

Re: Can't walk and chew gum at the same time.

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- *From:* "John Reeves" <[johnyaku@xxxxxxxx](mailto:johnyaku@xxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* 22 Feb 2007 06:55:10 -0800
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On Feb 23, 1:25 am, "Paul Blay" <[blay.p...@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:blay.p...@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)> wrote:

"John Reeves" <[johny...@xxxxxxxx](mailto:johny...@xxxxxxxx)> wrote ...

Worked for me anyway.

I think that's the main point. ;-)

Actually this method worked really well for me for a period of about two years, after I had already been studying Japanese for about five years. Maybe I might have benefited from trying this method earlier, but I think that I needed a certain amount of vocab before it would work (and easy texts).

I'm sure people learning a language welcome suggestions on ways to do things and I encourage them to try them out to see if they do the trick.

And I think different techniques are better suited to different stages of the learning process. Don't feel like you're getting anyway? Try a different approach. A particular technique doesn't really work for you? Try it again a year or two later.

On the other hand "one true way" disciples and those endless arguments over which methods are better are best dealt with by that oriental^W eastern^W Japanese wisdom expressed by the word 'ëü.

Too true :-)

A technique I'd really like to try is listening to audio books in Japanese – assuming that such things exist. I've looked for them a couple of times in the past, but with no success. Anyone?

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A long time ago I used dub the audio from video tapes of Japanese movies onto audio tape (obviously we're talking ancient history here) and listen to the tape maybe 20 or 30 times. Each time I would understand a little bit more, and when I eventually watched the video again, I would be pleased to find that my comprehension had jumped enormously... from maybe 1% to about 5%. Still, this was a good way (for me at that stage of my learning) to get my ears used Japanese spoken at natural speed.

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