian team had to go home. In quarter-



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# How to Improve English Vocabulary

As every other international student who is trying to learn English well, I often come across problems studying it. These problems are sometimes in writing, sometimes in studying some clauses, and sometimes in pronunciation. However, my biggest problem is remembering vocabulary.

When I first came to Vancouver, I did not know how to express myself in the best way, and I could not understand very well what other people were talking about because my vocabulary was very poor. For example, when I first went to a bank to deposit money, I did not know how to explain that to the clerk, and I did not understand what he was telling me, so I spent almost two hours there. To make things easier for me here, I wanted to improve my English vocabulary quickly! Did you have the same problem? I know a lot of students, like myself, who do not like to remember vocabulary and do not know how to do it quickly and easily. This is why I interviewed some KGC teachers and asked them to give me some suggestions.

Michelle's suggestion was writing down new words you want to remember on pieces of paper and putting them up in your room or on that thing. For example, you can put a piece of paper saying "toothbrush" on your toothbrush so you will be able to see this word every day when you use it. Another suggestion was using body language or drawing pictures for your friends and classmates to guess the word.

Leena's suggestion was watching TV or reading newspapers every day. Although you may not know some words at the beginning, you should not give up and you should keep trying, and you will be successful.

Gordana's suggestion was to read books. Go to the library and borrow those appropriate for your level of English. You should try to read one book a week. New words should not be studied isolated. Instead, you should study them in sentences because their meaning can be different depending on the context. Sometimes, even if you are not familiar with a word, you can guess its meaning because you know all other words in the sentence. Finally, here are Uma's suggestions:

- Cut pictures from magazines or flyers and stick them on cards. You can make these cards by yourself from marble paper (buy it at a dollar store in different colours) write the words on different cards and match them with the picture. Do this until you have learned new words.
- Type a difficult word that you can not remember in a different font several times on your computer screen. Example:

**ENTREPRENEURSHIP**  
 entrepreneurship  
 entrepreneurship  
 entrepreneurship

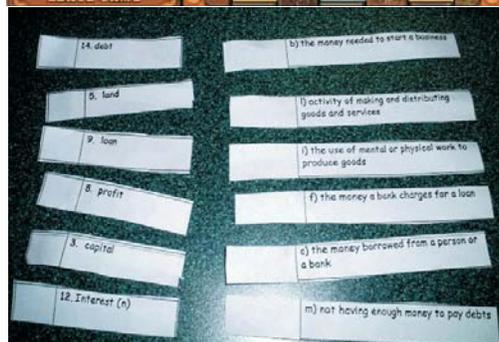


By Sally



- Word association: select a word category and write down as many appropriate words as you can. For example: body parts: ear, knee, face, skin, hand, and so on.
- Write words on cards. Write their definitions on another card. Mix the cards and then match them.
- You could do word puzzles to improve your vocabulary: go to this <http://www.manythings.org/>. It has a lot of interesting things for ESL students, such as word puzzles, word games and many others. The game I really found interesting was hangman. Here is what it looks like:

I hope that you will find these tips useful and that you will use them to improve your vocabulary. **Good luck!!!**



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 ...European Cup 2004

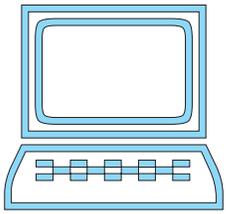


finals, France, England, Denmark and Sweden were out. England was defeated by Portugal after penalty shots, and that was a pity. France was defeated by Greece, which never had a strong team before. After quarter-finals, many people thought Portugal or Czech Republic could be the winners. However, in the end, Greece defeated both of them unexpectedly. In that way, Greece created a real fairy tale and I believe it will live in the memory of its fans forever. After watching the Euro Cup, I find that the quality of soccer in different countries will soon be about the same and that every country will have the chance to be the winner in the championships to come.

At last, I have high hopes that China will one day win the World Cup. I believe it will create another fairy tale, although Chinese soccer is not good at the moment. I just hope that day will come soon.



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# COMPUTER GAMES

By Tommy



In the past, computers were great tools which helped people organize information at work. At that time, computer programmers designed small games in order to relax after hard work, and these games became really popular. Nowadays, almost every family has one or more computers, which are now made more powerful and user-friendly. I believe one reason why most young people buy better and better computers is that they want to try other new computer games, which need to be run by a faster computer.

When I was nine, my father bought a 286 computer that had a black and white screen for his work, and that was the first time I learned more about computers. I also started to play many different kinds of games on it. At that time, the games were very simple. In fact, most of them were copied from popular video or arcade games. When I grew up, I bought my first computer and I started to play games in the windows system. By that time, games have already become more colourful, and their stories were more interesting. I think people started to organize games into different categories around the 90's, so we had action, adventure, racing, RPG, sports, and strategy games. Nowadays, due to the 3D graph technology and the high-speed Internet effect, most games have fantastic 3D pictures and you can play them online.

Here are some popular games in different categories.

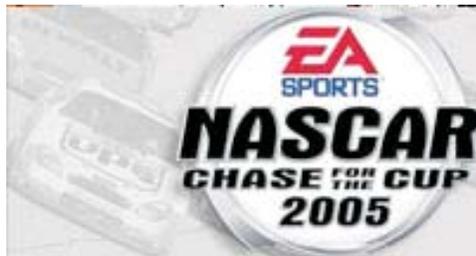
- **Action:**

This type of games usually has a lot of fighting. Players may have several missions to complete. Some popular action games are "Tom Clancy's Splinter Cell: Pandora Tomorrow", "Full Spectrum Warrior" and "Spider-man 2"



- **Racing:**

Racing games are usually about starting the engine and driving your favorite sports car on various different locations. Racing games always have powerful speed that makes players love it. You can try "Juiced" or "NASCAR® 2005: Chase for the Cup™"



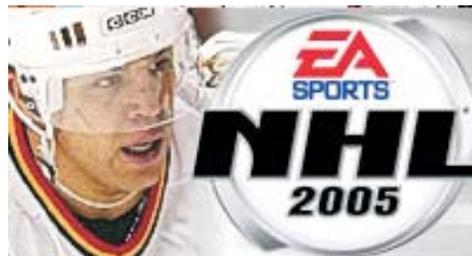
- **RPG (Role-Playing Games):**

Have you ever thought about being a hero? It is very difficult to be a hero in the real world, but you can make your dream come true when you play games. "World of Warcraft", "Star Wars Knights of the Old Republic II: The Sith Lords" and "Lineage II: The Chaotic Chronicle" are some games which can help you do this.



- **Sports:**

"UEFA Euro 2004", "NBA LIVE 2004", "Madden NFL 2004", "Tiger Woods PGA TOUR® 2004" and "NHL® 2005" are the most popular sports games today. You can play them with your favorite sport stars.



- **Strategy:**

When you play this type of games, you can be a king and build a country the way you want it. You can also lead your soldiers and destroy the enemy. Play "The Lord of the Rings: The Battle for Middle-earth" and "Rome: Total War", and see what you can do.



Playing games can help you relax, but it is not helpful for students who study. When you play an interesting game, it is very easy to forget about the time. Some students forget about learning because they are fascinated with games. In addition, doctors say that sitting in front of a computer screen for a long time is not healthy because it damages your eyesight and your spine. Overall, games are just a nice way to relax, but be sure you play them after you finish your work or study.

Sources from :

[Http://www.happypuppy.com/](http://www.happypuppy.com/)

