

JLC - Making a Mark at Language World

ALL 日本語部会 (JLC) は引き続き えいこくちゅうとうきょういく にほんごきょうし こえ 英国中等教育レベルの日本語教師の声 を代弁していこうと頑張っています。 7月にダービーで開催された「ランゲ ージワールド」での日本語関連プログ ラムは好評でした。日本語部会の展示 ブースには、週末にかけておよそ 50 人 #とず しょうらいに ほん **こ**きょういく どうにゅう **が訪れ、将来日本語教育を**導入しよう と興味を持っている方々から多くの 質問を受けました。30人の現職教師が、 初日に行われたJLC主催の日本語セッ ションに参加しました。トピックは Building Blocks in Reading Japanese か ら Vocational Japanese まで多岐に及 び、実際にコンピューターでインターネ ットや日本語入力を体験する機会もあ りました。JLCでは来年「JAPAN 2001」 にちなんだ会議を企画していますので、 2003 年度 GCSE 受験者予想人数を送付 してくださった皆様、ご協力ありがと うございました。現在 GCSE の ないようこうじょう こうとうしけん どうにゅう ひ 内容向上のため、口答試験の導入を引 き続き陳情しているところです。今年 の秋にはプログラムの一貫として第2 回「ICT and Japanese」ワークショッ

ALL's Japanese Language Committee (JLC) continues to provide a voice for teachers of Japanese in the UK secondary sector.

We were delighted with the response to our Japanese programme at Language World in Derby in July. Some 50 people visited the information and exhibition stand manned by the Committee over the weekend, with many enquirers interested in the possibility of introducing Japanese in the future. 30 practising teachers took advantage of the programme of Japanese-specific sessions organised by the JLC on the first day of the Conference. Topics covered ranged from Building Blocks in Reading Japanese to Vocational Japanese and participants had the opportunity to investigate the internet and Japanese word-processing through hands-on computer workshops. We have already started planning next year's conference, a special one for the JLC as it will coincide with the Japan 2001 celebrations, so do get in touch if you have any ideas you wish to share.

Thank you to all those of you who sent us details of potential numbers of GCSE



candidates for 2003. We have now submitted our 'petition' to the GCSE Review of Modern Foreign Languages and we will continue to work with the Exam Board to improve the status of speaking within the GCSE. We are also planning a second ICT and Japanese workshop this autumn as part of our regional programme, this time to be held in the London / SE area. Contact ALL on 01788 546443 for further details.

Ross Warren, Chair, Japanese Language Committee, c/o St Bernard's Convent School, tel: 01753 527020.

### **BATJ Update**

We are delighted to announce the publication of the first issue of *BATJ Journal*, which I hope you have all seen. It is a Journal for Japanese language teachers by Japanese language teachers and I sincerely hope that it will be a source of inspiration for teachers as well as an effective means of mutual communication.

The 3rd Annual BATJ Conference took place at the University of Birmingham on September 2 and 3 and was attended by over 60 participants. It was our first conference outside London and teachers welcomed the opportunity to spend two days together.

The keynote speaker was Professor Seiichi Makino of Princeton University, who gave a presentation on *How to teach culture in grammar*, while Professor Shin Nitoguri of Tokyo Gakugei University spoke on *The Use of Multimedia in Japanese Language Education*.

October sees BATJ into its third year, which means it is time to renew your membership. We are planning to hold a series of regional workshops this autumn, details of which will be available soon. We are also still accepting entries for the BATJ logo competition, so if you have a good idea for a suitable black and white logo, send it to me by 31 October. The winner will receive free membership and entry to all BATJ activities for a year.

For further information about BATJ or to submit entries for the logo competition, please contact me (Mrs Kazumi Tanaka) at: Dept of East Asia, SOAS, University of London, Thornhaugh Street, London WC1H OXG. Fax: 020 7898 4239; E-mail: kt2@so as.ac.uk, or visit the BATJ website at: www.essex.ac.uk/centres/japan/batj/.

# At the chalkface

546443) までお問い合わせ下さい。

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Setsuko Kohaya with her pupils in Kyoto

### WESTWOOD HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

Continuing our series on individual institutions teaching Japanese in the UK, this issue we focus on Westwood High School for Girls. Based in Croydon, Westwood is a large comprehensive school, which has recently applied for Language College status.

Setsuko Kohaya who teaches Japanese at Westwood is delighted by how quickly Japanese has developed at the school, "My Japanese class started from almost nothing four years ago, and yet Japanese is now offered alongside Spanish and German as a second language. We have 7 pupils who have just finished GCSE in year 11, 8 in year 10, 13 in year 9 and 28 in year 8. From this September we also plan to offer an after-

school language club where year 7 pupils can learn katakana and hiragana."

Last February, Kohaya Sensei accompanied nine members of her Year 11 class on an exchange trip to Japan, building on links with Shukugawa Gakuen in Nishinomiya City. Pupils spent six days in Nishinomiya, Kobe, Ashiya and Osaka and were encouraged by the fact that they could communicate with their Japanese host families much more effectively than they had expected. The last two days in Kyoto gave them an opportunity to experience a traditional Japanese inn, observe a special Buddhist memorial service in Higashi Honganji, and even to demonstrate their skills in karaoke.

This term we focus on the set topics for the new AS/A Level examination in Japanese: A Region or Prefecture in Japan, The Meiji Period, Contemporary Japanese Society and The Seasons in Japan. Our advisers have



highlighted several books on each topic, and a more extensive selection will be on display in the library this autumn, so do come and visit us if you have the chance. We have concentrated on texts written in Japanese which are graded to be accessible to students at this level, but we have also included one useful reference book in English and several English websites with up-to-date background information.

For general enquiries about the library or our loan by post service, you can contact the Librarian by e-mail at francoise@nihongocentre.org.uk. Library holidays this term are:

### 1. A Region or Prefecture of Japan

(日本事情シリーズ) 日本の地理と

Toyoko Toyoda Bonjinsha, 1996

This book provides a basic outline of Japanese geography, focusing on areas such as location, climate, industry and transport. Language is graded to make the initial chapters accessible to beginners, while later chapters use more advanced Japanese. Furigana is provided for difficult kanji and a range of photographs, maps, figures and diagrams enhance students' understanding of the written text. A supplementary workbook is provided, which helps to reinforce the main text.

#### Japan - Eyes on the Country: Views of the 47 Prefectures Foreign Press Centre, Japan, 1997

This unique handbook gives a lively introduction to the 47 prefectures in Japan. Originally designed for foreign journalists, the book is written in English and contains some very detailed information, but sections on Sites of Interest to Travellers, Event Calendar, Famous Cuisine and A Brief History will be a useful source of basic reference material for both teachers and students. The text is illustrated throughout with maps and photographs.

### 2. The Meiji Period

(日本事情シリーズ) 日本の歴史

Toyoko Toyoda et al Bonjinsha, 1991

This book, which focuses on the cultural and literary aspects of Japanese history rather than the political and economic aspects, is designed for students who have completed 400 hours of Japanese language study. The

difficulty of the Japanese used gradually increases as the chapters proceed. Furigana is given for all except the most basic kanji, and there is also a supplementary list of vocabulary with English translations to help students learn historical terms.

### 留学生のための日本史

Japanese History – An Introductory Text Yamakawa Publishing Company, 1995

This textbook is written mainly for foreign students with an interest in basic Japanese history. Historical events are explained in chronological order, and the Meiji Period is covered in Chapters 17 and 18. The text is written in pre-intermediate Japanese and illustrated with photographs and diagrams, with furigana provided for difficult kanji. Vocabulary lists and English translation for all the texts are attached as a supplement.

#### 3. Contemporary Japanese Society

EER A はな 日本を話そう - 15のテーマで学ぶ EER A U U & 2

#### Aspects of Japanese Society

The Japan Times, 1995 (second edition)

Written primarily for intermediate students who need to develop their understanding of Japanese contemporary society, culture, daily life and attitudes, this book contains chapters on a wide range of topics including: Japanese Houses, Education, Attitudes towards Work and Annual Events. Furigana is supplied for difficult kanji and vocabulary lists and English translations of all the texts are attached as a supplement. Photographs and diagrams provide good resources for classroom discussion.

### にほんじじょうにゅうもん 日本事情入門

View of Today's Japan Sasaki Mizue ALC, 1995

In this book, the fundamental aspects of Japanese daily life, culture, society and attitudes are explained in Japanese as simply as possible. Numerous colour photographs help students to understand the written explanations. On each page, Japanese (with furigana) is given alongside an English translation.

### 4. The Seasons in Japan

読める 日本のくらし 12 か月 Moons, Months and Seasons: A pre-intermediate Japanese reader

国際日本語研究所

Kyobundo, 1992

Aimed at students who have completed 400 hours of study, this book depicts everyday life in Japan in twelve chapters, each focusing on a different month. Chapters are approximately 800 characters in length, written in simple sentences, and use kana and kanji, all of which are listed with their readings in the *How to read Kanji* pages. Topics and vocabulary reflect those which often appear in the mass media in Japan. Illustrations and photographs are provided with English captions and there is also a reference list of vocabulary and phrases for pre-intermediate students at the end of the book.

#### にほんご \*\*\* にほんじじょう にほん し 日本語で学ぶ日本事情 日本を知る にち その暮らし 365日

Gen Itasaka, Masaaki Seki Three A Network, 1996 (Second edition)

This book provides an introduction to Japanese society and culture and is designed for learners who have completed one to one and a half year's intensive Japanese study. Kanji is accompanied by furigana throughout and the vocabulary lists at the end of the book include English translations, synonyms, antonyms, examples and other useful information. The Usage Section gives several examples of each expression, underlined and numbered for easy reference.

### **Useful websites:**

One website that you may find useful is www.jinjapan.org, which has sections on regions, prefectures, atlas, trends, education and society. Each prefecture also has its own website – see for example www.pref.gifu.jp/common/ENG/life.htm If you come across other useful websites that you would like to share, just let us know!

### OXFORD STARTER JAPANESE DICTIONARY

The new *Oxford Starter Japanese Dictionary*, developed by Jonathan Bunt and Gillian Hall at the University of Manchester, provides an effective tool for students of Japanese in the UK, while incorporating several features that might interest teachers, especially at GCSE and new A/S level. The authors have deliberately avoided the use of romanised Japanese to encourage learners to develop their reading skills and to bring the dictionary in line with good teaching practice, the National Curriculum, and GCSE and A/S A level requirements. Rather than giving translations of words where this is misleading, the English-Japanese section gives explanations and examples which show the language in context. The entry for 'intend', for example, reads: "use the dictionary form of the verb + つもりです. Much fuller explanations are given for tricky words like 'brother', 'husband' and 'want' to bring out the difference in usage between languages. In the Japanese to English section, indications of verb conjugation are provided for the most common verbs, as this is an area of grammar where careful use of the dictionary can be an effective teaching and learning strategy. Any feedback on the dictionary can be sent to: j.bunt@man.ac.uk.

The Oxford Starter Japanese Dictionary will be available from Oxford University Press later this month. Price - £9.99, ISBN: 0198601972.

Welcome to the autumn issue of Mado. As you can see from our cover story, the Homestay UK pilot proved to be a great success and we look forward to developing the project further with JFET. From this term, learners can apply to be matched with a Japanese family for a weekend during 2001 - so start planning! Forthcoming dates for your diary include the joint CILT/Nihongo Centre Conference in October and our GCSE INSET Day in February. We will also be holding our first Higher Education Seminar on the Study Tour that month. The resource focus this issue is on the set topics for the new A Level, and Kitani Sensei has created a role play activity to encourage students to think about their future careers for the Teacher's Pages. Finally, thanks to Westwood High School for sending us news for At the Chalkface.

### **Advancing with Japanese**

This one day national conference, organised jointly by CILT and the Japan Foundation, will take place at the Nihongo Centre in London on Thursday 12 October from 9.00am to 4pm. Designed to cater for the needs and interests of teachers of Japanese who are teaching, or considering teaching, A Level Japanese, the conference will focus on strategies and skills for AS and A level teaching, linking up with developments currently taking place in the teaching of European languages. Speakers will include Kitani Sensei from the Nihongo Centre, Anneli McLachlan, Independent MFL Consultant, Claire Dugard and Glenis Shaw, Language Teaching Adviser at CILT. The fee for attendance is £60, or £50 for departments which have joined the CILT Direct scheme. For further details and application forms, please contact Glenis Shaw on 020 7379 5101 ext 232. 「まど」8号をお届けします。現在日本 語センターでは Homestay UK の試行 が成功したことをJFETと共に嬉しく 思っています (1頁)。日本語を学んで いる生徒は、今から2001年の にほんじんかてい 日本人家庭での週末ホームステイの申 し込みができます。10月にはCILTと の合同カンファレンスを、また、来年 の2月にはGCSE INSET DayやStudy Tour をテーマに初めての高等教育機関 っ 向けセミナーを予定しています。リソ ースのコーナーでは新 A レベルの課題 トピックに焦点を当て、木谷先生によ る Teacher's Page では職業をテーマに した教材を紹介しましたがいかがでし たか。最後に、At the Chalkface のコー ナーにニュースを送ってくださったウ エストウッドハイスクールの皆様、ど うもありがとうございました。



### Japanese Language Proficiency Test 2000

The Japanese Language Proficiency Test (JLPT) is an internationally recognised examination in Japanese for non-native speakers, held annually in Japan and overseas.

This year, the JLPT will be held on Sunday, December 3, 2000. For further details and application forms, contact Barbara Lazoi at the Japan Research Centre, SOAS, University of London; tel: 020 7898 4210; fax: 020 7436 3844; e-mail: JLPT@soas.ac.uk

### Last chance to claim FREE resources worth £1,400

Due to the disappointing response to our picture panel offer for schools in the last issue of Mado (pg 3 vol 7), we still have a number of free resources to give away. To claim your set of 800 colour laminated pictures featuring everyday life in Japan, simply call Sally Lewis on 020 7838 9955 quoting 'picture panel offer'. If you provide her with your latest pupil numbers for Japanese, you could find your classroom transformed overnight.

## Links for Japanese Senior High Schools Wanted!

The recent E-Link competition, organised by The British Council and the British Embassy in Japan to stimulate links between British and Japanese schools, has resulted in an overwhelming number of requests from Japanese schools wanting links. This means that the British Council now has the details of a large number of Japanese senior high schools (students aged 15-18) that are seeking long term links with schools and colleges in the UK. Don't miss this opportunity to give your students a chance to use their Japanese in a real situation or simply to learn more about Japan!

JFET is helping to find partners in the UK for these Japanese schools and also provides various resource materials for British schools teaching about Japan. If your students are interested in a link please fill out our online registration form at www.jfet.org.uk (go to school links/apply for a link) or call Samantha Flanders at JFET (Japan Festival Education Trust) on 020 7630 8696.



#### ADVANCING WITH JAPANESE Thursday 12 October

A one-day national conference focusing on strategies for teaching AS and A level Japanese organised by CILT in association with the Nihongo Centre. See noticeboard for further details.

#### **EDEXCEL COURSES**

Strategies for teaching the New and Advanced GCE
Friday 20 October

Course Fee: £100 including lunch and materials.

GCSE - Looking Back - Looking Forward

Wednesday 8 November

Course Fee: £25 including materials.
For further details contact Edexcel on 020 7393 4572

#### **HEAD START**

Wed 24 - Fri 26 January 2001

An intensive introduction to Japanese and the issues associated with teaching it, for Heads of Modern Foreign Languages and senior managers.

### THE NEW GCSE Thursday 8 February

This one day course takes an in-depth look at the revised GCSE for implementation from September 2001.

### HE STUDY TOUR SEMINAR 10 February 2001

A one-day seminar focusing on the Study Tour for Japanese teachers in Higher Education.

#### JAPANESE SIXTH FORM WEEKEND

For 2001, the annual residential immersion course for sixth formers is being extended to include other age groups. Dates are as follows: 16 -18 March Sixth Form Weekend 18 - 20 March Year 7-9 Residential Course 20 - 22 March Year 10 and 11 Residential Course

For further details, contact Lydia Morey

Unless otherwise stated, all events take place at the Nihongo Centre. Please call 020 7838 9955 for further details.

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27 Knightsbridge, London SW1X 70T Telephone: 020 7838 9955 Fax: 020 7838 9966 Website: www.nihongocentre.org.uk