

After logging in:

1. Write an essay about yourself

Without an introductory essay from you, other members are unable to leave you any comments. So once you are logged in, first write an essay about yourself.

If you do not receive any comments even after you have written essays, think of creative ways of writing them. You may want to explore topics that other members will find interesting or easy to respond to, or ask questions. You may want to upload photos or pictures that are related to what you've written. In this case, however, make sure you have cleared copyrights and portrait rights first.

2. Leave comments on other members' pages

If you do not receive any comments even after you have written essays, try leaving comments in response to other members' essays. Leaving comments for those who have been writing numerous essays, or those who have logged in recently may increase your chances of receiving responses right away.

Indicated on the top right hand corner of each member's page under "Last Login" is the last time that member logged into his or her account. You can use this to check whether or not that member is an active participant in Tsunagaaru.

3. Add members to "Favorite Members"

If you find certain members particularly interesting after reading their profiles or essays, add them to "Favorite Members" by clicking on the green "Add to Favorites" box at the top of their pages.

Once you have added someone to "Favorite Members," their new essays will automatically appear on your "My Page" whenever you log in, allowing you to avoid the hassle of searching for them.

4. Create a "Community"

In "Communities," you can participate in discussions of various themes of common interest along with members from many different countries. It can also be useful when you are trying to do research.

- 1) Go to the “Communities” page.
- 2) Click on “Set Up a Community.”
- 3) Name your “Community.” Choose a name that gives people a clear idea of what the “Community” is about.
- 4) Write a description of what you hope to do in your “Community.” Writing the description in both Japanese and English may allow you to capture a wider audience. Those of you who understand Chinese or Korean may want to write in those languages as well.
- 5) Upload any photos or pictures, if you choose to do so. However, if you wish to use photos of other people, you must first obtain their permission, even if they are your friends. In the case of celebrities or *anime/manga* characters, you must obtain permission from the companies or individuals that possess the rights to their images, such as copyrights and portrait rights. Even in the case of pictures you have drawn of *anime* characters, you must first obtain permission from the rights holders.
- 6) Click on “Set Up.” It will take one to three days for TjF to approve your “Community.”
- 7) Once your “Community” has been approved, create specific “Topics” within your “Community.” Discussions take place under each “Topic,” and until these are created, no one can leave any comments.
- 8) If no one is leaving comments even after you have set up your “Topics” :
 - Try advertising the “Community” in an essay on your “My Page.”
 - On the “Members” page, go to “Interests” under “Member Search.” Conduct a search using keywords that relate to your “Community.” This will bring up a list of members who have indicated an interest in those keywords. Leave comments on these members’ pages, telling them about your “Community” and asking them to join.

If you have any questions or problems, contact the Tsunagaaru staff at tsunakanri@tjf.or.jp.