# Title

Change

# Body

## Childhood

Do you know the proverb “塞翁が馬?”, a life is a chain of bad change and good change.

My life is also like that.

First good change was happened on April 12th, 1977 .

That is a day when I was born.

However, I was very skinny and frequently got sick when I was small.

How skinny I was? My rib bones were clearly shown on my chest. It was like spare ribs.

That changed my parents' mind, they decided to make me go to swimming school so that I could be healthy and be strong.

As a result, I became healthy and my body was changed from skinny to slim

However, this pretty good result changed the mind of my parents.

They thought, there was no need for me to go to swimming school any more.

So I quit the swimming school at the age of 10 and started to go to English conversation school instead.

This decision made two changes for me. Good and Bad.

Even after quitting the swimming school, still I ate the same amount of food.

As a result, my body changed from slim to fat! I’ve never been a normal weight.

When I was born, my body was like spare ribs, but now it is 三段腹

What I want is six packs but what I get is three packs.

## English and my job

On the other hand, English skill is helping me a lot in my career

I started my career as an IT engineer in 1999 at a small IT company.

I have assigned to a project which used Internet technologies.

Nowadays, Internet is quite common among people, however it was very new technology in 1999.

Therefore, there was no sufficient technical document in Japanese. Most of the documents were written in English

I thanked to the decision to start learning English when I was young.

After several years, I decided to move to the next company.

## Working with people across the globe

It is an IT consulting company. And I had many colleagues across the globe.

There were internal group mails to have technical discussions in English.

I actively participated in those groups and share my knowledge as much as possible.

As a result, I got a chance to attend the internal technical conference held in United States.

What impressed me the most at the conference was not a technical one but attendees from all over the world. I met French, Italian, Indian and so on.

Every non-native speaker had their own dialect and it was hard to understand. However they were so confident.

From this experience, I learned that the most important point is what I speak, not how fluently I speak. If audiences are interested in the topic, they will listen to me even there are some small mistakes.

However, the company requested me very long working hours. So I decided to left the company.

## Leadership

Now, I am at the third company and assuming a project manager.

My boss and most of my colleagues are Indian.

Therefore, the challenge in my career is to improve my English communication and leadership skills.

On February, I attended a seminar and the instructor said “You can improve those skills. But you need a practice. And toastmaster is the best to practice those.” That’s why I joined the club.

## Conclusion

So far, I joined several toastmasters meeting and I found the evaluation can also be a key to success my business.

At the workshop TM Takayama explained the importance of the evaluation.

I thought the same is applicable for my team, so I started providing feedbacks to my members to improve members, myself and the team.

I hope my decision to join toastmaster clubs makes me a good change!

Toastmaster