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Stimulating the desire in Japanese students to learn foreign languages
-Using English pronunciation tendencies of non-native speakers to spark interest

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Contents

- Problem of Japanese isolation and future of intercultural exchanges
- Asian integration - Understanding different concepts of culture
- Asian integration - Learning the peculiarities of English pronunciations within Asia

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Japanese isolation and reasons for unwillingness to communicate with foreigners

- Vicious circle resulting from Japanese isolation
 - Fewer Japanese studying abroad; SO
 - English ability of Japanese worsening; SO
 - Fewer Japanese willing to communicate with others
- Japanese inferiority complex toward English
 - Fear of making mistakes in speaking
 - Demotivation factors: inability to understand + inability to be understood

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Positive changes coming?

- Government encouraging high schools and universities to reverse this trend
- At St. Mary's College, we are expanding our sister college/institution relationships in South Korea, Thailand, Laos, and the Philippines, as well as in the United States

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Integrating Japanese with other Asian nurses - Learning the peculiarities of other Asian EFL speakers-

- Need to pronounce well enough to be understood
- Need to understand the peculiarities of other Asian EFL speakers

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Pronunciation peculiarities of Asian EFL speakers (1)

Japanese

English letter(s)	Japanese pron.	English letter(s)	Japanese pron.
l, r	flap r (really)	tu	tsu (two)
th	s, z (think, they)	zi	ji (zipper)
si	shi (sit)	r	a after o, i (door,
ei	e (baby)	er	a (dinner)
ou, ow	o (low)	u(o) within consonant clusters (McDonald's)	
a (cat)	a (cat)	and at the end of a syllable (make, good)	
v	b, (w) (vitamin, virus)		

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Pronunciation peculiarities of Asian EFL speakers (2)

Korean

English letter(s)	Korean pron.	English letter(s)	Korean pron.
p, t, k (medial)	b, d, g	s (final)	t (or
omitted)			
f	p (fax)	si	shi (sit)
v	b (visa)	a	e (cat)
z	j (jazz)	long vowel	short vowel
(coffee)			
ts	ch (shirts)	* add ü within consonant clusters	
(stress)			

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Pronunciation peculiarities of Asian EFL speakers (3)

Filipino (Tagalog)

English letter(s)	Filipino pron.
f	p
v	b
z	s
th	t
e	i (No /or o in
o	u Baybayin)
d (medial)	r

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Pronunciation peculiarities of Asian EFL speakers (4)

Thai

English letter(s)	Thai pron.	English letter(s)	Thai pron.
d (final)	t (made)	sh (final)	
t (push)			
f (final)	p (leaf)	ch (final)	t (watch)
g (final)	k (bag)	th (θ)	t, s (thin)
j (final)	t (wage)	th (θ)	d (they)
l (final)	n (bill)	v	p (dove)
r (initial)	l (right)	v	w (vet)
s (final)	t (rice)	z	s (rise)

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Pronunciation Activity

*Read the following English words in:

- 1) Korean, 2) Japanese, 3) Thai, 4) Filipino
- fork
 - vial
 - wash
 - next
 - cuff
 - hospital
 - nursing
 - food
 - thick
 - there

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Conclusion

- Integrating Japanese nursing students into the Asian community can be accomplished by:
- Helping students understand the peculiarities of other Asian pronunciations of English to facilitate oral communication (as well as to show that Japanese are not the only Asians struggling with English pronunciation)

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Future Studies

- **Stress**
 - Duration of accented syllables
 - Pitch of accented syllables
- **Intonation**
 - Word combinations
 - Rising/falling pitches in phrases and sentences
- **Facial expressions and gestures**

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Thank you for your attention!

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