

Re: URL: Nova goes belly up in Japan.

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*Source:* <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.lang.japan/2007-11/msg00217.html>

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- *From:* Arri London <[biotech@xxxxxxxx](mailto:biotech@xxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Mon, 05 Nov 2007 18:12:08 -0700
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Phil wrote:

On Mon, 05 Nov 2007 08:26:02 -0700, Arri London wrote:

Since my ancestry is Dutch  
and because I've had quite a  
few opportunities  
to go to the Netherlands  
(although most of them are  
just an overnight stay  
at the airport, I've made  
several attempts to start to  
learn the language.  
However, I can't find  
anyone to speak with me  
even in Amsterdam.

Speaking Dutch and English, by the way,  
does allow me to understand  
quite a bit of German – enough to get the  
gist of what is going on  
anyway. To bring this topic full circle and  
slightly back on topic – I  
watched the German movie "Nackt" with  
Japanese subtitles while living in  
Japan – between my English, Dutch, and  
(barely) JLPT level 3 Japanese I  
was able to basically fully understand it!

I studied German in college. It hindered me more than it  
helped me. As a  
novice learner of Dutch, whenever I encountered an

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impediment, my mind  
switched to German.

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Phil

LOL in our family, some relatives are Dutch, some are German/Austrian (the rest are Polish but we won't get into that). Family gatherings were always linguistically interesting! Certainly both languages creep into my speech unless I have time to sort them out. If I ever master any spoken Japanese at least there shouldn't be any conflicts, since the little bit of Chinese I know sounds utterly different anyway.

By the way, I would imagine that this is one of the threads, you might have had difficulty decoding the characters. Your iso-2022-jp should be able to decode Lû[ã±í à(nihongo) easily but it will have difficulty with Æ½ (the umlauted y) and v or x the lowercase and uppercase ligatures that combine ij and IJ as single characters.

To read all characters correctly, you will need to use a decoding scheme like UTF-8.

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Phil

TY will try that; do have UTF-8 somewhere around here LOL!