

Japanese Language Module 2-1 Interview English Translation

Interviewer: Professor Asano, thank you very much for taking the time today despite your busy schedule. First of all, please briefly introduce yourself, Professor Asano.

Asano: Yes, my name is Kohei Asano. I live in Japan. While I am an interactive artist, I am also a faculty member at the Department of Interactive Media, Faculty of Arts, Tokyo Institute of Technology.

To explain interactive art, there is a big genre called media art as generally known, and it involves expressive activities with cutting-edge technology using computers and so on. I think it is a relatively recent genre. Within this field, I am doing interactive art as an artist, creating interactive and experiential works using interactions involving computers. I share various knowledge and experiences gained through these activities with students through practical training at the university.

Interviewer: Next, I would like to ask you somewhat personal questions. Could you tell me where you grew up and if you wanted to do something like your current job when you were little? Do you have any memories of thinking about something to do with the current job?

Asano: I was born in Nakano-ku, Tokyo, but when I was in the middle grade of elementary school, I moved to Chiba and then grew up in Chiba after that. Well, when I was a kid, when I was really small, I seemed to love making and crafting things, and when I see my elementary school graduation album, I see that I wrote that I wanted to think about and make new machines and that I wanted to be the president of a company [which does that]. Also, there was a broadcasting committee member position in junior high school, and rather than talking on the on-campus broadcasting at the school, I enjoyed work behind the scenes, playing with the equipment. So, in a broad sense, I have always been interested in things like playing with the equipment and behind-the-scenes work, and such interest is connected to what I am now.