

Dear folk from Ivory Coast, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, CH, and Korea,

What a mix we are! Two Saudis, three Koreans, 1 Turk, 1 Swiss and a person from the Ivory Coast. For me it is odd to have no Japanese in the group.

Thank you for all your good letters.

M [redacted], once again your letter was excellent. I did not know you are married. Congratulations on your five month old son. What is his name? Is he called "Generous" too, like you? Or did you give him your father's name or your wife's father's name? I have a wife and three kids: 30 years old, 25 and 7. That's quite a spread.

K [redacted], your mood yesterday worried me. You seemed very sleepy and rather switched-off. Quite different from Monday and from last week. I know you can write excellent letters and yet your letters recently have been a bit thin. Have I made you upset or angry? If so, please let me know.

J [redacted], I would like to hear a lot more out your astronomy studies in Korea. Have you begun to study space satellites? No, I did not know that Korea had launched two satellites. Are they military ones? I suppose you want to know what is happening in Pyong Yang.

S [redacted], please write me a letter. It can be a very short, simple one. I want to see your voice on paper.

if you make ten million mistakes. I admire Marzook's letters which are full of mistakes. He makes mistakes but he has the courage to write to me.

Ali, you were not here yesterday. Maybe you were ill. I hope are back with us today.

Sergio, in his letter asks everybody:

"Is the politics of your country good or bad, are people free or not?"

Sergio, you talk of political freedom, but what about all the other types of freedom? Are you a free man? ( please don't write more than five pages in reply!)

Thank you, Jung Won, for your well-written three page letter. It is interesting to know that you can read texts in Japanese and Chinese and well as Korean. Nihongo-wo hanashimaska? You presumably know the "kanji" from Korean but you must have also learnt the Hiragana script? I can see what teaching history is more interesting than teaching language. And yet, for me, teaching language is deeper- it goes nearer the core of the person.

Yours,  
Mario