Useful Methods for Improving Your Japanese

From Beginner to Expert (T. Sheen and N. Filipkowski)

Getting Started - Gather Resources

- Make a Plan
 - ▶ What do you want to accomplish?
- Textbook
 - ► Genki, Minna No Nihongo, Daichi
- ► Tutor, Study Groups
 - Community Center, Websites, JTE
- Organization
 - Notebooks, homework folders
 - Note templates
 - ► Set a schedule





スリーエーネットクー





Nick's Example Study Week

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
Self Study 1 hour		1 ½ hour group lesson	1 hour one one lesson	1 ½ hour group lesson		
	Every weekday: 30 minute kanji and vocab review					

Tiffany's Example Study Week

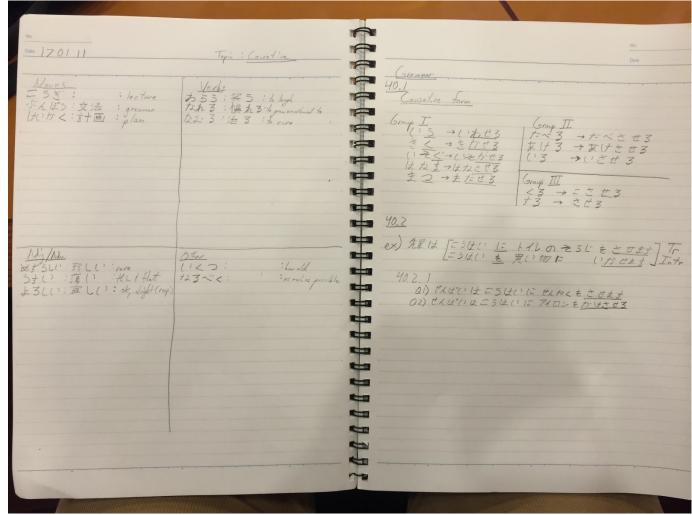
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
	1 hour				1 hour	
	one to				one to	
	one				one	
	lesson				lesson	

Every day: 1 hour translation work

Organize your notes

First page: Vocab

N	٧
Adj.	Oth.



Second page and beyond: Grammar and examples

Speaking and Listening Practice



- Extremely important and valuable
- Find a way that works for you
 - ► Tutor
 - Video Software/Textbook DVD
 - Conversation App
 - Approaching STRANGERS
- Muscle Memory

Need proof? Let's use tongue twisters!

- She sells seashells by the seashore.
- Imagine an imaginary menagerie manager managing an imaginary menagerie.



The sixth sick sheik's sixth sheep's sick.

Apps and Websites

- Vocab
 - Anki (Spaced Repetition)
 - Memrise (Spaced Repetition)
 - Study Blue
- Conversation Apps
- Kanji
 - Wanikani (Spaced repetition and mnemonics)







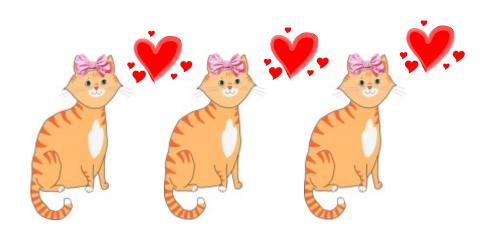






Mnemonics

Using a story or device to help you memorize and item or procedure.





"All you can eat!"

"All you can eat!" is how... the Tabby ho died.
All you can eat = Tabehoudai = 食べ放題

3 Elements of Advanced Stage

- Listen & Speak (Recall & Apply) in controlled setting
 - Recognize words in a conversation
 - ► Tip-of-the-tongue phenomenon
 - Ask for a clue
 - Look it up
- Field Listen & Speak
 - Describe
 - Make mistakes
 - ▶ Similar-meaning or similar-sounding words, synonyms, homophones
- Teach
 - Protégé effect
 - Active recall
 - ► Knowledge organization

Example

あんなに飲まなきゃよかった! I wish I hadn't drunk that much!

10 that extent, to that degree

なぜあんなに優しいの? Why are you being so nice?

- How did you remember that?
- If you had to try, how would you use that in a sentence?

Choose 1 word you know & Teach your partner!

がらがら

あさい浅い

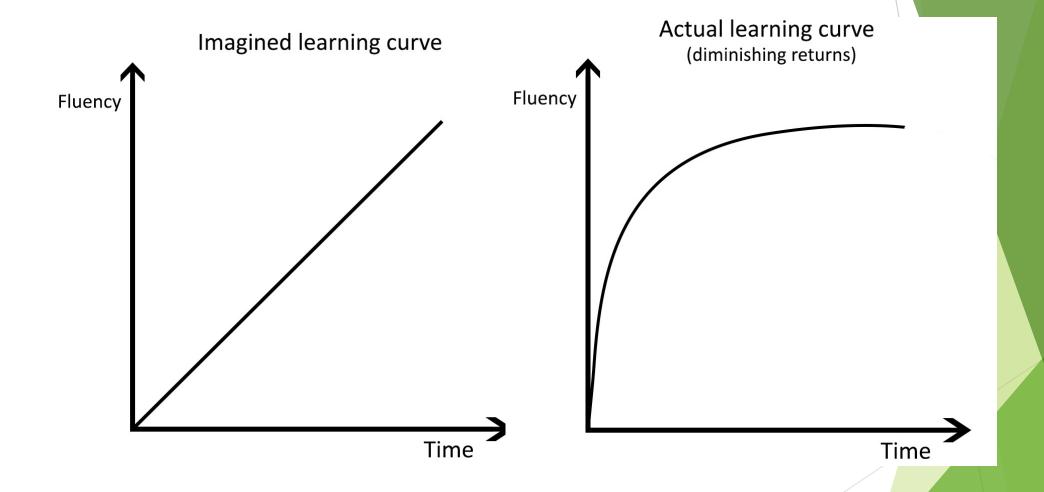
しなぎれ 品切れ

はれる 晴れる あたま 頭

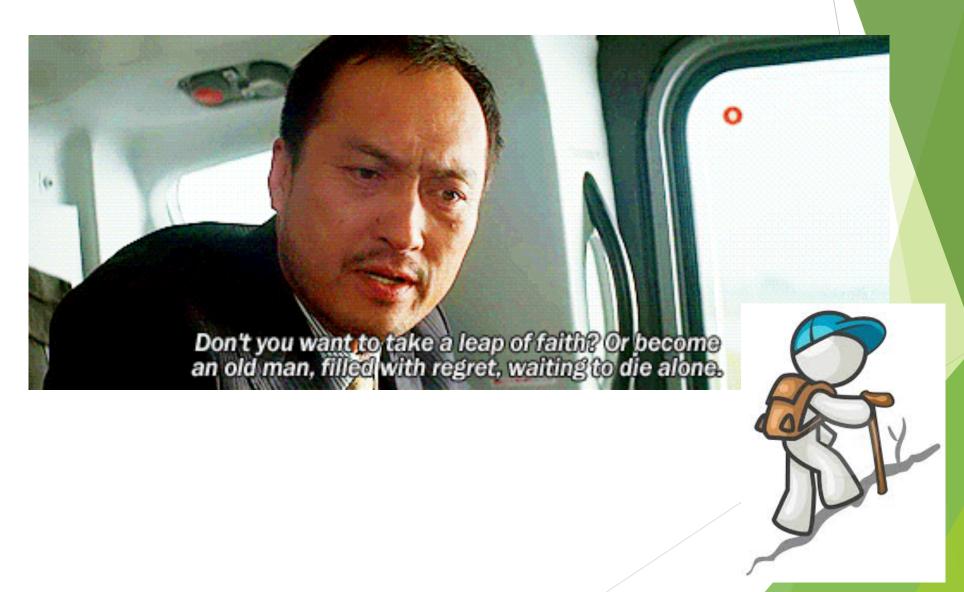
- ► How did you explain?
- How well did they understand?

HIT A PLATEAU?





While on the "plateau"

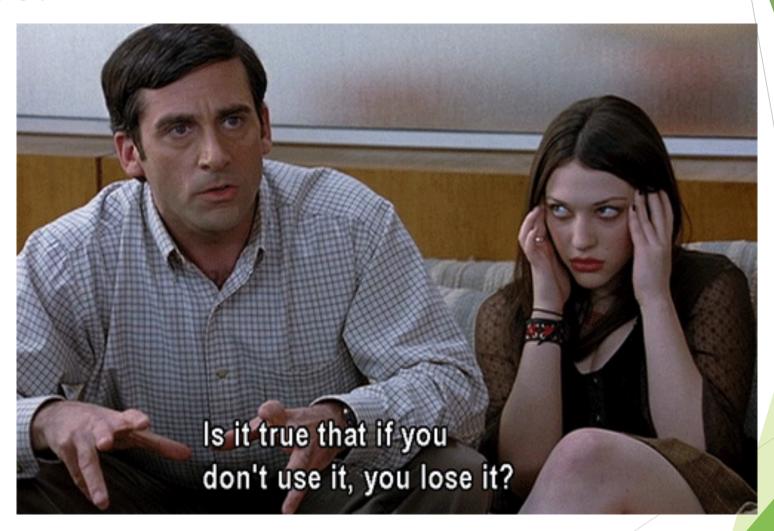


How to Blast Through it!

- Diversify your learning methods and material
- Set up mini goals to strengthen your weaknesses
 - ▶ Prioritize and tailor your approach to focus on the most important problem
 - One at a time
- Challenge yourself

Mini goals & Schedule

No Hiatus!



What some people do

- ► Learn Japanese songs to sing at karaoke
- Read flyers, newspapers, books, manga, mail and newsletters that come to my desk
- Listen at morning meetings or to staffroom gossips
- Borrow from the school library

Reading tips

- ► As long as you understand 50%~80% of the page, flip on
- If you see a word that keep popping up and is preventing you from understanding, look it up

Immersion

- Living in Japan ≠ immersion
- Watch TV
- Listen to the radio
- Set laptop and smartphone to target language
- Branch out and make new Japanese friends

Resources

- Japanese Graded Readers Library
- NHK News Web
- ► FM Port
 - Niigata: 79.0
 - Joetsu: 83.2
- School library

Japanese Graded Reader's Library

レベル	能力試験	語彙	字数/1話		レベル別 日本語多読
入門)	350	~400	現在形、過去形、疑問詞、〜たい など ※基本的に「です・ます体」を使っています	
初級前半	N 5	350	400 ∼1500	現在形、過去形、疑問詞、〜たい など ※「です・ます体」を使っています。	8
2 初級後半	N 4	500	1500 ~2500	辞書形、て形、ない形、た形、 連体修飾、〜と(条件)、〜(理由)、 〜なる、〜のだ など	
3 初中級	N 3	800	2500 ~5000	可能形、命令形、受身形、意向形、~とき、 ~たら・ば・なら、~そう(様態)、 ~よう(推量・比喩)、複合動詞 など	
4 中級	N 2	1300	5000 ∼10000	使役形、使役受身形、〜そう(伝聞)、〜らしい 〜はず、〜もの、〜ようにする/なる、 〜ことにする/なる など	۸۱,



Japanese Graded Reader's Librar





NHK News Web: Easy

NHK NEWS WEB

2016年(平成28年) 12月19日 [月曜日]



□ このページの先頭へ

NHK News Web: Advanced

