

Event : Lecture of Dr. Fadoua Ghourabi about Life, Studies and Research in Japan
Venue : Lycee Pilote of Medenine (South of Tunisia)
Date : Friday 5th January 2018

About 30 high school students (2nd and 3rd grades) attended my lecture. Many are manga and anime enthusiasts and excited to learn more about Japan! In an attempt to increase the students' involvement, I prepared few activities and encouraged discussion.

Session I: A glimpse into life and studies in Japan

The motivation of this session is to introduce Japan as a potential location for the students' future studies. I talked about my experience as a Tunisian student at the University of Tsukuba. I also explained the application process of MEXT scholarship for studying in Japan. To learn some basic facts about Japan, the students checked and discussed World Bank data such as GDP, economic growth, imports and exports, CO2 emissions, population distribution, the implications of an ageing society, etc.

Session II: Research in science and technology - Significance, applications and emerging themes

The motivation of this session is to broaden students' understanding of science. I explained the main steps of scientific research and the requirements for becoming a researcher. Using examples of research conducted in Japan, I showed how science addresses social and environmental issues for the benefit of the humanity. Then, as an exercise, the students identified a serious problem in their city, namely water shortage, defined a research question, discussed a possible solution and designed the main steps of the research.

Dr. Fadoua Ghourabi
Lecturer in computer science at Ochanomizu University, Japan

