



I was born and raised in Lapu-Lapu City in the Philippines. This photo shows one of the most famous landmarks in my city, the **Mactan Shrine**, where the statue of Lapu-Lapu, the first Filipino hero, stands as a symbol of bravery and Filipino pride. A city is named after him—Lapu-Lapu City, a highly urbanized city in the Central Visayas region of the Philippines.



Discover the beauty of the Philippines—from the historic Mactan Shrine to vibrant rides on the iconic Jeepney, the country’s beloved public transportation.



Don't be afraid to try—be afraid of not trying

I chose the quote, “Don’t be afraid to try—be afraid of not trying,” because it reflects my journey and teaching belief. I learned that growth comes from trying, even when things feel uncertain. This is what I want my students to remember—that it’s okay to make mistakes. What matters most is having the courage to try.

Hello, my name is *Aimea Linao*, also known as Teacher Miya. I graduated with a Bachelor of Elementary Education, major in General Education, from Lapu-Lapu City College (2017–2018), and I obtained my teaching license in 2019. After becoming a licensed teacher, I chose not to pursue a public school career in the Philippines, as I wanted to explore new opportunities and challenge myself in new environments. I began my teaching journey as an ESL (English as a Second Language) teacher at QQEnglish, where I gained over six years of experience teaching students of all ages in both online and offline settings. Japan has always been my dream country. When I learned about the opportunity to work abroad through QQEnglish, I applied and was fortunate to be selected as one of their teachers.

A JOURNEY OF TEACHING, LEARNING, AND GROWTH IN JAPAN

I arrived in Japan in 2024 and was given the opportunity to work in a kindergarten in Tokyo. I mainly handled English classes for the Kinder 2 class, composed of 5-year-old students. In the afternoons, I was also assigned to the Azukari Hoiku program, where I worked with children from all levels (Nensho, Nenchu, and Nenchou). With these experiences, I have come to understand that students learn best when lessons are engaging, interactive, and suited to their level. In addition, I supported students preparing for the EIKEN test, particularly the Bronze level, and participated in various school events such as school concerts and Sports Day. As an English teacher, my goal has always been to make learning engaging, enjoyable, and easy for young learners.

As I take this next step, I am excited to join schools in Tawaramoto and support students in their English learning. I look forward to working closely with local teachers, learning daily school routines, and embracing this new chapter with openness and enthusiasm.



My fellow Filipino teachers and I