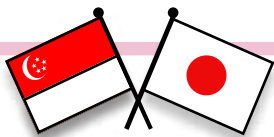




# Looming Crisis on Japanese Culture

Our thoughts following discussions with Raffles Institution

## 1 Introduction



Discussion and presentation sharing online with Shibuya Makuhari HS and Raffles Institution from Singapore on

### "Language and Education"



**First thought**  
Lucky Singaporeans, they're so good at English and even have it as their first language. If only we could achieve the same educational system in Japan.

#### HOT TOPIC



Languages can be acquired in either of these environments:  
**Second Language Environment** - the desired language is in common use.  
**Foreign Language Environment** - the desired language would be considered foreign

Dr. Hattori

**Critical period** - the period in life one can learn and acquire a language efficiently



Keynote speech by Dr. Hattori



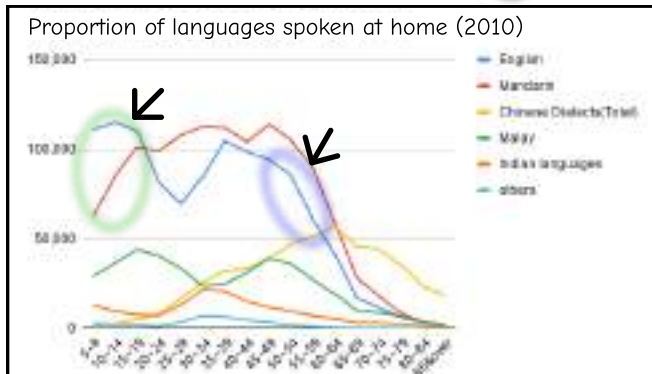
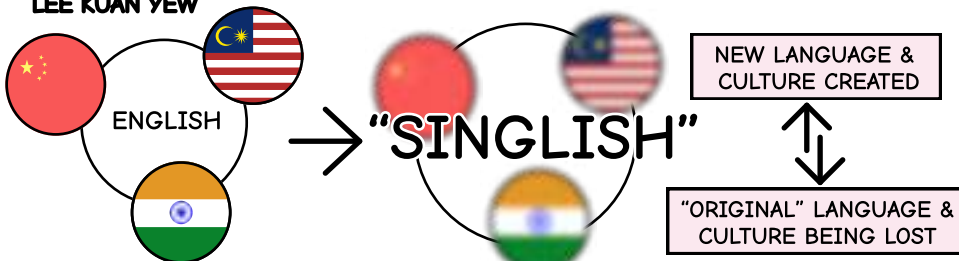
"Singlish" is an English-based creole used prominently in Singapore. There are many words unique to Singlish, and the language works to support the culture of the nation.

## 2 Language & Culture in Singapore



LEE KUAN YEW

English should be used as the common language of Singapore to unify the diverse population of the nation and to increase international competitiveness.



[https://www.singstat.gov.sg/-/media/files/publications/cop2010/census\\_2010\\_release1/cop2010sr1.pdf](https://www.singstat.gov.sg/-/media/files/publications/cop2010/census_2010_release1/cop2010sr1.pdf)

There is a considerable rise in the usage of English in people between the ages of 45 to 50, who were the first people to fully receive compulsory English education. The younger generation, particularly those between the ages of 5 to 19 are using more English compared to Mandarin.

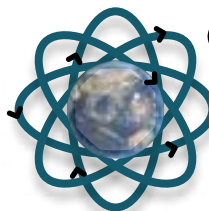
### Connection between Language and Culture/Society

Language characteristics reflect those of the society it serves

Languages around the world are deeply rooted in their cultures and national characters. The linguistic characteristics that have been formed throughout history is what is being represented in today's society.

Language	Culture/Society
<b>Japanese</b>	Subservient to those above, strict hierarchy
<b>English</b>	Able to question others equally

## 3 Possible Consequences of Excessive English Education in Japan

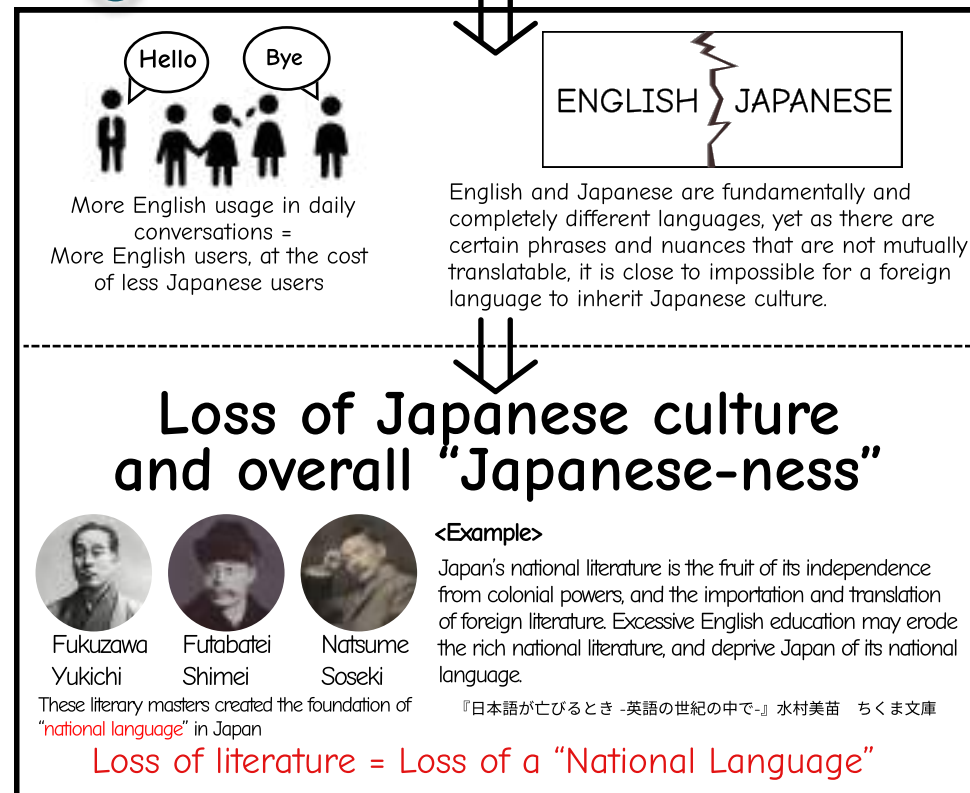


### Globalization

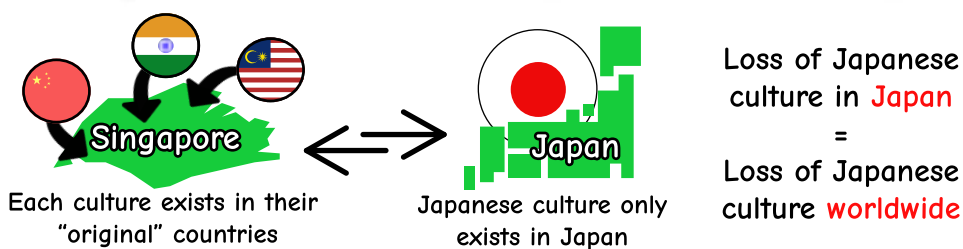
Increased usage of English as a lingua franca may bring about...



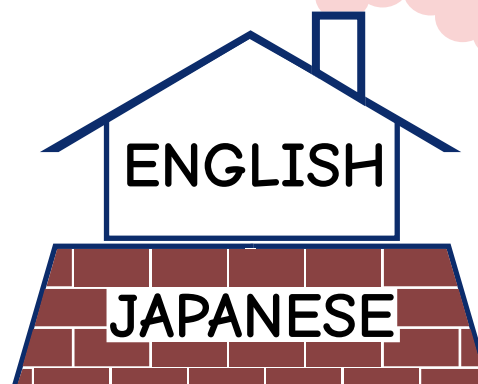
...Excessive English education in Japan



### Impact of the introduction and assimilation of new cultures



## 4 Conclusion

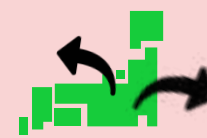


Education with Japanese at its core will play a critical role in preserving Japanese culture and the Japanese way of life.

At the same time, however, Japanese people must improve their English skills, for English can function as a medium to both meet and exchange ideas with other cultures. Improving English skills on top of a strong Japanese foundation and connecting with other cultures will enrich Japan's culture, making it fit for this globalising world.



Encountering other cultures



Transmit culture



International Competitiveness