



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

J L C 通信

Japanese Language Center (つうしん)
Newsletter May 2012



子供の日 (こどものひ)

Children's day

Children's Day is a Japanese national holiday which takes place annually on May 5, and is part of the Golden Week. It is a day set aside to respect children's personalities and to celebrate their happiness. It was designated a national holiday by the Japanese government in 1948.

The day was originally called Tango no Sekku, and it was originally for boys while Girls' Day (Hinamatsuri) was



celebrated on March 3. Sekku means a season's festival. Tango no Sekku marks the beginning of summer or the rainy season. Tan means "edge" or "first" and go means "noon".

Before this day, families raise the carp-shaped koinobori flags; display a Kintarō doll usually riding on a large carp, and the traditional Japanese military helmet, kabuto. Kintarō and the kabuto are symbols of a strong and healthy boy.

Kintarō is the childhoods name of Sakata no Kintoki who was a hero in the Heian period, a subordinate samurai of Minamoto no Raikou, having been famous for his strength when he was a child. It is said that Kintarō rode a bear, instead of

a horse, and played with animals in the mountains when he was a young boy.

Mochi rice cakes wrapped in kashiwa (oak) leaves—kashiwa-mochi and chimaki—are traditionally served on this day.



俳句 (はいく) Haiku by Charlie Smith

humid breeze
finger testing wind
finds dragonfly



Proud Sponsor of 2011 Queen Frederica M. Mackert

To: Frederica, Erika, Lauren & Kirsten,

**Congratulations on all your accomplishments!
Take pride in yourselves and in all that you achieved.**

The Japanese Queen Scholarship Organization of Washington is committed to developing Japanese women into leaders through higher education, cultural awareness, and community involvement. JLC became sponsor of 2011 Queen Frederica



Mackert and she will complete her term on the end of May. Celebration event will be on Sunday, MAY 27th at the Theatre at Meydenbauer Center in Bellevue.

日本語能力試験 (にほんごのうりょくしけん) JLPT

The Japanese-Language Proficiency Test (JLPT) has taken shape over 26 years of history and achievement, and strikes out in a fresh direction as the “New Japanese-Language Proficiency Test” beginning in 2010.

Test date: Sunday, December 2

Test sections and test times

Level	Test sections <Test time>		
N1	Vocabulary/Grammar ・ Reading <110min>		Listening<60min>
N2	Vocabulary/Grammar ・ Reading <105min>		Listening<50min>
N3	Vocabulary <30min>	Grammar ・ Reading <70min>	Listening<40min>
N4	Vocabulary <30min>	Grammar ・ Reading <60min>	Listening<35min>
N5	Vocabulary <25min>	Grammar ・ Reading <50min>	Listening<30min>

*The time allotted for each section may change. The time allotted for the Listening section may differ slightly according to the length of the recorded materials.

作文 (さくぶん)

Essay 1 スパイになる

「どうやったらスパイになれると思う？」私は子供の時スパイ映画を見るたびに自分で自分にこの質問をしました。今、私の子供が同じ質問を私にしています。

ある日、上の子は CIA のホームページを見ました。でも、ホームページでスパイ募集の記事を見つけることができなかったのです、彼はがっかりしました。

その日遅くなってから、私はどうやったらスパイになれるのか調べようと、インターネットで CIA について読みました。「スパイ」、公式には「機密情報活動」課は CIA 中の小さい部門だと分かりました。ホームページには「スパイ職」欠員はありませんが、翻訳者やアナリストや科学者の採用が載っています。

応募するのは簡単ですが、アメリカ市民であること、犯罪歴がないこと、身上調査に合格することが条件となっています。さらに、応募者は職業的に専門家であり、外国語を習得できなければなりません。特定の外国語を話す人に対して最高 35,000 ドルの特別ボーナスがあります。どれも悪い話ではありません。仕事がなかったら、私も応募してみようかと思えます。(E)

Essay 2 心の闇

最近よく「心の闇」という言葉を耳にするが、これは思い乱れて理非の判断に迷うことを闇にたとえていう語で、その昔は、親が子を思って心が迷うことであった。

「人の親の心は闇にあらねども子を思ふ道にまどひぬるかな」
 「親の御心の闇は、あやまりて後の世の罪などもおぼしやられず」
 「心の闇晴れ間なく、嘆きわたり侍りしままに」

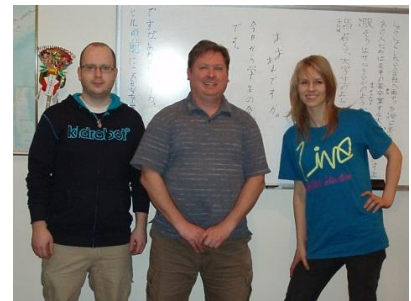
最近は何にでも心の闇という言葉があてられているようだ。「ネット世代の心の闇」「不倫の心の闇」「マザーテレサの心の闇」というのまである。古典にもないわけではない。源氏が藤壺に憧れて読んだ恋の歌もあるのだから文句も言えない。

「尽きもせぬ心の闇に暮るるかな雲居に人を見るにつけても」
 「かきくらす心の闇にまどひにき夢うつつとは今宵さだめよ」
 「よもすがら月を見顔にもてなして心の闇に迷ふころかな」

ただ、子を思う心の闇と恋の心の闇とはとても勝負にならない。子を思う時、弱い女も強くなれるが、恋の心の闇では、強い女も弱くなる。マズローの欲求段階説というのがあったが、子供への愛情と恋の相手への愛情では、子供への愛情の方が、衣食住の基礎欲求に近いところにあると確信する。最近是我が子を殺す親もいるというから、どうなっているのと言いたい。

私もこの心の闇にまどひぬるかな…子供たちは既に成人しているというのに、私はいまだ抜けられずにいる。自分の幸せよりも子供のことが気がかりでならない。離婚を経て再婚するにしても、子供もひっくるめて受け入れてくれる相手でなければ、私は幸せにはなれない。残念ながら今もって幸せになれないでいる。(J)

生徒紹介 (せいとしょうかい) Students



コーススケジュール Course Schedule

JLC announced the Course Schedule of Summer 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 become s 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	7:10PM	9:00 PM

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 Open Mon/Wed/Thu/Fri 3:10-9:00 PM Sun 6:10 AM-2:00PM
 Closed Tue/Sat

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. 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 10 April.

Where: Conference Room of Redmond Library

Karate

Please show up in loose fitting clothing. We will learn about Japanese martial art including Karate, Judo, Kendo, and etc. One of members, Andy-san who has black belt with 6-dan skill level of Karate is going to give us demonstration and presentation.

When: 6:30PM-8:30PM on Tue 24 April.

Where: Meeting Room #2 of Redmond Library

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



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Japanese Language Instruction

and Translation Services