

What's New?

Niihama City

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Can games help you level up your Japanese?

Rowan Carmicheal

The short answer is yes. Because, if it wasn't, I wouldn't write this article would I? Thanks to games I know extremely important words like たたかう (fight)、まほう (Magic)、そうび (Equipment)、にげる (flee) and all the elemental kanji. So while the daily life skills of Japanese from games might be minimal depending on what you play, it is a great chance to both learn and have some fun. There are 2 main reasons games are perfect to level up your Japanese.

1) Games offer constant repetition and reinforcement of most of the language they use.

Excluding the stories of games, which is a fairly high language barrier to cross, most games feature a wide selection of words that you will see frequently throughout your time playing them. Character abilities, contents of menus, items, power ups and so on. For a role playing game like *Final Fantasy* or *Pokemon* you'll see most of the items in the menu hundreds of times along with the names abilities, and soon 10まんボルト-ing your opponent's Magikarp will be just as natural as using thunderbolt. But even more action focused games like *Devil May Cry* provide enough text to learn something from.

2) They offer experimentation with the language, experimentation which results in output.

This is the real key. Every menu, every selectable thing in those text based areas will have an output of some kind. Raise those numbers, see the output, maybe you discovered strength, check it in the dictionary, and that's something you'll remember. Select the たたかう command and see your character strike something. Thanks to the fact you were able to tinker and see the output, you get a much more natural way to learn a great deal of vocabulary.

Of course, you'll also be needing a dictionary, and you'll probably miss most of the story. But thanks to reinforcement and experimentation games provide in a unique way to learn most other media doesn't, you'll develop excellent hooks to help you recall words better, and be seeing them more often than you might in a manga or book. And you never know when you'll find 召喚士 (Summoner) useful in your everyday life in Japan.

So run down to that game shop and try picking up a game or 10. It's for study... right?

Rowan is an ALT in Saijo who enjoys games and singing. He also keeps a blog, <http://loveprincesscarmichael.wordpress.com> if you want to read more from him.

Information in English & Chinese on the Web

***What's New?**

***How to sort garbage and trash**

***Information on living in Niihama**

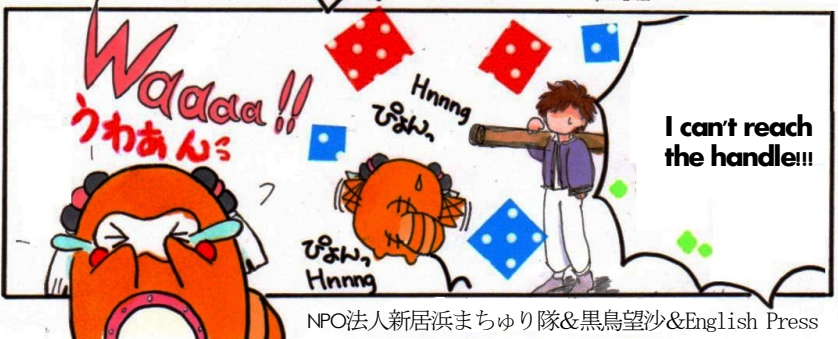
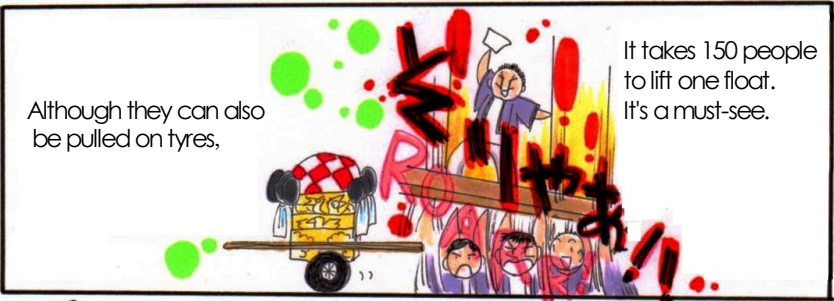
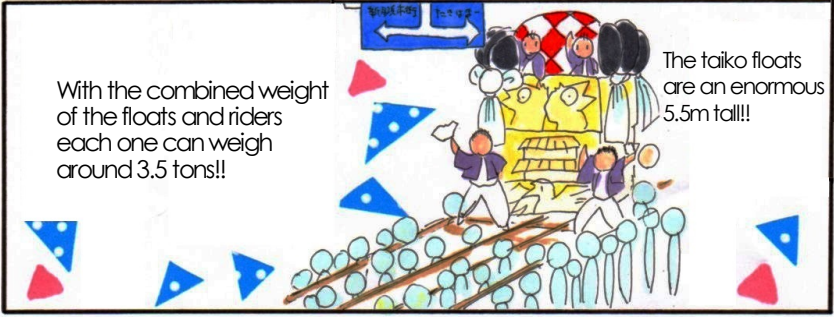
Click  <http://www.city.niihama.lg.jp>

Clair:*Multilingual Living Information

<http://www.clair.or.jp/tagengorev/en/index.html>



Niihama Taiko Festival



NPO法人新居浜まちゆり隊&黒鳥望沙&English Press

More information: join NPO法人新居浜まちゆり隊 facebook page or visit Machuri's homepage at <http://machuri.com>

Niihama Taiko Festival

There is a local saying that goes, “Even if you don’t come back for the Bon festival or New Year, make sure to return for the Niihama festival”, and indeed people return home from all over the country to see the all-male Niihama Taiko drum festival.

Niihama city is made up of 52 wards, each with its own Taikodai, or Taiko float, carried by teams wearing unique and colorful clothing. When a group of Taikodai gather they are lifted into the air in a competition between teams known as a “Kakikurabe”. It is a true sight to behold.

Dating back to the Heian period or Kamakura era, the festival was originally dedicated to local Shinto deities in appreciation of the Autumn harvest. The name “Taikodai”, came into use from the late Edo period, while the floats themselves have been through various stages of development. From the last days of the Tokugawa Shogunate to the early Meiji period the Taikodai came to resemble their current appearance. They then increased in size and glamour with the prosperity of the Besshi copper mine. It is said that they reached their present state in the early Showa era.

This festival, deeply rooted in Japanese local history, will enthrall all with unforgettable sights of bravery and true beauty.

A Hint for your Life - Cleaning a Showerhead

(from Ehime Shimbun June 23, 2015)

Have you ever experienced the water from your shower not coming out strongly enough or spraying out into irregular directions? In these cases, the showerhead may be clogged because of scale and calcium in the water. The solution is:

1: Fill a bucket or washbowl with water and add vinegar or citric acid to it.

a: vinegar 200cc + water 1000cc

b: citric acid 20cc + water 1000cc

2: Stir well.

3: Put the detached showerhead into the water.

If you can't detach the showerhead, just soak the showerhead in the water.

4: After 1 hour, scrub the showerhead well with a brush.

5. Rinse it well with water.

Now you can use the shower comfortably.

SGG would welcome any suggestions, questions or ideas for monthly articles.

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*The editors for this month are M. Simamura & Y. Miki.

MOVIES

TOHO CINEMAS Niihama (AEON Mall)

July 18 ~ Inside Out 2D Dubbed
July 31 ~ Minions 2D Dubbed
August 5 ~ Jurassic World
2D English · Dubbed / 3D Dubbed
August 7 ~ Mission: Impossible—Rogue Nation
2D English / Dubbed
August 28 ~ TED 2 (R15+) 2D English /Dubbed
September 12 ~ Pixels 2D English / 3D Dubbed
September 19 ~ Ant-Man 2D English

Information Service

Internet: <http://niihama-aeonmall.com>

Tape (24 hrs): 050-6868-5019(in Japanese)

Movies might be changed without notice. Please check.

September Events

*9/5(Sat.)-10/12(Mun) 18:00-21:00

Taro Stew on the Kokuryo River bed

At the river-bed of the Kokuryo River, west of the City Gym.

\1600/per person if you reserve, \1800 on the day.

For further information Tel: 33-3920

*9/13(Sun) 10:00-16:00

Wakaba Charity Bazaar

Fureai Plaza 2F

For further information Tel: 44-7025

9/27(Sun) 14:00-

Niihama City Concert

Ms. Ito Yuko Soprano Recital

Niihama Bunka Center Middle Hall

\1000/per person

For further information Tel 33-2180

ONE POINT JAPANESE

いろいろな“ちょっと” NO.1 (Various versions of “chotto” No.1)

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|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>A : ちよつと涼しく なりましたね。Chotto suzushiku narimashita ne. (It has become a little cooler, hasn't it?)</p> <p>B : ええ、朝晩は 寒いくらいですね。 Ee, asaban wa samui kurai desu ne. (Yes, it is almost cold in the morning and evening.)</p> |
| <p>A : あれ？Bさん、ちよつと やせたんじゃない？ Are? B-san, chotto yasetan janai? (Oh! B-san, have you lost a little weight?)</p> <p>B : わかる？実は 3キロの ダイエットに 成功したんです。 Wakaru? Jitsu wa san kiro no daietto ni sekō shitan desu. (Can you tell? Actually I succeeded in losing three kilos on a diet.)</p> <p>A : そんなに？ちよつと～。すごいね。Sonnani? Chotto. Sugoi ne. (That much? Well, well... That's great!)</p> |
| <p>A : ちよつと すみません。“あかがねミュージアム”って、どこにあるんですか。 Chotto sumimasen. “Akagane myūjiamu” tte, doko ni arun desu ka. (Excuse me, but where is the “Akagane Museum?”)</p> <p>B : 新居浜駅の すぐ 近くですよ。Niihama eki no sugu chikaku desu yo. (It's right near the Niihama Station.)</p> <p>A : じゃ、駅まで 行けば わかりますね。 Ja, eki made ikeba, wakarimasu ne. (So, if I go to the station, I'll be able to find it then.)</p> <p>B : ええ。ちよつと 変わった デザインなので、すぐに わかりますよ。 Ee. Chotto kawatta dezain nanode, sugu ni wakarimasu yo. (Yes. Its design is kind of unique, so you can easily find it.)</p> |
| <p>A : ちよつと、ちよつと、何か 落としましたよ。 Chotto, chotto, nanika otoshimashita yo. (Wait, wait! You dropped something.)</p> <p>B : あっ、すみません。ありがとうございます。 A! Sumimasen. Arigatō gozaimasu. (Ah, sorry! Thank you very much.)</p> |
| <p>A : 今週の 金曜日に 飲み会するんだけど、Bさんも どう？ Konshu no kinyōbi ni nomikai surun da kedo, B-san mo do? (This coming Friday, we're going to go drinking. How about it, B?)</p> <p>B : すみません、その日は ちよつと…。Sumimasen. Sono hi wa chotto... (Sorry. That day I'm afraid...)</p> |

< by Niihama Nihongo no Kai >

NNK also provides Japanese lessons for foreigners living in Niihama.

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