



Japanese Teachers' Association of NSW (JTAN) Inc.

ABN 94 045 344 808
PO Box 6453, North Sydney 2060
<http://www.jtan.org.au>

JTAN November Newsletter - 2012

President's Message

Hi Everyone,

May I take this opportunity to thank the 2012 JTAN Committee for their tireless work and welcome the new Treasurer for 2013, Shoji Matsuura.

As many of you know, Teruko Sharif has retired from teaching but she is remaining with JTAN as our Accounts Clerk. She will be sorely missed on the Committee but she will guide our new Treasurer in his work at first.

Thank you to everyone who attended the AGM and Workshop. It was certainly a busy but productive day. The new Committee is already planning the 2013 program, with the first event being the Trial Exam writing Workshop on 1st December 2012.

Thank you to those teachers who have agreed to work on the JTAN exams for 2013. I am sure that all teachers realize that a couple of absolutely dedicated teachers cannot alone continue to produce exams for everyone else, and that we should all be called upon to contribute our expertise. Everyone is busy with exams and reports at this time, but we do need your help, even if you are requested to write a question from a course other than the one you are most comfortable with. Please help yourselves by participating in this project, we want to continue to produce quality JTAN exams

Upcoming Workshops

1 December (Sat.)

Trials setting workshop

Honorariums will be paid

Lunch will be provided

9.45am for 10am start

2pm finish

**If you would like to contribute please
e-mail enquire@jtan.org.au**



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We also envisage another Extension Workshop and some changes to some of the student workshops. We welcome any comments or suggestions that you might have.

Please look out for future Newsletters and the mail out in January.

Regards,
Liz Sugimoto
President JTAN



AGM WORKSHOP-SATURDAY 20 OCTOBER, 2012

The AGM workshop was a very successful event as can be seen by the selected evaluations below. We look forward to more members being involved in our workshops in 2013.

- Session 10.00am ~ 12:00am
1 *Speaker* : Francoise Reeves-Smith, Head Teacher LOTE Pymble Ladies College
Topic : Filmic Analysis of "Departures" movie (Extension Course) Extracts 1 & 2
- Session 12.00 pm ~ 12:30pm JTAN AGM
2 **12.30am ~ 1:30pm Lunch**
- Session 1.30pm ~ 3:00pm
3 *Speaker* : Howard Jacobs Inspector, Board of Studies
Topic : How to write valid questions
- Session 3.00 pm ~ 4:30pm
4 *Speaker* : Leanne Smith
Topic : Technology Training for Teachers
- 4.30pm conclusion**

We have collated some of the feedback from teachers about the above workshop. Below are some of the comments in regards to each session.

SESSION 1: Filmic Analysis of "Departures" by Francoise Reeves-Smith

- Very detailed and informative presentation
- Essential for new extension course
- Insightful and thought provoking
- Very well presented and clear
- Many teachers asked for more sessions with Francoise next year as well as other sessions associated with the prescribed text and associated issues



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SESSION2: AGM and lunch

Minutes of the 2012 Annual General Meeting have been uploaded onto our website
www.jtan.org.au

SESSION3: How to write valid questions by Howard Jacobs

- Informative and practical
- Although he conducted a session last year, there were still a lot of things to be learnt from this one
- Notes were clear and informative
- very practical- learnt BOS principals for question setting
- writing collectively does not work well however in service on how to write is invaluable

SESSION4: Technology training for teachers by Leanne Smith

- Practical and engaging
- Better if we had internet access
- More time needed in this session
- Inspirational and engaging
- Learnt about some excellent practical tools
- Activities shown take time to prepare

Other comments

- Worthwhile to giving up Saturday
- Some excellent collegial discussion
- Room was narrow – hard to hear – need microphone

Overall, all comments were very positive and we encourage JTAN members to apply for our upcoming workshops in 2013.



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TRIALS SETTING WORKSHOP-SATURDAY 1 DECEMBER, 2012

JTAN would sincerely like to thank all members who have volunteered to participate in the Trial setting workshop on Saturday 1 December. We had a wonderful response and we are looking forward to a very productive day. Associations like this can only continue with the support of its members, and we were reminded of the enthusiasm and professionalism that exists amongst Japanese teachers in NSW.

If you would like to contribute please e-mail enquire@jtan.org.au

JAPAN FOUNDATION HEAD OFFICE GRANTS-NOW OPEN

The Japan Foundation's 2013-2014 Head Office Grants are now open. Please assist by disseminating the following information to the Japanese teachers in your network.

Dear Teacher of Japanese,

Please be advised the Japan Foundation 2013-2014 Head Office Grants are now available. The grant programs, which support Japanese Language Education Overseas, include;

Training Programs for Teachers of the Japanese Language

Provides teachers of the Japanese language with an opportunity to improve their language skills and teaching methodology, and to deepen their knowledge of Japan. Conducted in Urawa, Japan, cost of tuition, accommodation and meals is covered.

- Short-Term Training Programs for Foreign Teachers of the Japanese Language

Spring Course: **May 8, 2013 - June 28, 2013** (tentative) This course is designed for teachers engaged in primary and secondary education and those who teach younger children.

Summer Course: **July 10, 2013 – August 30, 2013** (tentative) Not specified.



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Winter Course: **January 22, 2014 - March 14, 2014** (tentative).
This course is designed for teachers engaged in higher education
and adult education.

- Long-Term Training Programs for Foreign Teachers of the Japanese Language
September 10, 2013 - March 7, 2014 (tentative) This program is intended for foreign teachers with minimal experience in teaching the Japanese language. A training course in the Japanese language and basic teaching methods will be conducted.

Training Programs for Leading Teachers of the Japanese Language

- Graduate Program on the Japanese Language and Culture (Master's Course)
September 2013-September 2014 (1 year)
This one-year program is designed to provide individuals teaching the Japanese language abroad, and/or individuals who have experience teaching the Japanese language abroad, who are expected to assume leading roles in Japanese language education in their own countries, with an opportunity to obtain a Master's degree in Japanese language education.
- Advanced Training Program for Teachers of the Japanese Language
October 23, 2013 - December 20, 2013 (tentative) This course provides teachers of the Japanese language with more advanced expertise and skills, as well as addresses specific challenges or issues relevant to teaching the Japanese language (e.g., pertaining to the development of Japanese teaching materials, teaching methods, or curriculums).

Japanese-Language Programs for Specialists

- Japanese Language Programs for Specialists in Cultural and Academic Fields



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Two-month course: **June 2013 to August 2013**

Six -month course: **September 2013 to March 2014**

This program is an intensive training course in Japanese for researchers, postgraduate students, librarians, museum curators, etc. who need to learn Japanese for their academic research activities or field-related work.

All grant information and application forms are available from our website
www.jpf.org.au/grants/language.html

Please note the deadline for applications is **Monday 3rd December 2012.**

For any queries please contact the Japanese Language Department by email
language@jpf.org.au or by phone on (02) 8239 0077 `begin_of_the_skype_highlighting`
(02) 8239 0077 `end_of_the_skype_highlighting`.

A national collection of Asian languages and studies resources

An extensive national collection of resources for teaching and learning Asian languages and studies has been added to the [National Digital Learning Resources Network](#) (NDLRN). The new collection will increase knowledge in this essential subject area as we move further into the 'Asian Century'.

The NDLRN, owned by all Australian school education jurisdictions, comprises a resource collection, delivery infrastructure and metadata standards. The NDLRN is a network of infrastructure and processes that enables management and distribution of the digital repository of resources to education authorities.

The Asian languages and studies resources comprising the national collection have been harvested from the [National Asian Languages and Studies in Schools Program](#)



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(NALSSP), an Australian Government funded initiative designed to increase opportunities for school students to become familiar with the languages and cultures of

Australia's key regional neighbours, namely China, Indonesia, Japan and Korea. The ultimate goal of these resources is to equip students of today with the skills to excel in the careers of tomorrow.

These resources are freely available and are ideal for schools and educators that teach Korean, Japanese, Indonesian and Chinese languages and have been carefully sourced from across the nation to engage your students in learning these languages.

The timely collection draws together practitioner-developed resources mapped to the *Shape of the Australian Curriculum: Languages* and relevant to the cross-curriculum priority of Asia and Australia's engagement with Asia. The resources take a variety of forms, including:

- immersive interactives for students
- primary source film, image and sound materials suitable for teachers to adapt when developing their own learning sequences
- lesson plans, video examples of languages lessons and footage featuring the use of ICT in LOTE settings.

There is a total of more than 13,000 digital resources in the NDLRN; they are free for use in all Australian schools and are accessible through jurisdictional portals and Scootle. To access, visit: www.ndlrm.edu.au/access



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Japanese readers

Patricia Takahashi has produced a series of supplementary readers for beginner students of Japanese. If you would like more information about these readers please contact her on info@trishtakahashi.com

Once again JTAN would like to say a big thank you to everyone who has helped make 2012 a great success and we look forward to working with you all again in 2013.



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