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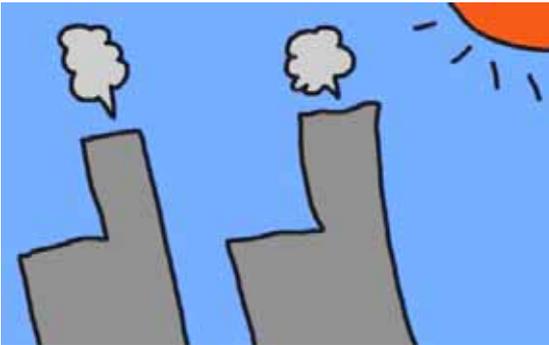
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Thank You, Yuki

Yuki Matsumoto & George Robert MacLean

Teaching using technology can be frustrating and stressful! Occasionally it has its rewards, however. This past semester we were studying about climate change, and, thanks to the fact that we were using an electronic whiteboard, we were able to watch several engaging and informative clips on YouTube about global warming.



Every semester I ask my students to attempt three independent learning experiences in English, and report about them, and I casually mentioned that students were welcome to attempt something similar as one such report, if they wanted. To date, most students have written about things they have read, but recently I've encouraged my students to use technology and I've been getting a much more creative and enthusiastic variety of reports.

This semester many students recorded English songs on their mobile phones and submitted them, to my great joy. Others drew *anime* stories about one of the themes we'd

studied during the semester. However, the most fantastic report this time was from Yuki. When I checked her notebook, it was late at night, and I was a little surprised to see only a YouTube hyperlink where her report should have been. Curious, I typed in the link. Shortly thereafter, I was regaled by Yuki's entertaining animated video. It is synchronized to music and colorfully conveys one of the solutions to climate change that we had discussed the week before. It was a highly affirming experience for me as a teacher.

I'm excited about being able to continue challenging my students to express themselves in English, and to do so in a wide variety of ways. Thank you, Yuki, for sharing your work and for being so creative.



About the authors: *Yuki Matsumoto is a first-year student and George Robert MacLean teaches English at the University of Tsukuba.*

Editor's note: The above images are screengrabs from Yuki's video. The entire video can be viewed at

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s6ov3EDJNQI>

or on the OTB Forum publications page at

<http://otbforum.net/publications.html>

Matsumoto, Y., & MacLean, G. R. (2009). Thank you, Yuki. *OTB Forum*, 2(2), 44.