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# Mt. Fuji

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Mt. Fuji is the highest mountain in Japan, and it is not only very tall but also beautiful. I have been one of the great lovers of it since I was a child. Almost every day, I had seen it because I was born and brought up in a town at the foot of it. When I was up and I looked out the window of my house, I always saw it. After I moved to Tsukuba, I didn't become homesick but I became Mt. Fuji-sick. At that time, I thought that I really loved it. To my joy, it shows me various aspects. The more I see it, the more fascinated I am. I will tell you about the wonderful sight of it.

First, please picture Mt. Fuji in your mind. I suppose it is a blue mountain with snow. However, Mt. Fuji does not always have such looks. Of course, in summer the snow melts away and it becomes a blue mountain. Many people like it with snow better than without snow. I know Mt. Fuji with snow is more beautiful than without snow, but still without snow it is a mountain that makes its overwhelming presence felt. I love Mt. Fuji without snow, too.

The look of Mt. Fuji differs with time. The best time to see Mt. Fuji is daybreak. The sight in which Mt. Fuji appears from the darkness is very mystic. When I first saw it, I couldn't take my eyes off it. The sight gave me a tranquil mind. I sensed the sight was

holy. To my sadness, I have seldom seen the sight because I don't usually get up at such an early time and fine weather is indispensable. I haven't seen it for a long time so I am eager to see the sight again.

I have another favorite sight of Mt. Fuji.



We can see the sight when the sun is shining brightly. Thanks to the sun, Mt. Fuji is also shining. I saw it during examination week. I was terribly tired then. However, my fatigue vanished immediately the moment I saw the sight. It is a very cheerful sight.

Mt. Fuji has many touching aspects. Mt. Fuji appearing from the darkness is holy. Shining Mt. Fuji is cheerful. The different aspects give me much power and I love them. I think Mt. Fuji is indeed the pride of Japan. Would you like to see the various aspects of Mt. Fuji? I expect you will become a lover of it, too.

**About the authors:** Rika Kuwabara is a second-year student at the University of Tsukuba in the School of Human Sciences, Department of Disability Studies. The photograph, "Rainbow Fuji", is courtesy of Gideon Davidson.

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