

COIL Session 1 (12 May 2026) Report

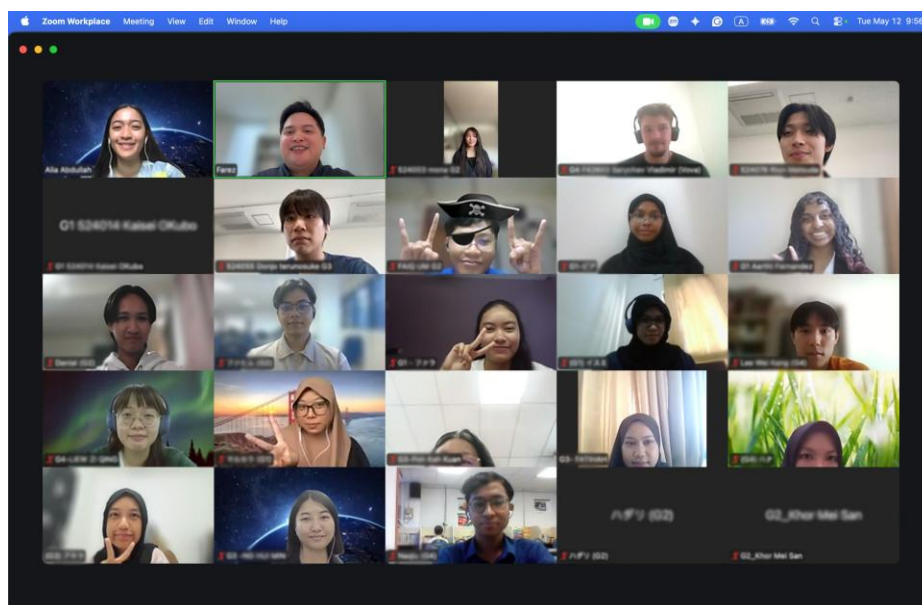
On Tuesday, May 12, 2026, a Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL) session was successfully conducted between students from Kanazawa Seiryu University (KSU) and the University of Malaya (UM), Malaysia.

This session marked the first of two planned meetings designed to foster intercultural dialogue and linguistic development. The initiative involved seven KSU students (including international students from Hungary, Malaysia, and Russia) enrolled in the Interpersonal Communication II, an English-Medium Instruction (EMI) course under Mr Farez Syinon, and seventeen UM students from the Japanese Language IV course, led by Mdm. Alia binti Abdullah.

The session opened with a structured language exchange and icebreaker activity. KSU students first introduced themselves and answered enquiries in English, followed by UM students, who introduced themselves in Japanese. This reciprocal format allowed participants to build rapport while practising their target languages in a supportive environment.

During the second round, students explored the concept of “good English.” This discussion encouraged participants to reflect on how their perceptions of linguistic proficiency are shaped by specific cultural and social contexts. Building on this, students shared unique expressions from their native languages that defy simple translation, highlighting the nuances of cross-cultural communication.

This first COIL session successfully bridged diverse cultural backgrounds through more than just traditional language exchange. By engaging in translanguaging and utilising a blend of Japanese and English, students modelled real-life communication strategies, resulting in a productive and insightful intercultural experience.



COIL Session 2 (9 June 2026) Report

On Tuesday, June 9, 2026, the second Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL) session was successfully held between students from Kanazawa Seiryō University (KSU) and the University of Malaya (UM) in Malaysia.

This session marked the end of a two-part online exchange programme designed to promote intercultural communication and multilingual interaction. Participants were divided into four breakout rooms, each with six students, creating an environment that encouraged active participation and meaningful discussion among all members.

During the first round, UM students delivered presentations in Japanese introducing their hometowns. Following each presentation, KSU students engaged in question-and-answer sessions, using both Japanese and English to seek clarification and learn more about the cultural and geographical characteristics of different regions in Malaysia. This format provided UM students with an authentic opportunity to use Japanese while fostering intercultural curiosity among KSU students.

In the second round, KSU students presented their analyses of English-language signs found in a tourist area of Kanazawa. The data had been collected during a linguistic landscape field trip conducted as part of the Interpersonal Communication II course. Presentations were delivered in English and were followed by interactive discussions with UM students, who posed questions and shared their perspectives through a flexible combination of English and Japanese.

This second COIL session successfully integrated language learning, intercultural exchange, and applied linguistic analysis. Through presentations, discussions, and translanguaging practices, students from both institutions demonstrated their ability to communicate across linguistic boundaries while deepening their understanding of language use in diverse cultural contexts.

