

Title

Comparing Motivation to Study English: “Bunkei” vs. “Rikei”

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Abstract

This study explores and compares the motivation of two groups of Japanese university students studying English. The purpose of this study is to explore the differences in the kinds of motivation that students have to study English who major in the natural sciences with that of students who are pursuing a degree in liberal arts. A questionnaire was created to measure the different reasons for studying English. The twenty-seven questions aimed to measure intrinsic and extrinsic motivation, in addition to instrumental and integrative motivation. The results of this study will allow us to identify similarities as well as the significant differences between the two groups. As expected, a number of similarities were discovered and just as importantly a number of differences were exposed. The results of this research can be useful in tailoring the curriculum and approach to teaching the different groups of students based on each group's motivation to study English.