

Re: Learning Japanese [LONG]

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- *From:* "David I." <meiwakuna@xxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* 22 Mar 2007 21:30:07 -0700
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On Mar 22, 10:45 pm, Ben Finney <bignose+hates-s...@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

"David I." <meiwak...@xxxxxxxxx> writes:

Ben Finney wrote:

Since then, I've run out of possible Japanese-teacher-producing contacts, so haven't had a teacher since December 2006.

You might solicit a similar list from a Consulate-General of Japan in your area. <http://www.us.emb-japan.go.jp/jicc/consulat.htm>

Thanks, that's a good idea.

Now I'm doing private tutoring, but it turned out to be a great place to get info.

Do you say "private tutoring" in contrast to what one might get via the teachers listed at the Consulate-General office? I much prefer a private tutor, who can respond to my learning style freely.

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\ "The most common way people give up their power is by thinking |
\ they don't have any." --- Alice Walker |

o) |

Ben Finney

Well, technically I don't think they are allowed to recommend private tutors, or give any preferential treatment (at least the embassy itself wasn't), but I ended up finding the tutor through the school. It can't hurt to check out the various schools in your area at least,

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in my experience most of the advanced classes are very small anyway, (around 2 people O_o). Japanese is still a comparatively obscure language in the US, and many schools don't get much attendance. Sometimes teachers are unable to hold official classes due to a lack of response, so they may already be tutoring on the side as it is. This is only speaking for the DC metro area of course, but I would think these results in such a large metropolitan area would be indicative of a more general trend.

It's funny how the tenacity curve of Japanese students is so obvious. Basic 1 = 20 students, Intermediate 1 = 5 students, Advanced 1 = 2 students. And you always end a level with far less people than you started it with...

In any case, you could also try something like Craigslist for tutors who are advertising their services, but their credentials may be sketchy. At least you know if the Consulate is recommending a school, it will most likely have decent teachers.

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