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CULTURAL AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS DIVISION
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Do you know about the International Rescue Team of Japanese Fire-Service (IRT-JF) at the Maebashi City Fire Department? In the event of a disaster abroad, this team's registered members can be deployed overseas to affected areas, and they undergo difficult training daily. In order to effectively communicate with locals and carry out rescue activities smoothly, developing English language skills is more important than ever.



As part of implementing rescue training in English, I was invited to participate as an advisor last November. During different scenarios for conducting field surveys, I played the roles of both resident and manager of a collapsed building and later provided advice on the English pronunciation and phrases used by the team.

I also played the part of a victim trapped underneath rubble and in need of rescue. During this training, I was moved to tears after becoming fully immersed in the role, and I felt immense gratitude for those who risk their lives to save others. Starting this year, I received a request from the fire department to lead English speaking lessons every month. By reviewing phrases and vocabulary related to disaster preparedness, role-playing in pairs, and incorporating easy pronunciation and listening games, we practice skills applicable to real-life situations. I hope these lessons will help everyone during future rescue efforts where English is needed.

