

JAPANESE LANGUAGE AND CULTURE VISITS

Restaurant Lesson Notes to Teacher

Goal: The goal of this lesson is to give students the opportunity to use skills they already have in simulated, but realistic situations with Japanese speakers. They will need to rely on their own language skills to succeed. The lesson is designed to be challenging, but fun and confidence building. Students will work together and may speak to each other in English, but as would be the case if they were on a visit to Japan, none of the “restaurant staff” (presenters) will speak in English, or understand their English. The atmosphere will be very supportive and encouraging.

Skills/Knowledge needed:

- Knowledge of basic telephone and restaurant etiquette
- Typical grammar and vocabulary used in making telephone calls, ordering and discussing food in a restaurant and extending invitations.
- Familiarity with hiragana-- all vocabularies will be shown in hiragana

Format: Presenters will begin with a brief review of the skills to be used, then demonstrate the role-playing setting where students will call a restaurant and then visit the restaurant. The three areas to be covered are:

- 1) Call a restaurant and ask a few questions
- 2) Call friends and invite them to go to the restaurant
- 3) Visit the restaurant and order the meal

First the presenters will demonstrate all three areas thoroughly, and next each area separately, with some additional explanation. Next students will form groups and call the “restaurant” and then visit the restaurant.

Logistics:

Please separate the students into 4 groups and have desks and chairs set for students to sit facing each other. They will become the tables and chairs of the restaurants. We will have 4 “restaurants” in a classroom.

Please prepare one or two extra desks and three chairs in front of the classroom so that presenters can use them for the demonstration. After demonstration, the desk will become the ‘kitchen’ where the ‘waitress’ keeps menus, trays, cups and plates.

The presenters will give a brief explanation in English at the beginning of the lesson, but will speak only in Japanese from then on. It will help if the teacher could brief the students ahead of time as to what will happen in the lesson and prepare some necessary vocabulary. Please refer to the attached sheet as to the vocabulary.

The key points of the lesson are:

- This will be a total immersion experience, as if they are really in Japan.
- After reviewing a demonstration of whole session, students will play the roles of students visiting a restaurant. One of the students will be the “lead student”. He/She will lead the role-playing at each scene.
- After calling to the restaurant, the lead student has to call another student and invite him/her to go to the restaurant together. Next, they will visit the restaurant.
- At the restaurant, the presenter will take students to the table as waitress/waiter.
- Each student has to ask a question to the waitress when they order the meal. The lead student has to ask a question first.
- Students have to talk about the meal with each other while they are “eating”.
- After eating, the lead student has to ask the waitress for the bill and be in charge of paying the bill.
- If there is enough time for practicing, it might be good if a student could play the role of waitress/waiter.