

Adult Classes Handout 2009

Japanese Adult Learners

- **MOTIVATION:** Serious learners? Foreign friends or spouse? Interested in travel? Casual hobby? Self-improvement? **FIND OUT!**
- **RANGES:** Ages from college students to senior citizens, numbers from one to 30-plus, abilities from beginners to advanced - expect a mix in the same class!

Lesson Structure

- **TYPICAL LESSON:** "How's your week been?" - recent news from students' own lives PLUS back-up activity
- **NON-TYPICAL LESSON:** Get out of the classroom! Go bowling, make a craft, watch a movie, bake food from your country, have a party

Games and Activities

- **WARM-UP SHIRITORI:** small teams or individually, within time limit students make word sequences where last letter of last word becomes first letter of next word eg: apple - ElephanT - ThinG - Golf...
- **TRUTH AND LIES:** Students make 3 sentences about themselves - 2 are true statements, 1 is false, others have to guess which is which
- **PAIRWORK READING/SPEAKING:** textbook worksheet or current news article - find key points, new vocab, summarise main arguments
- **THEME DAYS** eg: Christmas, Halloween, St Patrick's Day
- **SHOW-AND-TELL:** haiku, craft, holiday pictures
- **BOARD/CARD GAMES:** Guess Who, Switch, Karuta
- **STORYTELLING/VOCAB REVIEW:** Students pick 5 words or phrases learnt recently - they must use all 5 to create their own story!

To download more information please visit the AJET website <http://ajet.net>

AJET Peer Support Group - 8pm to 7am every day – 050-5534-5566
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Surviving your first lesson!

- Greeting and own self-introduction - keep it brief! (see below for why)
- Motivation needs analysis sheet - Why are you studying English?
- Art of conversation: elicit question words (who, what, why, where, when etc.), introduce *closed questions* (confirmation: answer is yes/no eg: Are you from Japan?) and *open questions* (information: answer is specific eg: Where are you from?)
- Students get in pairs - time limit 2 minutes - they must use question words to ask open/closed questions to each other (basic personal information) - jot down answers!
- You join in the pairs so students find out about you too! Rotate pairs so everyone speaks to everyone else
- Feedback to whole group: students (and you!) are introduced one by one to whole class - develop any questions of interest

Teaching Tips and Materials

- Don't panic! Relax and open up and they'll open up to you - guaranteed!
- Self-intro plans for school can be used or recycled in your first lesson
- <http://www.teaching-esl-to-adults.com/> has tons of good advice, worksheets and resources for adult learners. The blog is especially thoughtful.
- <http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/%20> and <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/678/01/> are very useful for general language consultation, especially grammar
- "Natural English" (Gairns, R & Redman, S., 2006) and "Headway" (Soars, L and J., 2003) both printed by OUP, are appropriate for adult learners and the language focus is built into communicative activities. "Headway" is available in British and American English versions in bookstores such as Maruzen. "Natural English" - <http://www.oup.com/elt/naturalenglish>

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