the event. So we got creative and were able to turn it into an event that also showcased our culture.

Ms. Okuyama: That’s wonderful. Thank you so much for your kind consideration of the city’s budget. In Japanese, we have a saying, ‘to eat together from the same pot’. I’m sure that everyone gathering around the same pot to eat meant that their hearts were linked even more closely.

We’ve just about run out of time, but I’d like to ask you, Melissa, what your thoughts are on internationalisation, what you think we should consider going forward.

Ms. Hill: From my own experience, having studied Japanese and worked here in Japan and thinking about various things, I’ve come to realize that many Japanese people think that they need to be able to speak English to talk to foreigners. However, I think that it’s not just about English. For Japanese people to be able to interact with foreigners, what they really need is not English, but smiles.

Also, although some Japanese people tend to freeze because they can’t speak English, and the hotel staff tried to run away, I do think that, even if you don’t have confidence in your own English ability, if you smile and interact with them even in Japanese, those foreign visitors may fall in love with Japan. If you smile and speak to them in simple Japanese, you will make a good impression, and the foreign visitors will come to love Japan a little bit more.

Ms. Okuyama: That’s a wonderful way to see it. It is all about smiling.

Ms. Hill: That’s right.

Ms. Okuyama: All right then, let’s make our departure from the stage with huge smiles on our faces. Thank you very much.

Ms. Hill: Thank you.

Mission: Spread the Word of the Charms of Goto City

MC: Thank you very much. Next, a presentation by students of Sakiyama Elementary School in Goto City, Nagasaki prefecture, and Mr. Daniel Cohen, the Assistant Language Teacher. The theme is 'Mission: Spread the Word of the Charms of Goto City'.
Mr. Daniel Cohen, ALT, Goto City: Are you ready?

Children: Yes.

Mr. Cohen: Hello Tsutsumi-sensei, Merumo, Natsumi, Yuudai!

Children: Hello Dan-Sensei, how are you?

Mr. Cohen: I'm fine, and you?

Merumo: I am good.

Natsumi: I am great.

Yuudai: I am happy.

Ms. Tsutsumi, Teacher, Sakiyama Elementary School, Goto City: I am nervous.

Mr. Cohen: It is OK. So first, let's introduce ourselves to the audience. I will go first. Hello. My name is Dan. I am from America. Now I live in Goto. I like fishing and sashimi. I can play badminton and do taiko. I am really happy to be here, it is nice to meet you.

Ms. Tsutsumi: Hello. My name is Tsutsumi. I am a teacher at Sakiyama Elementary School. Every week, I enjoy English class with the ALT and my students. Thanks to the ALT, students have become interested in English and foreign cultures. Today, we are going to work together and do our best. Nice to meet you.

Merumo: Hello. My name is Merumo. My birthday is August 12. I like apples. I don't like chilies. I can run fast. I want to go to France. I want to ride a white motorcycle. Nice to meet you.

Natsumi: Hello. My name is Natsumi. My birthday is August 11. I like black. I like flowers. I can play basketball. I want to go to America. I want to be a florist. Nice to meet you.

Yuudai: Hello. My name is Yuudai. My birthday is December 16. I like English and Japanese. I don't like vegetables. I can do judo. I want to go to Brazil. I want to be a nurse. Nice to meet you.
Mr. Cohen: Good job. Next, I have a very important message from the King of Goto. Please watch.

King of Goto: Hello Merumo, Natsumi, Yuudai. I am the King of Goto. There is a reason why you are in Tokyo. You have a very important mission. You must tell everyone all about Goto. Make them want to visit Goto. Until you do that, don't come back.

Merumo: Wow.

Natsumi: That is difficult!

Yuudai: Can we do it?

Ms. Tsutsumi: Yes, you can do it. Let's do our best!

Mr. Cohen: Where is Goto?

Merumo: Here.

Natsumi: In Nagasaki.

Mr. Cohen: How many people live in Goto?

Natsumi: About 40,000 people.

Ms. Tsutsumi: That is right.

Mr. Cohen: OK.

Ms. Tsutsumi: Let's introduce the churches.

Mr. Cohen: OK. There are a lot of churches in Goto. They are candidates to become UNESCO World Heritage Sites. How many churches are in Goto?

Yuudai: 20.
Merumo: This is Dozaki Church, Kyuugorin Church, Egami Church, and Mizunoura Church. Every church is beautiful.

Natsumi: This is the first Lourdes in Japan. Many people come to see it.

Mr. Cohen: Great.

Ms. Tsutsumi: OK, let's introduce other famous places.

Mr. Cohen: What is this?

Merumo: It is Onidake, a symbol of Goto.

Mr. Cohen: How tall is Onidake?

Yuudai: It is 350 meters tall.

Mr. Cohen: That is right. At Onidake, you can do grass skiing during the day and see the stars at night. There is also a kite flying event every May. What is this?

Natsumi: It is a baramon kite.

Mr. Cohen: That is right. 'Baramon' means brave man. There is also a local character called 'Baramon-chan.'

Ms. Tsutsumi: He is very cute. How about this picture?

Merumo: It's Ishida-jyo.

Yuudai: Our castle. Goto High School is in this castle.

Mr. Cohen: Very good. Ishida Castle was built in 1863. The outer walls are still standing, and a high school is located inside.

Ms. Tsutsumi: What's wrong?
Yuudai : Does everyone want to visit Goto yet?

Natsumi : Not yet.

Ms. Tsutsumi : OK, it is time to use our trump card.

Mr. Cohen : OK. You can't mention Goto without talking about…

Yuudai : The beach! Goto's beaches are very beautiful.

Mr. Cohen : Yes. Can you swim?

Natsumi : Yes. I like swimming.

Mr. Cohen : Me too. I think Goto has some of the best beaches in the world. There are also many fish. Do you like fishing?

Merumo : Yes. I like fishing and sashimi.

Mr. Cohen : Goto's sashimi is amazing.

Ms. Tsutsumi : Let's introduce Goto's festivals.

Mr. Cohen : What is this?

Merumo : It's Chankoko.

Natsumi : A dance on obon.

Mr. Cohen : Good. On Obon people go around and do a traditional dance with drums and bells.

Yuudai : We can dance.

(Sound of children dancing)
Ms. Tsutsumi : The biggest festival in Goto is Fukue Matsuri.

Merumo : Oh yeah, Nebuta.

Mr. Cohen : The ALTs participate and dance every year.

(Sound of everyone dancing)

Natsumi : I like Fukue Matsuri.

Ms. Tsutsumi : There is also Hetomato.

Mr. Cohen : Yes, it is in Sakiyama.

Children : We are from Sakiyama.

Mr. Cohen : So when is Hetomato?

Natsumi : It is in January.

Mr. Cohen : And what do you do?
Yuudai: We do sumo, hanetsuki, and a tug of war. I love Hetomato!

Ms. Tsutsumi: Dan-sensei, do you know this flower?

Mr. Cohen: Tsubaki, or camellia in English. The camellia flower is very famous in Goto. Goto produces the most camellia oil in all of Japan.

Merumo: It is good for Tempura.

Natsumi: It is good for your hair too.

Yuudai: There is a local character called Tsubaki-neko.

Ms. Tsutsumi: He has a camellia on his head. I love Tsubaki-neko.

Merumo: Just a little bit more.

Natsumi: They look hungry.

Yuudai: Let’s finish with Goto’s famous foods.

Children: Yeah!

Mr. Cohen: Great idea. What is this?

Merumo: This is Goto beef.

Natsumi: It is soft and delicious.

Yuudai: I like barbeques!

Merumo: This is kankoro-mochi.

Natsumi: Dan-sensei, do you like kankoro-mochi?
Mr. Cohen: Yes, I do. What is it made of?

Yuudai: Sweet potatoes. Tsutsumi-sensei, do you like kankoro-mochi?

Ms. Tsutsumi: Of course. I love kankoro-mochi.

Mr. Cohen: Last, let's talk about Udon. Goto udon is very famous.

Merumo: And very delicious.

Mr. Cohen: How do you eat it?

Natsumi: I like jigoku-daki.

Yuudai: It has agodashi and eggs.

Ms. Tsutsumi: It is the best.

Merumo: Everyone, do you want to visit Goto?

Crowd: Yes!

Natsumi: If you do, please clap your hands.

(Appause)

Children: We did it!


Children: Yay!

Mr. Cohen: You did it. Great job! Next, we have a special video for you. The students at Sakiyama elementary
school love singing. Right now, they are learning ‘Sing’ by the Carpenters. Please watch.

(Video of ‘Sing’ by the Carpenters as sung by the children of Sakiyama Elementary School)

Mr. Cohen : I hope you enjoyed our presentation. Goto is a wonderful place.

Natsumi : Please come visit!

Yuudai : We are waiting for you!

Ms. Tsutsumi : That is all for our presentation about Goto. Thank you.

Everyone: Thank you.

**Talented JET Participants – The Global Personnel that Companies Want**

MC : Thank you for a very enjoyable presentation.

MC : Next, we have a presentation from Mr. Yoji Abe, Manager of the Global HR and HR Development Section, Human Resources and General Affairs Department of Sojitz Corporation, and Mr. James Regent, a former participant in the JET Programme. The theme of their presentation is ‘The Appeal of JET Participants - The Global Personnel That Companies Are Seeking.’ Thank you, Mr. Abe and Mr. Regent.

Mr. Yoji Abe, Manager of the Global HR and HR Development Section, Human Resources and General Affairs Department, Sojitz Corporation : Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen. As I have been so kindly introduced, I am Yoji Abe of Sojitz Corporation’s Global HR and HR Development Section.

Mr. James Regent, Controller Section, Sojitz Corporation : And I am James Regent of Sojitz Corporation’s Controller Section.

Mr. Abe : We are very proud to have been given time to present here today. Thank you very much for this opportunity to talk to you about Sojitz’s involvement with the JET Programme.

As I will describe in more detail, we at Sojitz really love the JET Programme. We have loved JET for five years now.