

## Further Resources on Kaneshiro's Novel "Go"

Compiled by the University of Pittsburgh National Consortium for Teaching About Asia (NCTA)  
<https://www.ucis.pitt.edu/ncta/>

Roh, David S. "Kaneshiro Kazuki's GO and the American Racializing of Zainichi Koreans." In *Verge: Studies in Global Asias*, vol. 2, no. 2, 2016, pp. 163–187. JSTOR,  
[www.jstor.org/stable/10.5749/vergstudglobasia.2.2.0163](http://www.jstor.org/stable/10.5749/vergstudglobasia.2.2.0163)

The Movie version of "Go":

<https://www.veoh.com/watch/v18687103bJ7XhrJB> (all in Japanese without English subtitles)

<https://www.newasian.tv/watch/go-2001.3942.78137.html> (this version has English Subtitles, but there are some pop-ups before the film begins)

Japan Times from 2016 – Article about 2016 Anti-Hate Speech Law and Protests (Plus includes talk about documentary Cry Baby Boxing Club about NK Japanese School Boxing Team)

<https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2016/05/07/national/media-national/japans-resident-koreans-endure-climate-hate/#.Xs-xLi-z0cg>

Cry Baby Boxing Club – 2015 Documentary about Korean-Japanese Highschool boxing club

Blurb about the film: At a school for Korean residents in Japan, KIM Sang-su coaches at an afterschool boxing club. The students in the club start training for the big tournament which all Korean schools in Japan will attend. They train hard as they all work towards their dreams. As the school year moves toward the end, the students prepare to take their first steps into Japanese society.

Promo: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ICCiz0knsWQ>

A conversation with the English translator of the bestselling novel Go by Kazuki Kaneshiro:

<https://iexaminer.org/a-conversation-with-the-english-translator-of-the-bestselling-novel-go-by-kazuki-kaneshiro/>

Recent article about Zainichi Koreans from 2019 that provides a good overview of Zainichi History.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/02/25/world/asia/korea-japan-diaspora.html>

On the term "Chosenjin" as a racial slur in Japan:

[http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/art/2019/04/682\\_268035.html#](http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/art/2019/04/682_268035.html#)

## Possible Discussion Questions on “Go”

### (Historical/Sociological based questions from Dr. David Kenley)

1. What are the main elements in Zainichi identity? What must Koreans in Japan do to “pass?” Provide examples from the book.
2. What are some of the structural elements impeding the full integration of Korean-Japanese into society? What are some of the cultural elements? Provide examples from the book.
3. Some individuals have predicted that the Zainichi community will cease to exist in the twenty-first century as assimilation becomes ubiquitous. Based on your reading of the story, what is your take on this prediction?
4. Ms. Chin, a Zainichi living in Tokyo recently said: “North Korea is my country, but I’m lucky that I was born in Japan. Which team would I cheer for if I watched a soccer game between North Korea and Japan? It’s hard to answer that.” How might the protagonist of Go answer this question?

### (Analytical/English Lit Analysis questions from Michele Beauchamp)

1. How would American teenage students react to the novel? What context or background about Japan/Korea would they need to understand it?
2. How could the book become part of an existing curriculum (civics, anthropology, geography)? Could it work as a whole class assignment, small group, or student choice reading?
3. In an interview about her translation, Takami Neida describes narrator Sugihara’s voice as “rebellious”, “sardonic”, “smart-alecky.” How did this narrator affect your reading?
4. What does the *Romeo and Juliet* style love story contribute to the novel? Why does Kaneshiro put teenage lovers central in a book that deals with discrimination and citizenship?
5. How might readers react to the many popular culture references in the book (movies, music, books)?