



Two Incredible Japanese Students Achieved Reading Greatness

Maya and Yuna immigrated to the United States in 2018. They both ended up in the same middle school in San Diego, California. Maya entered middle school as a 6th grader and Yuna was in 7th grade.

Both Maya and Yuna came to the United States fluent in Japanese. They had a few years of English instruction in Japan, but they were not ready for English only classes, so they began their middle school journey in sheltered ELD English, ELD science, and ELD social studies.

Quindew is a reading program used in the EL department at their middle school. They created Quindew accounts in September 2018.

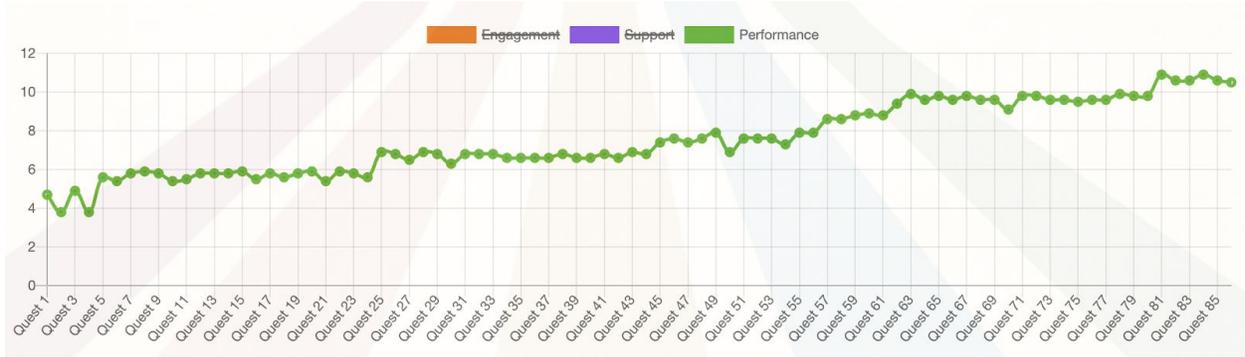
Quindew offered grade level texts and lessons at the start of the program. After 12 weeks, Quindew identified Maya and Yuna as 4th grade readers.

As you can see from the green line in the graphs below, both Maya and Yuna experienced steady growth over two years.



Maya's performance from the 2018-2020 school years.

Maya entered school as a 6th grader reading at a 4.7 grade level. Two years later, Maya entered the 8th grade reading at a 7.8 grade level. Maya successfully caught up to her English speaking peers in two years.



Yuna's performance from the 2018-2020 school years.

Yuna entered school as a 7th grader reading at a 4.9 grade level. She ended 8th grade reading at a 10.8 grade level. Yuna had caught up to her English speaking peers and exceeded standards after two years of hard work.

It's important to acknowledge that Maya and Yuna were completing reading tasks in their other content areas while they were learning on Quindew. Maya and Yuna's success did not happen in a bubble, and language acquisition is a result of many factors; however, Quindew did play a significant role in Maya



and Yuna's knowledge of reading, reading fluency, and reading comprehension.

Maya and Yuna enjoyed their Quindew experience and requested to share their feedback in this case study. Here is Maya's feedback.

I have been using Quindew for about two years and have enjoyed many things. There are lots of good parts in Quindew that make people who are learning a second language feel nice and fun about learning English. I have completed 75 Quests and have learned so many things about reading. First, it improved my reading skills. You have to answer some questions to complete a Quest. If you get it right, you get the green mark. If you get three or more questions right, you get some badges. This reminds me of a game that you complete many Quests to reach the goal like a role playing game, so you can enjoy this program just like you are playing a game! Second, I gained a lot of knowledge from Quindew. You read about many informational texts, argument texts, and narrative stories. Every time you sign in to Quindew and do some Quests, you learn about completely different topics from the previous Quests. You learn about science, social studies, and popular topics. You can tell your friends about those topics and you read them so you know a lot about them! Quindew is fun and it helped me grow as a reader of English. - Maya

On average, both Maya and Yuna took 20 minutes to complete a Quest (a Quindew reading lesson). 20 minutes per Quest or lesson is Quindew's recommended time. Maya and Yuna completed over 1,500 learning minutes (or 25 hours of explicit reading practice on Quindew). They defined unfamiliar words in the texts they were reading, used tips and video tutorials to help them answer questions correctly, and took the time to read and reread information to make sure they understood the question and the text.

Here is what Yuna had to say about the program as she exited middle school and headed to high school.



There are a lot of good things about Quindew. It helped me to improve my English reading skills. The things that I like about Quindew is that it's easy to use, there are tips to use, and we get cherry or diamonds as we work. Sometimes we can't just ask a question to a teacher and can be stuck with the same problem for long, but using the tips, we can figure out the way to solve a problem by ourselves. Quindew is simple and good at teaching us reading. It looks nice too, even my younger brother who is in 3rd grade is enjoying it very much. I also like that Quindew has many types of texts to read. Compared to other reading websites, Quindew has more types of text and they are well organized. That's why people of all ages can enjoy it very much. And we can use Quindew at home too. Finally, I like the cherry and diamond system. I work harder to get more of them, and it is fun when we get a lot of them. Also, I can change the coach or the background by spending the diamonds, so I don't get bored with Quindew, and it keeps me excited every time. In these ways, I think that Quindew is a great tool to improve English reading skills. - Yuna

Both Maya and Yuna worked hard to accelerate their English proficiency. They were always engaged in Quindew lessons and felt confident, even though they couldn't read English all that well when they came to the United States.

At the end of Season 1 (approximately 6 weeks), Maya was reading at 4.7 and Yuna was reading at 4.9. Two years later, Maya climbed to an impressive 7.8 reading grade level and Yuna catapulted to 10.8 reading grade level. Maya grew 3+ grade levels in two years and Yuna grew nearly 6 grade levels. These are truly extraordinary students with an incredible story to share.

The results of this case study are above average; however, Quindew shows that students on average grow .5 of a grade level after completing a Season or 12 Quests. Students who complete 4 Seasons or 48 Quests grow on average 2 grade levels. The takeaway: the more students Quindew, the more they will grow as readers.