

Re: "A fake form of old-fashioned Japanese speech supposed to represent the old style of the language is used."

Re: "A fake form of old-fashioned Japanese speech supposed to represent the old style of the language is used."

Source: <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.lang.japan/2006-07/msg00365.html>

- *From:* trap_for_junk_mail@xxxxxxxxxx (Louise Bremner)
 - *Date:* Sat, 15 Jul 2006 23:24:00 GMT
-

Bart Mathias <mathias@xxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

In a sword fight, absurdly, when a large number of villains attacks the main character, they never act simultaneously. Instead, the villains each politely wait their turn to be dispatched, often standing motionless holding their sword within easy striking distance of the main character until their turn to be easily defeated arrives.

The villains know that if they tried a simultaneous attack, the main character would duck and let them chop each other up over his head. I would think that was obvious.

I like the way the villains roll neatly out of the way when "killed", so as not to trip the participants who are still upright. The bit-player who would do such a dramatic grimace at the camera everytime he was "killed" has now retired, I believe.

Being a Go-player myself, I also note the convention that the playing of Go is used as an indicator that the character lives in a different world from commoners—villains play Go, whereas commoners (and samurai masquerading as commoners) play shogi, but Go is also played by high-ranking samurai whom you could never imagine lowering themselves to dress as commoners and mingle with the masses, such as Oooka Echizen.

I got confused by one character who was clearly a commoner but played Go, but it turned out he'd been born into an elite samurai family but had run away.

Louise Bremner (log at gol dot com)

If you want a reply by e-mail, don't write to my Yahoo address!

.

Re: "A fake form of old-fashioned Japanese speech supposed to represent the old style of the language is used."