March 2021
れいわねんがつごう
令和3年3月号

Illustration by Yachiyogoyomi @ https://tee-room.info/japan/index.html
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12 March

Tuanagari Japan: Kaiwa Club Meeting
Friday MARCH 12, 2021 8PM – 9 PM EST

It’s always full of fun. We have discussions of cultural topics, music, pop-culture as well as language practice. Be sure to stop by!
Zoom Meeting Link: https://cwru.zoom.us/j/99995917118?pwd=LzMzNm41RnpTQXVkJbi6dXN2MWRXT09#success

Interested? Join us on our Group Page: https://community.case.edu/tjp/home/

13 March

2021 OHIO JAPANESE SPEECH CONTEST
SATURDAY MARCH 13, 2021 10 AM - 5 PM

FULL CONTEST STREAMED LIVE TO THE JASCO YOUTUBE CHANNEL (https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC2Pz5YNmHVMf_BEPVjIsOw). Due to how the streaming setup works, we are not able to announce the livestream address before Saturday afternoon. We recommend that you subscribe to our channel and ask to receive notifications of when we have new uploads or live broadcasts, or like us on Facebook (Facebook.com/JASCentralOhio) to see our announcements!

19 & 26 March

10 YEARS WITH HAYAO MIYAZAKI: A SPECIAL FILM SCREENING SERIES
MARCH 19 & 26, 2021 6-8 PM

Join JASCO for a special online film series as we screen the NHK Documentary 10 Years with Hayao Miyazaki. Enjoy this documentary chronicling the creative process of the legendary Japanese filmmaker Hayao Miyazaki, co-founder of Studio Ghibli, from the comfort of your own home while still enjoying the experience with friends from the JASCO network!

Viewing is free, but preregistration is required. Viewing links will be shared upon registration.
Click here to register:
Part 1 - https://jasco.wildapricot.org/event-4197995
Part 2 - https://jasco.wildapricot.org/event-4204046

To read more information provided by JASCO, please visit https://www.jas-co.org/events
My Thoughts on the Tsunagari Japan 2/19 Meeting

ティム・カオ
(Student in JAPN202: Intermediate Japanese II class)

We started the meeting by introducing ourselves in Japanese. I said something basic like「ティムと申します。生体医工学の二年生です。よろしくお願いします。」("I’m Tim. I am a second-year biomedical engineering student. Pleased to meet you"). We then went into breakout rooms in groups of three. My group was with Ziyi Zhenさん and Nomura Kimikoさん.

Nomuraさん is from Aichi Medical University in Nagoya, Japan. At first, I was really nervous! Usually, when talking to my classmates, it was accepted that we would make many mistakes and we wouldn’t be offended if one missed an honorific or two. I was worried that I might say something rude to our native speaker. As a result, it was kind of hard to break the ice, but we did it in the end, as I eventually just gave up and spoke without worrying about it.

Our group talked about a wide variety of topics. Notably, Nomuraさん and I had both traveled to Australia. We talked about the cities we went to and the favorite things we did. I asked what Nomuraさん thought about the wildlife, specifically the emu (essentially a smaller and nicer ostrich); she had no idea what I was talking about. I suggested she search up emu with エム which
made her even more confused since エム is not the same as emu. Eventually we figured out that emu is typed as エミュー in katakana.

After 15 minutes, it was time to switch to English conversation. Since the start of the breakout room I was wondering how I should address Nomuraさん. I wasn’t confident enough to ask her in Japanese (now that I think of it, we were never explicitly taught how to ask how one would like to be addressed in class) ... I ended up asking her “How would you like us to address you?” To which she responded with 「くみこ、でも私の友達はくみちゃんって呼ぶよ。」 (“you may) call me Kumiko, but my friends call me Kumi-chan”), so I (rather foolishly in hindsight) replied with 「じゃあ、くみちゃんって、呼んでいい？」 (“so, I can call you Kumi-chan?”). To my relief she said 「いいよ！」 (“sure!”). Time really flew by quickly, and before I knew it, we were asked to return to the main session.

The meeting concluded with all the breakout groups sharing what they talked about. Before the meeting ended, I sent a message to Kumiちゃん「くみちゃんと話したのは本当に楽しかった！」「I really enjoyed talking with you!”). She replied with 「私も楽しかった！ティムさんの日本語はすごく上手！」「I had fun too! Your Japanese is super good!”) and I gained a bit more confidence in my speaking abilities.

I learned a lot from having a conversation with a native speaker. I found that staying either敬語 (polite language) mode or casual mode was very challenging for me. We asked Kumiちゃん if we could talk casually with her and she agreed, but -ます and -です just came out so easily as that’s what’s most familiar to me (since it’s the first thing we learn in Japanese). It also made me realize how hard it is to say something rude in English compared to Japanese (In English, anything short of swear words is not considered rude (i think)). It reminded me of the character Izuna Hatsuse from the anime “No Game No Life” where she would always add -です to the end of every sentence thinking it would make it polite (which is obviously not the case). However, in English this kind of works if you add “please” to the end of every request.

Overall, talking to Kumiちゃん was a really humbling experience because it showed me how much I need to go to have a natural, fluid conversation. Right now, I can express my ideas, but it’s awkward and clumsy. My grammar really needs work, and my vocabulary needs to expand. I hope that I can talk to Kumiちゃん again and ask her「本当にくみちゃんて呼んでもいいですか」and other interesting questions. I really like where Tsunagari JP is going; having actual conversations with Japanese native speakers allows us to truly limit-test our Japanese communication skills.
As a student now approaching my senior year, I can honestly say that The World of Manga course has been one of my favorite academic experiences. Not only did we learn the history of manga in itself, but the way it impacted and was influenced by the culture around the world. The way the course was set up made learning the material more than enjoyable. By the end of the semester, I knew each of my classmates individually from each meeting’s in-class discussions. The information we learned about the standards of modern industry and the sheer devotion mangaka show when working to meet their deadlines could easily be applied to ANY student’s field of study.

My favorite parts of the course were the midterm and final projects. The facilitation midterm project gave me so much information on how far manga and its influence has spread across the world. It also gave me an insight into so many different facets of the industry with things I never considered when thinking of manga. Groups of students reported their research on the manga industry of a country other than Japan. The research included topics like fandom, cultural influence,
or marketing. Not only did I get the chance to see manga from countries like China, Korea, and even the United States, but I got an insight into a global market as well.

The final project was much more independent. It allowed each student to select from a series of options on how to display what they learned over the semester about the creation and development of manga by taking the role themselves. One could either translate a manga of their choice, analyze a manga, or make a manga of their own. My personal choice was to make a manga of my own, though I did have a small alteration to the outlined project. I had the idea to adapt a work of literature into a manga of my own drawing. After consulting with Onitsuka (Nishida) Sensei who cleared the project, I drew panels in an attempt to bring life to Dr. Aleron Kong’s story, The Land: Forging. The story is packed with both action and witty humor which made it the perfect candidate to keep me interested in piecing together scenes while providing enough content to pull in anyone who read it as well. If the project itself wasn’t cool enough, our class had a presentation period where we had an almost gallery-style display of our work where other students could come view our finished product, along with a poster or presentation to provide an explanation of our process to anyone who came to see our projects.

Overall, this course was an absolute pleasure to be a part of. It somehow wrapped topics of marketing, strategy, history, critical thinking, and devotion in with comics, manga, animation, and storytelling. This was by far one of my favorite courses, and I would take it, again and again, to see how it changes each with each section if I were able.

Dr. Aleron Kong’s website: www.litrpg.com
Amazon author page: http://amazon.com/author/www.litrpg.com
Visit here to look at his project.
https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1i4oO7ksYZ2v4soudhj3lx7Uq8aEnSUp?usp=sharing
はじめまして。ぼくの名前はジュンロン・クァンです。日本語102のクラスと日本語215のクラスを取りました。先生は鬼塚（西田）先生でした。今日は日本語215のクラス「漫画の世界」について話しと思っています。

四月に大きな漫画のプロジェクトがありました。だから、悲しい話を書きました。僕のオリジナルの作品です。この物語は、高校生と母親が亡くなった妹が怖い人の家に住んでいたという物語です。15ページ描くという制限があったので、少し難しかったです。でも、これは楽しかったので、頑張りました。
Visit here to look at his project.
https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1TBOl33SUqw-wfZKoqQClbb7up8_4CDS?usp=sharing
このニュースによると、日本も、アメリカと同様に、国民にお金を出すことが決まりました。でも、一つの違いは、お金をもらうことができる人です。日本は、日本に3か月よりも長い資格を持っていた人と役所に住所などを登録している外国人がお金をもらうことができるようになりました。アメリカの方は、アメリカ人とアメリカに4年以上滞在している外国人がお金をもらうことができます。

私の個人的な考えでは、両方の国のこの緊急事態に対する解決策はとても素晴らしいと思います。その理由は二つあります。一つは、国民の不安を最低限に抑えることができるからです。もう一つの理由は、国民の怒りも抑えることができるからです。コロナウイルスのせいで、全世界の経済は悪くなりました。多くの人たちは、仕事を見つからず、収入なしで生活しています。特にアメリカでは、たくさんの人は今仕事を見つけられず、収入なしで生活しています。それに、たいていのアメリカ人がお金を貯めることができないのでは、収入なしでの生活はとても大変です。結局的に、今たくさんのアメリカの国民はすごく怒っています。日本の状況はあまり知らないですが、一つだけ確かなことは、コロナウイルスのせいで、日本の経済は就職の環境も少しも影響されていることです。だから、この解決策はとても素晴らしいと思います。

最後に、コロナウイルスが早くなくなることを願っています。

Reference: https://www3.nhk.or.jp/news/easy/k10012413321000/k10012413321000.html
The Summer 2021 Elementary Japanese courses (JAPN 101 and JAPN 102) offer intensive online language instruction, where you can learn one-year of Japanese language skills in two months! We will explore the basic language skills of speaking, listening, reading, writing, along with Japanese culture -- all designed for students with no Japanese language background. Students learn through communicative activities with other classmates as well as through various online and internet accessible materials. The courses are remote-synchronous meetings. The JAPN 102 course prerequisite is passing JAPN 101 with a grade of C or higher, or the equivalent with approval of the instructor.

Please contact Yukiko Nishida (yukiko.nishida@case.edu) or Margaret Fitzgerald (margaret.fitzgerald@case.edu) for more details.
Do you love reading manga? Yes, we are going to enhance your reading skills in Japanese with the use of manga through remote-synchronous meetings! The emphasis will be put on acquiring the skills to enjoy reading Japanese manga contents without translation. Students will review and learn Japanese structures and expressions, and have the opportunity to explore colloquialisms, speech styles, onomatopoeia, contractions, interjections, and other elements of speech, and a lot more. The classes will primarily be conducted in Japanese. The course prerequisite is either passing JAPN202 with a grade of C or higher, or the equivalent with approval of the instructor.

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Please contact Yukiko Nishida (yukiko.nishida@case.edu) for more information.
A Cooking Recipe I Recommend

わたしがオススメのレシピ

Transcribed by Dixon Hu ディクソン・フ
(Student in JAPN202: Intermediate Japanese II class)

Put ingredients in rice cooker and cook it as normal rice.

- [white wheat] cheesy rice
- water 500ml
- stock cube: 1 cube
- bacon (cut into cubes)
- onion (minced) 1/4
- brown clamshell 1/2 bag

After rice is cooked, add ingredients and mix. Season with salt and it’s done!

- Pizza cheese (50g)
- Cream 2 tbsp spoons

Mix with egg yolk to become carbonara style!
For the original recipes in Japanese, visit here;
https://twitter.com/boku_5656/status/1362373101913206785?s=20
https://twitter.com/boku_5656/status/1362009007884439555?s=20
The expression 急がば回れ (isogaba maware) means “If you rush, you’ll go around in circles.”

A similar expression in English is “Haste makes waste.”

Sometimes if you try to take a shortcut, you end up getting lost and it takes more time than it would have if you just went the normal way.

The idea of this expression is that it is better to stay calm and do things in a sure way, rather than trying to find a quicker way.

★ 急ぐ (isugu): “to hurry”
★ 回る (mawaru): “to go around in circles“

References:
Would you like to write your own article to share your love of Japan, its culture and society? Do you want to share your favorite anime, manga, video games, novels, movies, sports, etc.? Or share student activities, events and other interesting information? Please do!

IF YOU ARE CURRENTLY TAKING A COURSE IN THE JAPANESE STUDIES PROGRAM, YOU MAY EARN EXTRA CREDIT FOR THE COURSE(S) YOU ARE IN! CONTACT YOUR INSTRUCTOR ABOUT MORE INFORMATION.

How to Submit Your Article

1. Submit an article as a Microsoft Word document. Each article should be at least 100 words (either in Japanese or English).
2. Pictures for your article can be either e-mailed separately or inserted into the article
3. Include a heading and subheading (if applicable)
4. Include your name and the course(s) in which you are/were enrolled (if applicable)
5. Send your article to Yukiko Onitsuka (Nishida) at yukiko.nishida@case.edu

The theme for the April issue is “I Found Spring!”

Of course, you can submit something different from this theme!

*Your article can also be held for use in future issues.
**If your article requires excessive editing, you will be asked to rework it.

Deadline for April Issue: March 29, 2021

References:
Picture on top: By Mojiji, retrieved from https://twitter.com/mojimojiji/status/111088666975473671
Picture on the right: By Norimaki Arare, retrieved from https://www.pinterest.jp/pin/332914597452799555/