

SUPER SCIENCE FAIR, 2019

-Naina Sharma

Since the past few years, I had seen students of our school visit Japan to showcase their talent at the Science Fair. Being from the Humanities stream and representing my school in the Super Science High School Students Fair, 2019 held in Kobe, Japan was beyond my expectations.

It all began in May this year when my batch mate Shaan and I were presented with the opportunity to come up with our own research based project on any scientific topic. Rukhsana ma'am was our mentor for the entire project. With a lot of discussions and contemplation we decided to go with a topic which would not only be an informative research work but a work that could help impact the present day generation the most. Different social situations allow human beings to present themselves in certain personality traits which in turn enabled psychologists to categorise human beings broadly under two categories- Extroverts and Introverts. With the new age and the advent of the internet, the online, social world offers new situations or environments which leads to the development of new personality types. With this in mind, I came up with the idea of comparing the present personality types- Introvert and Extrovert with the evolving personality types pertaining to the world of social media- Online Introvert and Online Extrovert. The pace at which technology has evolved and invaded the personal space of an individual via WhatsApp, Facebook, Instagram etc., has given opportunities to an individual to present oneself differently online while maintaining a very different offline personality. Human personalities are dynamic and are constantly shaped by the external environment. The exploratory study aimed at observing this change in personality. Our principal helped us in forming the basis of the project and helping us come up with the title of the research - Evolving Personality Types of the New Age: Research in Progress.

Data was collected through online survey questionnaires within the age group of 16 to 18 years and 45 to 60 years. The data was compared and analysed to explore the personality types and posters were also made for the same. An application was developed which helped an individual to identify his/her personality and presented him/her with five social skills beneficial with respect to their personality.

With the guidance of Rukhsana ma'am and all the others who helped us to materialize the project, we were all set to leave for Japan in August.

Ms.Mami Furukawa from the Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST) was there at the airport to take us to the hotel. There were students from all over the world and to get such an exposure on an international platform fascinated me the most. Each day the food was provided by them either in the form of a lunch service or we were given a budget adhering to which we could buy our own food. Being an epicure I personally enjoyed the Japanese food especially the octopus, their sushi and the melon bread.

Every school had a cubicle allotted to it and a separate cubicle was designated for the presentation purpose. The presentations were to begin midday and by that time we were asked to present our research to the audience coming to our cubicle. I believe, we impressed the audience to such an extent that during our presentation slot, the people who came to see our presentation were so many that the chairs were less in the area. Thanks to our beloved Japanese teacher, Srishti ma'am, I was able to briefly introduce our school and the project in Japanese further attracting the audience towards us. The audience seemed to be intrigued by our

presentation as it was evident with the amount of questions directed towards us after the presentation.

Our hard work and dedication bore fruit and missing so many classes did not affect us much as we won the Peer Choice Award.

In Kobe, we went for a cruise and visited the Kobe Zoo along with other major tourist attractions like the China Town, just to name a few. We had decided to explore Japan further after the event. Exploring Japan coupled with the winning was utopic. We visited the Osaka Castle and the Universal Studios in Osaka and tried the local delicacies of the city.

The entire journey was truly amazing. Not only did I learn to work well in a team and adjust to new surroundings but also came home with innumerable memories which now holds a special place in my heart. Thanks to everyone at St. Mary's for helping us make this project a success.















































