

Re: Culture clash

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- *From:* Ben Finney <bignose+hates-spam@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Sat, 08 Sep 2007 10:55:35 +1000
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Phil Yff <phil.yff@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx> writes:

However, I draw different conclusions from your anecdotal information. You refer to "NSoE that I speak with who have learned Japanese *outside* Japan to the point of conversational fluency". You imply, though, that your anecdotal Japanese learners of English are striving for more than mere "conversational fluency."

No, such was never my intended implication. The NSoJ-learners-of-English are having trouble attaining the (subjectively-judged) same level of conversational fluency as the NSoE-learners-of-Japanese attain. The former group have chronic trouble with the new language, the latter praise its ease of assimilation.

It's hard to establish a level playing field.

Indeed. I would love to see unbiased studies, but I admit to not knowing what methodology I would accept as unbiased.

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\"My girlfriend said to me in bed last night, 'You're a |
`\\ pervert'. I said, 'That's a big word for a girl of nine'." -- |
o) Emo Philips |
Ben Finney
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