



**Japanese Language Center**  
22430 NE 39<sup>th</sup> Way, Redmond, WA 98053  
Phone: 425-891-2129 Fax: 612-241-9652  
Email: [info@japanese-language.net](mailto:info@japanese-language.net)  
Website: <http://www.japanese-language.net/>

# J L C 通信

**Japanese Language Center (つうしん)**  
**Newsletter March 2012**

## 雛祭 (ひなまつり) **Girls' Day (Hina-matsuri)**

Hina-matsuri is the Doll Festival, which is the Girl's Festival celebrated on March 3. It is also a seasonal festival called Momo-no-sekku featuring peach blossoms. Hina-matsuri dates from the medieval times, but the custom of displaying dolls in this fashion started in the eighteenth century. These dolls are very expensive, and they are often passed from generation to generation. The Boy's Festival is on May 5 and it is a national holiday however the Girl's Festival is not. It's not fair, I know. JLC will display the dolls and have a tea ceremony session

The beautiful dolls that represent members of the ancient imperial court are displayed on tiers of shelves like the photo.



First platform: Emperor & Empress

Second platform: Three court ladies; each holds sake equipment, the long-handled sake-bearer, the backup sake-bearer, and the seated sake bearer.

Third platform: Five musicians. Each holds a musical instrument; Small drum, Large drum, Hand drum, Flute, and fan.

Fourth platform: The Minister of the Right and the Minister of the Left. The Right is depicted as a young person, while the Left is much older. Between the two figures are covered bowl tables, diamond shaped rice cakes. On the rightmost, a mandarin orange tree and on the leftmost, a cherry blossom tree.

Fifth platform: Three helpers; Maudlin drinker, Cantankerous drinker, and Merry drinker.

Sixth platform: Chest of drawers, long chest for kimono storage, smaller clothing storage box, mirror stand, sewing kit box, braziers, and utensils for the tea ceremony.

Seventh platform: A set of nested lacquered food boxes, a palanquin, an ox-drawn carriage.

**歌舞伎 (かぶき) 'Love Letters from the Pleasure Quarters', (Kuruwa Bunshō).**

A heart-warming tale of young love set in the glamorous pleasure quarters of old Osaka.

A delicate young man named Izaemon is the son of the wealthy Fujiya family, but he has fallen on hard times. He is deeply in love with one of the greatest courtesans of the city but, having spent so much time and money in the pleasure district, his family has punished Izaemon by disinheriting him. Pathetic in his downfall, he covers his head and face with a straw hat and he wears nothing but a thin paper kimono stitched together from love-letters.

But Izaemon has heard that his former lover, Yūgiri, has been ill and so he makes his way to the teahouse where she works. At first, the servants there make to drive Izaemon away until the master recognises this once honoured customer and welcomes him into the establishment. But when Izaemon is shown into a parlour Yūgiri is busy with another customer. The lonely Izaemon displays agonies of jealousy while he is forced to wait for her, revealing his delightful and humourous nature. We can't help but find this sweet and sentimental man endearing!



Finally Yūgiri enters... the embodiment of pure glamour! She is one of the most beautiful women in Osaka and, as a courtesan of the highest rank, the kimono and hair ornaments she wears are amongst the most expensive and magnificent. The jealous Izaemon is at first cool towards her, but she has always loved him and pours out her emotions until, gradually, the lovers are reconciled. But what will become of the hapless Izaemon? Will true love eventually win the day? (From Shochiku Kabuki)

**俳句 (はいく) Haiku by Matsuo Basho**

A little girl under a peach tree,  
Whose blossoms fall into the entrails  
Of the earth.

With plum blossom scent,  
this sudden sun emerges  
along a mountain trail

By the old temple,  
peach blossoms;  
a man treading rice.

Unknown spring --  
Plum blossom  
Behind the mirror.

**コーススケジュール Course Schedule**

JLC announced the Course Schedule of Spring 2012 and the registration has already begun.

Lesson Fees for a group course are \$230 (110 minutes lessons and 8 sessions) and Private lessons are \$450 (110 minutes lessons and 5 sessions). Registration & Lesson fees are due 72 hours prior the first lesson.

Our schedule is getting tight quickly. So please sign up early before it becomes booked up.

The schedule may change without notice, so please visit the website for the updated schedule, <http://www.japanese-language.net/schedule.htm>.

| Course    | Day | Start    | End      |
|-----------|-----|----------|----------|
| JPN 101   | Sun | 10:10 AM | 12:00 PM |
| JPN 102   | Thu | 6:00 PM  | 7:50 PM  |
| JPN 104   | Fri | 7:10 PM  | 9:00 PM  |
| JPN 201   | Sun | 8:10 AM  | 10:00 AM |
| JPN 203   | Sun | 10:10 AM | 12:00 PM |
| JPN 301   | Wed | 7:10 PM  | 9:00 PM  |
| Advanced  | Mon | 7:10 PM  | 9:00 PM  |
| Teens 100 | Fri | 5:10 PM  | 7:00 PM  |
| Teens 200 | Sun | 10:10 AM | 12:00 PM |
| Teens 300 | Wed | 7:10 PM  | 9:00 PM  |

**Japanese Language Center**  
22430 NE 39<sup>th</sup> Way, Redmond, WA 98053 ☎ 425-891-2129

## 作文 (さくぶん)

### Essay 1

過去二年にわたって SQL サーバー データ ツールを作っていました。それも、来週終わる予定です。来週、ついに私たちは仕事を完成します。普通はリリースを完了すると、次の新しいバージョンを始めますが、今回はちょっと違います。うちのチームはモバイルソフトを作るために動き始めます。これは大きな変化で、難しい仕事ですが、私にとっていい仕事のチャンスでもあります。

他の選択もありました。私を雇いたがっていたチームもありました。二週間前、私の友人は彼のチームと一緒に働くことの可能性について話すために、私にコンタクトしてきました。それはおもしろい申し入れでした。プロセスの修理をする仕事でした。そうすれば、プロモーションが早くなるかもしれませんが、でもそのテクノロジーは面白くありません。

私の今の上司も私を彼のチームに行かせたがっていて、彼の上司とその仕事について話すことを私に望んでいました。私はもう一つ上の上司が好きです。彼とは過去六年間一緒に働いているので、とにかく会って話すことにしました。彼はやさしい人ですが、私がモバイルグループには行かないと考えているのを知って、彼はびっくりしました。私の心配について彼に話しました。彼は、一番面白いテクノロジーのグループに入ることを私に奨めてくれました。

最終的にはモバイルグループを選びました。まだこれが正しい選択かどうかはわかりませんが、今はもうすでに終わってしまったことです。 (C)

### Essay 2

人生 40 年などと言われていた時もありましたが、いまは 80 歳以上の元気な方がたくさんいらっしゃいます。私のスイムチームのコーリンはすでに 90 歳を過ぎています。ジャズピアニストの秋吉敏子さんは 80 を過ぎてはるばるです。そのご主人は彼女より 10 歳以上お若いはずですが、それでも 70 代のはずで、今もってサクソフーン奏者として現役で活躍されています。

それにひきかえまるで根性のない若者が多いのはどうしたものか。特に男がまるでダメなんですよ。植物的になって、髪結いの亭主みたいなのがやたら目につく、釘もまともに打てないし、梯子も上れないし、重いものも持てない、「風と共に去りぬ」の時代に見られたたくましい男は今いずこ。

サムライの国日本にももうサムライはいないのでしょうか。天地が逆になっても、必ずしがみついても立ち上がる、女房子供にひもじい思いはさせない、そんな男はもういないのでしょうか。そういえば、「風と共に去りぬ」も、スカーレットが「もうひもじい思いはさせません」と大地に立って天を見上げるところで終わるのでしたね。

三食昼寝付の生活もまるで魅力的にはうつらない。これまで何と非生産的な時間を過ごしてきたことか。思い立ったが吉日で、遅すぎるということもあるまい。結局は一人だということですよ。妻に先立たれた男は早死にし、夫に先立たれた女は長生きするとか。何やらこれからの方向がおのずと見えてきたような気がします。 (J)

## 生徒紹介 (せいとしょうかい) Students of JLC



## おしらせ Remarks

- Lesson fees for Group Lessons are \$230, however an early registration with payment by check/cash before your present course ends can get \$6 gift card.
- Please bring your friends to JLC. Any referrals signing up for a class results in a \$23 gift card for you and your friend.

Free materials are available. Please check the Course Descriptions page of website, [http://www.japanese-language.net/course\\_descriptions.htm](http://www.japanese-language.net/course_descriptions.htm). If you can't find any sub material what you need, please request it your instructor. We are more than happy to help you. We may create a new free material for you.

## ミーティング Japanese Language MeetUp

JLC supports a Japanese Language conversation group in the community and JLC's instructor Junko is the organizer of **Japanese Language MeetUp**. The regular meeting is usually on the second Tuesday at the region Library. The field trip is on the fourth Tuesday.

From website: Of course, we enjoy free conversation in English also, but we'd like to speak/listen more Japanese and have a little more focus. Self-introductions are not enough by themselves and we'd like something more than just chatting. However, it's open to anyone who like Japanese language regardless the skill levels. Please join us even if you don't know any Japanese words. Event fee is \$1.00 (your guest for first visit is free).

### Next Meeting

We will have Origami (paper craft). And then we have "Show and Tell" time about your origami art. Each member has opportunity for short presentation about handcraft. Organizer provides green tea. Please bring your cup for green tea. For "Go Green," we are trying not use paper cups.

When: 6:30PM-8:30PM on Tue 13 March.  
Where: Conference Room of Redmond Library



### Next Field Trip

We have a field trip to UDON-Fresh Japanese Noodle Station close to UW on Tue 13 March. We will meet at UDON 6:30-8:30PM.

Participation fee is \$1.00 for each members and guest also. Guest must be 13 years old or older and come with a member.

When: 6:30PM-8:30PM on Tue 27 March.  
Where: UDON 4515 University Way Northeast, Seattle, WA  
<http://freshudon.com>

Please visit the website, <http://japanese.meetup.com/17> for more information.



あいうえおかきくけこさしすせそたちつととなぬねのはひふへほまみむめもやゆよりるれろわんあいうえおかきくけこさしすせそたちつととなぬねのはひふへほまみむめもやゆよりるれろわんあいうえおかきくけこ



## 日本語センター (JLC)

住所: 22430 NE 39<sup>th</sup> Way, Redmond, WA 98053  
電話: 425-891-2129 ファックス: 612-241-9652  
ウェブ: <http://www.japanese-language.net/>  
メール: [info@japanese-language.net](mailto:info@japanese-language.net)

Japanese Language Center provides

Japanese Language Instruction

and Translation Services