

The background of the slide is a textured, light beige surface with a subtle pattern of white, fibrous lines. Overlaid on this is a faint, dark silhouette of a mountain range. On the right side, there are several dark, vertical lines representing cherry blossom branches, each adorned with small, dark circular blossoms.

# *Life and Research in Japan*

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## *Outline*

1. UK vs. Japan
2. Japanese Culture
3. Some things you did not know about Japan!
4. Research in Japan
5. (My) Research experience in Japan

# UK vs. Japan



- Total Land Area: 244,110 sq km                      377,837 sq km
- Highest mountain: Ben Nevis 1343m                      Mt Fuji 3776m
- Mean temperature: London 9.7C                      Tokyo 15.6C
- Annual mean rainfall: London 753mm                      Tokyo 1405mm
- Household savings: 3%                      13%
- Computers (1999): 69%                      84%
- Average area of home: 98 sq m                      90 sq m

# Japanese Culture

Japanese culture is very unique from exotic **festivals** and **foods** to traditional art and historical **temples**. Japan is filled with treasures of folk art from beautiful **dishes** and **lacquer ware** to delightful **porcelain dolls**.

Festivals and cultural events are deeply rooted and observed in Japan. Some of the most well known festivals mark the changing of the seasons.

The **cherry blossom festival** celebrates the day of spring.



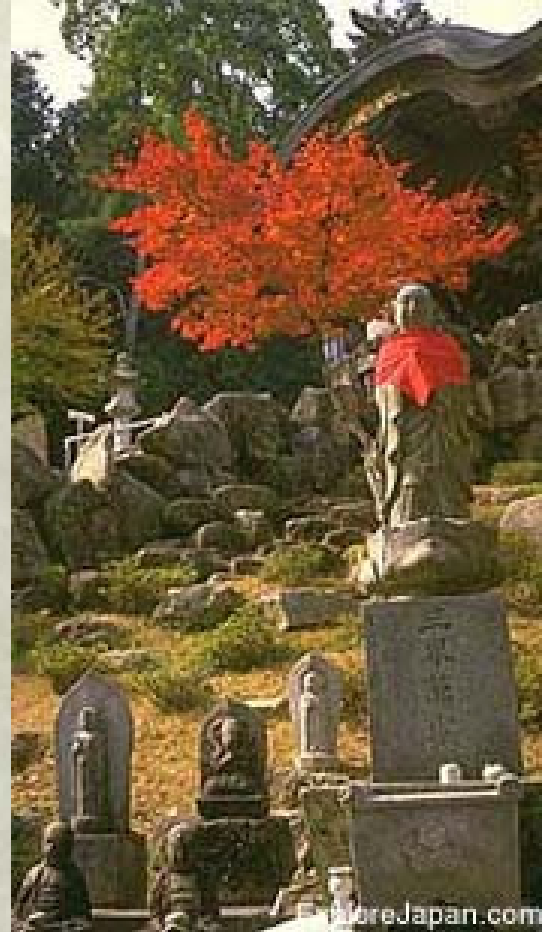
# Japanese Culture

In May, **boys day** festivals now called children's day is a joyful spectacle as colourful flying carp banners are flown.



# Japanese Culture

Japan is filled with historical places and religious artefacts. Stone monuments of **Buddha statues** and lanterns fill the mountain side of temples and shrines.



# Japanese Culture

Japan is a treasure-trove of **delectable food** and finely hand crafted dishes.

The Japanese are well known for their hand crafted **ceramic dishes** to stunning lacquer bowls, plates, bento box and trays.

Japanese dishes are well beloved for their high quality and intricate craftsmanship



# Japanese Culture

The devotion and appreciation of traditional art flourishes throughout Japan from schools of **tea ceremony (chanoyu)** and **flower arrangement (ikebana)** to **bonsai**, **sumo** and **performing theatre arts**.





# Some things you did not know about Japan!

- Trains are always on time. On the extremely rare occasion that an employee is late for work due to a delay, he/she must bring his/her supervisor a note from the train station manager explaining why.
- A survey showed that Japanese spend on average 15 minutes reading the newspaper a day. The most popular section is the TV listings.
- Newspapers take one day off a month for a "press holiday". Unfortunately, they all choose the same day, so there are no newspapers at all that day!
- McDonald's is so crowded that the staff use walkie-talkies to guide customers to free tables.
- Young Japanese women don't know how to wear kimonos, so they take classes about it.
- Grown men still read comic books. Including ones with names like "Young Boy" and "Jump!"



# Research in Japan

- Most of the research in Japanese universities is done in Laboratories.
- Laboratories in Japan are very independent from each other.
- Researchers in one group don't interact with people from other laboratories. They have their own funds and buy their own equipment.
- Each *Sensei* (Japanese academic) is personally responsible for every aspect of the running of their laboratory; from writing grant proposals to registration of the laboratory's waste.
- There are a large number of meetings.
- There is no payment for overtime work.
- Students are 'obliged' to keep working deep into the night because they would feel guilty if they went home earlier than the *Sensei*.



# (My) Research experience in Japan

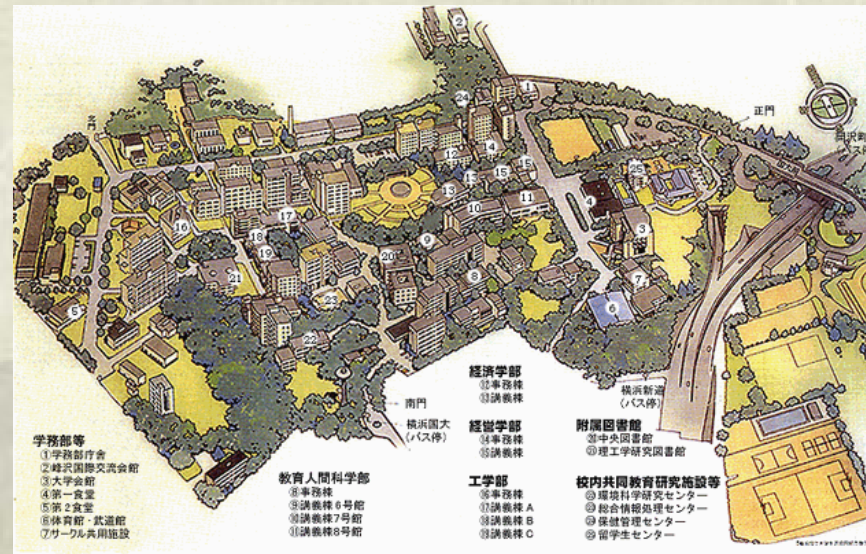


## Yokohama National University



- Faculty of Education and Human Sciences
- Faculty of Economics
  - Centre for International Trade Studies
- Faculty of Business Administration(Japanese)
- School of Engineering

# (My) Research experience in Japan



| Subject                                                           | Professor | Associate Professor | Lecturer | Assistant |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|---------------------|----------|-----------|
| Division of mechanical Engineering and Materials Science          | 23        | 15                  | 4        | 12        |
| Division of Materials Science and Chemical Engineering            | 27        | 19                  | 5        | 19        |
| Division of Civil Engineering, Architecture and Marine Technology | 20        | 18                  | 1        | 13        |
| Division of Electrical and Computer Engineering                   | 24        | 12                  | 1        | 11        |
| Division of Physics                                               | 12        | 10                  | 0        | 8         |

# (My) Research experience in Japan

Kohno Laboratory

Secretaries, Technical assistant



Post-Doc



PhD-3



PhD-2



PhD-1



MSc-2

MSc-1

BSc-4

5-7 students each

2006/12/18

JSPS KCL

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# (My) Research experience in Japan

Home



**Ooka International  
House  
(YNU)**



# (My) Research experience in Japan

## Outcome

- 4 Journal Papers
- 10 Conference papers



Cheju



Jaipur



Delhi



Kyoto



Singapore



Amsterdam



Zurich



Phuket

# (My) Research experience in Japan



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Thanks very much for your attention.

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