

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

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On 22 Feb 2007 06:55:10 -0800, John Reeves 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?

A long time ago I used dub the audio from video tapes of Japanese

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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.

Now, you could get a Japanese DVD with subtitles and read aloud along with the spoken dialog. Y