
awa life



"TOPY"

A monthly newsletter for international residents of Tokushima, produced by TOPIA, the Tokushima Prefectural International Exchange Association.

July 2006 No. 193

free futon camping

by noam katz
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free Futon Camping. Taking your futon where it has never been before - under your arm, on the ground, outdoors.

During Golden Week, Daniel and I decided on an adventure road trip around Shikoku. Being ill-planned and very much last-minute, it was a bloody amazing trip. A trip of exploration that saw us basically circumnavigate the island through all four prefectures and bore witness to the creation of a new sort of camping that is only possible in Japan - Free Futon Camping or FFCing. An invention of necessity brought about by our total lack of planning, and a slender budget.

Many people enjoy the thought of camping, but are deterred by the hard surface and the odd pebble that grinds into the small of their back. This is where the futon fits in, quite comfortably in fact.

Not knowing how our futons would ultimately be put to



bold ffc'ers making camp by the water

use, we loaded them into the back of Dan`s Suzuki Kei-car Deluxe. We headed off in some direction from the mountains of southern Tokushima (as it turns out, we were heading kinda north) on Wednesday morning with a vague idea that we would camp with rented equipment. When it became apparent in the late afternoon that the campground was booked until

Saturday, we were left with only one real option - FFCing.

On our first night in the little port town of Tadotsu, Kagawa-ken, we stayed in a park inhabited by a rag tag group of stray dogs. That night registered one of the quotes of the trip, "Hey Noam...something just tugged on my sleeping bag". Thus the addictive allure of the next crazy location took hold, and each day led us to wilder sites.

On the second night - the best night by far - we ended up laying out our futons on a beach promenade on the small island of Kashima, near Matsuyama. Kashima is a 3 minute ferry ride from the town of Hojo and part of the Seto Inland Sea national park, inhabited almost solely by deer. How hard it must have been for Japanese people to see us carrying futons around outdoors, we can only imagine - **baka gaijin!**

On our last night enroute to an undisclosed rendezvous

free futon camping ... con't on page 4

inside awa life this month

free futon camping - 1, 4 ... joining arasowaren - 3
go wild for your vegetables! - 4,5 ... energy saving tips- 6
martin's anime corner - 7 ... shin-mai mama nikki / letter from suketo - 8
japanese lesson - 9 ... memoranda - 10 - 12

awa life

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Download a PDF file of **awa life** or view the online version by going to TOPIA's website!
http://www.topia.ne.jp/e_index/e_index.htm

from the editors

As usual, our July edition is chock-full of exciting summer event information. We didn't even have room to fit it all in! The Yoshinogawa festival is happening on the last weekend in July at the Yoshinogawa Ground, at the south end of the Yoshinogawa Bridge. Apparently they will be using real plates and cups (instead of paper ones) at the Beer Garden this year in order to reduce waste. Cool! There will also be fireworks on each night of the festival, starting at 9pm. There is also an Awa Odori contest for foreigners in Komatsushima again this year on July 16. Contact komatsushima@hotmail.com for details.

Love, Claire.



Summer is just around the corner now, and along with it the famous Awa Odori. Walking along the streets during the early evening in the city, you can hear the sounds of dancing groups at practice, and day by day the temperature continues to rise. I hope you all have some fun summer activities lined up, and are looking forward to Awa Odori, too! This month Junko Kimura tells us how to save some money on energy during the hotter time of year, and Noam Katz writes about the birth of an all new and exciting practice in free futon camping. There's a lot to do and see this summer around Tokushima, and I hope you all take the time and enjoy this lovely time of year!

Cheers, Andrew



Faces made from pebbles by participants at the Zero Ji art workshop presented by Ariel Kontakt on June 25th at the old shoefactory in Shimobun, Kamiyama. For more information on future activities of the Ariel Kontakt artists group, contact Charlotte Brisland: charlotte_brisland@hotmail.com

joining arasowaren

submitted
awalife@gmail.com

Come and dance with Arasowaren, the International Awa Odori group. Be sure to get your application in quickly, however, as spaces fill up fast! Awa Odori musicians are also wanted - no experience necessary but please come to a few rehearsals!

WHEN:

Sunday, August 13

LOCATION:

- Meet at the "Well City Tokushima"

TIME:

- Assemble from 3:00pm
- Opening Ceremony and pre-dance party from 4:20pm
- Dancing from approximately 5:40pm-9:30pm

PARTICIPATION FEE:

- ¥3000 for Japanese,
- ¥2000 for non-Japanese participants

APPLICATIONS:

- Apply in person at TOPIA or;
- Apply with a reply-paid postcard (see below)
- On receiving your application, TOPIA will mail you a post-office deposit form (furikomiyoushi), which you can use to pay the participation fee. Or pay at TOPIA.

PLEASE NOTE:

We cannot accept applications by fax or telephone. **You cannot apply on the day of the event.** Sorry, but we cannot refund the participation fee for any reason. In the event of rain, the party and dance will take place inside the "Kosei Nenkin Kaikan". Participants will be limited to the first 80 applicants.

TOPIA:

Tel - (088) 656 3303 Fax - (088) 652 0616

阿波踊り「あそわ連」参加者募集

- スケジュール：8月13日（日）
- 午後3時～午後4時（受付・着替え）
- 午後4時20分～（開会式）
- 午後5時40分～（踊り開始）
- 午後9時30分（終了）

- 集合場所：ウェルティイ徳島（徳島厚生年金会館）
- 参加費（中学生以上）：日本人¥3,000 外国人¥2,000

*雨天（台風など）の場合は、室内での阿波踊りと立食パーティーに切り替えます。

申込み方法：往復はがきにて、①名前②性別③住所④電話番号⑤国籍⑥年齢（20歳以下の方のみ）を御記入の上 TOPIA までお申し込み下さい。なお、女踊り（先着30名）ご希望の方はその旨をはがきに御記入下さい。（それ以外の方は男踊りとなります。）また、応募者には返信用はがきにより参加の可否をお知らせ致します。参加可能な方には郵便局の振込口座番号をお知らせしますので、返信はがき到着後1週間以内に参加費をお支払い下さい。なお、一度払い込まれた参加費は、いかなる場合でも払い戻しできませんのでご注意ください。

★ 電話・FAXでの受付はご遠慮ください。

★ 当日参加は不可能です。

★ 募集定員80名になり次第締め切ります。

★ 鳴り物担当者も募集しています。

<詳しくはご連絡ください>

How to apply via return-paid postcard

Front	Back
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin-bottom: 5px;"></div> <div style="font-family: monospace; font-size: 1.2em;">〒〒00-0000</div> </div> <p>住信</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Tokushima Prefectural International Exchange Association (TOPIA)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Clement Plaza 6F 1-61 Terashima Honcho- nishi, Tokushima City</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100%; height: 100%; margin-top: 20px; text-align: center; vertical-align: middle;"> leave this space blank </div> </div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin-bottom: 5px;"></div> <div style="font-family: monospace; font-size: 1.2em;">□□□・□□□□</div> </div> <p>返信</p> <p style="text-align: center;">write your name and address here</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100%; height: 100%; margin-top: 20px; padding: 5px;"> <p>Write the following information here:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. name 2. gender 3. address 4. telephone number 5. nationality 6. age (if under 20) <p>also state if you want a women's style dancing costume (subject to availability)</p> </div> </div>

Fold the postcard so the address of the intended recipient is facing out and post it like a regular postcard. There is no need to hold it shut with tape or glue. Postage is prepaid so a separate stamp is not necessary either. Return-paid postcards (**ofuku hagaki**) can be purchased at the post office and TOPIA for 100 yen.



free futon camping ... con't from page 1

with an FFCing spot in Uwajima, and in an ultimate act of spontaneous rough navi, we changed course for Cape Sada. We couldn't pass up the opportunity to stand at the very western limit of Shikoku, a stone's throw from the island of Kyushu...well, not exactly, but close enough to see her shores indeed. Although we tried not to attract too much attention on our travels (for obvious reasons), it was here at the Cape that we were spotted by a group of Japanese college students, cruising the point in the very early morning, well before dawn. Curious, they stopped their car and approached us stealthily, when suddenly one of them exclaimed, "**subarashii desu!**" High praise. High praise indeed.

It was an awesome trip and one really worth not planning for. We visited amazing gardens, temples, shrines and castles, including the fertility shrine in Uwajima, Ehime and the sex museum next door. We got to see just how different all the cities and prefectures

were, how the surrounding landscape changed. But the highlight for us, was definitely the FFC'ing. And what did we do about washing? Well, this is where Japan is just perfect for this sort of camping - **onsens**. In fact we visited some really great **onsen**, including Kochi's KumoNoUe Onsen and the oldest **onsen** in Japan - Dogo Onsen in Matsuyama (Speak to us for recommendations... seriously, dude!).

Here follows the most important information from our recent draft of FFC'ing for Dummies (2006). Actually, this is all we have written. Equipment List:

- Car (not always absolutely necessary...train or bus could work),
- Futon
- Sleeping bag (or blanket)
- Pillow (if necessary...you wimp...you call that roughing it?)

Noam and Dan`s top 5 tips for FFC`ing

1. Don`t give up! Even though Japan is incredibly overcrowded, there is always

space for an extra futon.

2. Be adventurous, be daring, be spontaneous! Just because you might find yourself sleeping in a park full of hungry stray dogs, doesn`t mean you should freak out. Enjoy the wildlife experience.

3. Futons are best suited for surfaces made for vehicles, bicycles and pedestrians ("Sleeping on the futon outside was just as good as being on tatami" - Noam, FFCing pioneer).

4. Embrace the elements. You can fart freely in a stiff wind.

5. Bring beer. This will help you adjust nicely to your new environment.

Finally, we want you to get out there and indulge yourself in the spontaneous art of Free Futon Camping. Share your stories. Find new, wild locations. And send us your pictures. You can email Noam at hurakan_4@yahoo.com or Dan at rogat@mighty.co.za with stories, pictures and any stupid questions. No worries!



go wild for your vegetables!

by yusri johan
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In May 2005 when my **eikaiwa** students and I went on a hike up Mt. Kotsu in Yamakawa, I saw a strange plant that had a tiny flower growing out of each leaf (see picture). I asked my students what the plant's name was, but none knew. Several months went by and I still haven't found my answer. One day, I found myself in Kinokuniya browsing the books in the outdoor section. I noticed

the section to the left has books on mountain flowers and plants. Out of curiosity, I picked up a book titled shikoku no sansai 四国の山菜 published by Tokushima Shinbun which I have seen advertised in the newspaper before. There, after flipping through several pages, I found the plant in question: 花筏 (**hana ikada**). The book mentioned that this plant is rather difficult to

find and it can be used for tempura, soup, aemono, or pickles. And thus began my quest to learn more about wild vegetables in my area.

Armed with that book, which has indicators of growing time and place, I carefully scour my area, especially around my house, Kawata river, and school ground for wild vegetables. So far, I have identified

go wild for your vegetables ... con't on page 5

go wild for your vegetables ... con't from page 4

many species. Some are easily recognizable, such as mustard greens (**nanohana**), dandelion (**tampopo**), and wild onion (**nobiru**), but some are harder, such as purslane (**suberihyu**). There are two problems in identifying wild vegetables: most are seasonal and many grow alongside the weeds. Of course, there is one other problem: I don't know enough Japanese to understand everything that is written in that book. However, the book gave me enough information, especially the name, to do some searches on the internet for the Latin name and cross-check it against Plant for a Future's (PFAF) database (pfa.org).

Many of you may not like the idea of looking through the weeds to find edible wild vegetables, so as an introduction, let's start with something easily recognized for this season: **shiso** aka beefsteak or perilla leaves. No, not the ones growing in someone's garden, but ones you can find growing by a river, a footpath, or an unattended field, especially where it has moist soil.

There are two kinds of **shiso** in Japan: green and red (or purple rather). Of the two, the red variety is easily found in the wild. A quick check in PFAF yields the Latin name of *Perilla frutescens nankinensis* for purple **shiso**. The accompanying medicinal benefit information reveals that it is antibacterial, antipyretic, antispasmodic, aromatic, carminative, diaphoretic, emollient,

expectorant, pectoral, and stomachic. Simply put, it is healthy and medicinal, but we are more interested in using it for eating.

Just like the green variety, you can use red **shiso** in tempura and as a garnish. As a part of **tempura** (Need a **tempura** recipe? Check out Tom Collins' recipe in April 2006 Awa Life), only batter the underside of the leaves and fry it quickly. As a garnish, please don't use it only for visual presentation. Eat it as well. One of its famous uses is as the coloring agent of **umeboshi** which you can find the recipe for in the June 2006 of Awa Life. In the same tone, you can use it as coloring agent for other applications. You can make a purple dye by simply bruising the leaves by rubbing them together, mixing them with a little water, and squeezing the liquid out. You can repeat the process several times to get more dye.

Use it also in your salad. Pick some of the young/smallish leaves and add them to your

salad. Also, you can chopped up a leaf or two and add it to your salad dressing for flavor. If you fancy making some red **shiso** oil, try this recipe:

Shiso Oil

A handful of red **shiso** leaves
2 Cups of your favorite oil

Steps:

Prepare an ice bath and place a strainer in it. Wash and dry the leaves. Bring a pot of water to boil and blanch the leaves for a minute or so. Immediately, transfer the leaves to the ice bath. Squeeze out the excess water and transfer it to a blender or a suribachi. Grind or puree it while adding the oil steadily. Once it has smoothly blended together, transfer it to an airtight container.

I hope this little introduction to wild vegetables inspires you to look at the weeds differently. If you are interested in learning more, go to a bookstore and pick up a book on the subject matter or talk to your local farmers about edible wild vegetables in your area. Happy cooking! 🍴



hana ikada

energy saving tips

by junko kimura
snowbird@fastmail.fm

The rainy season is now almost over. I assume that you are all excited about summer and the great weather that comes with it. It is the time for swimming, camping and more fun activities, but you don't want to be outside all the time. What do you usually do? I can imagine that you stay in your room and are relaxing while the air conditioner is running. Your summer electricity bill would surprise you. Did you know that 25.2% out of the bill is for air-conditioner and 16.1% for a refrigerator? I found a good web site to find out how much you can save energy and be nice to the earth, and also get extra money for your piggy bank. I am going to list up some of things that you could do to save energy around the home and in your daily life.

Air-conditioner

Aim for setting the room temperature to 28 degrees celsius. It will save you 670 yen* while using it 9 hours per day when outside is 31 degrees celsius. Also, you can save 410 yen if you reduce air conditioning usage by an hour per day. If you clean the filter twice a month, you can save 700 yen. It is also a good idea to use an electric fan alongside an air-conditioner.

Lighting equipment

Changing to compact fluorescent lamps (CFL) from electric light bulbs can help you use less energy. You can save 1,850 yen if you change to 12 watt CFL from 54 watt regular lightbulbs. CFL is also

6 times longer-lasting than conventional bulbs. CFL is more expensive than regular bulbs, but you save money in the long run. It is also good to clean lighting equipment often.

Television

Turn off your TV when you're not watching it. It saves 700 yen if you reduce watching tube TV an hour per day. Save 330 yen for liquid crystal TV and 1640 yen for plasma TV. It also saves energy if you turn off the main power supply.

Computer

Turn off the computer when you aren't using it. You can save 690 yen if you reduce using a desktop computer for an hour each day and 120 yen for a laptop computer. I always thought that screen saver saves energy; however, it actually does not. It is better if you set up for system standby from "set power properties".

Car

Stopping idling for just five minutes in every 40km of driving saves 1,870 yen. You can also save 6,140 yen in energy conservation if you don't carry an unnecessary load of 10kg and ran 5,000km. If you don't do sudden acceleration and sudden braking in every 10km run you can save 3,220 yen. You save 1,580 yen if you run 5,000km while you keep your tires' air pressure properly. You definitely need a car in order to live in Tokushima Prefecture. You don't want to pay money that you didn't

need to pay since you are already spending a lot of them for gas.

Electric pot

*Turn off it when you don't use it for long hours. You save 2,360 yen.

Washing Machine

*You save 130 yen for electricity and 3,820 yen for water if you do your laundry a few times a week than every day. Five members family whom I knew, they stopped using drying tumbler one month, they saved about 45,000 yen. Someone did laundry at least once a day. Also putting a lot of detergent doesn't mean that your clothes are going to get cleaner, so please put the right amount of that.

These are only few that I picked up from the site. Please visit <http://www.eccj.or.jp> which is the Energy Conservation Center of Japan. They have much information both in Japanese and English. There are also hundreds of web sites that you can visit for getting more information. I think saving energy in your house is a first step to volunteer for the earth and its environment. You might not be able to see the result easily by doing it, but it is important. The earth is not only for humans. It is for all creatures.

*the figures listed refer to savings over the period of one year



martin's anime corner

by martin o'brien
martinobrien2004@gmail.com

Title: 老人 Z
Rojin Z
Director: Hiroyuki Kitakubo
Creators: Tokyo Theater
Released: Japan (1991)
USA (1996)
Time: 80 min

In the twilight glow of the bubble years, the term **koreika shakai** emerged as one of those omnipresent buzzwords that frequent political and social commentary in Japan. **Koreika shakai** literally translates as 'aging society' or 'greying society'. The percentage of elderly people is rising dramatically in Japan to the extent that the over 65 age group will account for 26 percent of the population by 2015 and 30 percent by 2030. While elderly populations are rising throughout the developed world, Japan's growth rate is one of the most dramatic. This situation will have a significant effect on the nations economy and social welfare system.

One of the main problems facing Japanese society as a cause of this, is how to take care of the elderly. The movie *Rojin Z* is the story of how a novel solution to this problem by the Ministry of Health quickly spirals out of control. In *Rojin Z*, the chief of the Ministry of Health, Mr Tarada reveals a device known as the Z-001. It is a biomechanical device, or robotic bed in which you place an infirm elderly person. High-tech mechanisms bathe, feed, exercise and entertain the elderly person along with closely monitoring their health. It's a dream

device that eliminates the need for nurses and care assistants, allowing the elderly to be self-sufficient.

The first person to enter the Z-001 is Mr Takizawa, a very frail man who is barely able to talk. He is snatched one day under the nose of his care assistant Haruko, who is somewhat suspicious of Tarada's ambitious plans for Mr Takizawa. While the machine is capable of taking care of Mr Takaizawa's physical needs, his emotional needs are obviously unmet. As his brain is wired to the computer he manages to get in touch with Haruko, and pleads to be rescued from the confines of the machine. While trying to get Takaizawa out of the machine, late one night is becomes apparent that it is almost impossible to free him as he has become part of the machine. The machine taps into the nostalgic memories of Mr Takizawa and it begins to take on the personality of Mr. Takazawa's late wife. The Z-001 then springs to life and breaks out of the research facility, leaving a trail of destruction in its path.

The purpose of the Z-001 is simple - to recreate somehow an old memory of a perfect day he spent at the beach with his wife and child. He does this by heading off to the coast near Kamakura. On the way, the police and the army try to stop him but in a manner similar to *Akira*, the Z-001 unleashes cables that allow the machine to bio-mechaically amalgamate and use any machines that the authorities throw at him. Followed close behind by Tarada and Haruko,

the Z-001 powers itself underneath a monorail line to get the old man to the sea in order to relive the good old days. While the old man gets to view the sea again, there is a lot more in store for the Z-001, which was seemingly developed with a more sinister purpose in mind. All is revealed in a wonderful upbeat conclusion where the old man's memories translate into even more adventure.

Rojin Z is directed by Hiroyuki Kitakubo, however the main writer and creative talent behind the film is Katsuhiro Otomo of *Akira* fame. *Rojin Z* has undoubtably a lot in common with *Akira*, where a different kind of mysterious being rampages through the futuristic urban landscape of Japan. It is however more in debt to *Stink Bomb* which one of the three short anime films that made up the Otomo Katsushiro's *Memories* film. *Rojin Z* is a straight forward comedy anime which favours straight foward story telling over the deep concepts that are explored in *Akira*. It does never the less pose a moral question regarding how Japan will deal with the huge number of elderly people in its society. Certainly robots and technology will solve many of the physical tasks that the aged are not able to perform, but they are unlikely to provide much of the social contact that is a feature of the work that care assistants and nurses currently do.



letter from suketo hoikuen

by kazue inoue
 suketo hoikuen staff

Once rainy season ends, summer is truly upon us. Playing with water in a pool is a great way to ride out the summer heat. Children can learn a lot by playing with water during the summer. They can also grow big and strong this way.

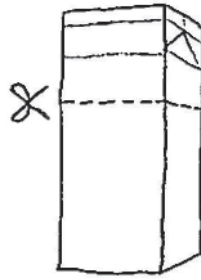
Benefits of playing in water:

1. Experience the change of seasons (ie. summer = hot)
2. Exercise with their whole bodies
3. The temperature difference between the water and the air can make their skin stronger (helping to prevent colds)
4. They can learn about the dangerous aspects of water (ie. can't breathe in water, can't move freely, etc)

Near Suketo Hoikuen, there is

the Tamiya Park Pool and the Komatsu Kaisui Yokujo beach (Kawauchi-cho, Komatsu Kaigan) where you can play in the water. Why not go there yourself on the weekend as a family?

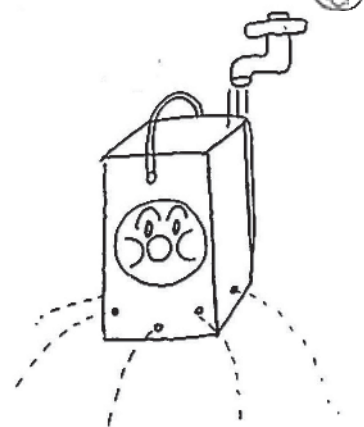
Compared to countries where



Milk carton shower

- take a 1 litre milk carton and cut it to the height you want.
- make a handle with a piece of string.

it doesn't rain often and water is scarce, Japan is truly a blessed country. Because of this, we want even more to use this water in ways to help our children grow.



- punch holes around the bottom
- put water in and you have a shower!

shin-mai mama nikki

by claire tanaka
 clairish@gmail.com

Sofie is really eager to start standing up and crawling and generally being physical. I think the influence of the older kids at daycare is partially to thank for this inclination. She seems to be putting all her energy into learning new ways of moving. She is like a little scientist, scurrying around on the floor investigating things. She loves to look at herself in the mirror and then check behind the mirror to see where the other baby is.

Sofie is one of only four babies under a year old at daycare, and the older kids are quite interested in her – there are two five year-old girls, Mayu and Mayu, who wait for her to arrive in the morning and play with her while the teachers set the

tables out for morning snack. I saw them smelling her the other day... I'm not sure what that was about.

We have started going to the Fureai Kenkokan pool occasionally. It's never very full, and the old ladies in the changeroom like to poke Sofie's squishy cheeks and otherwise entertain her while I'm changing. My husband and I hold Sofie with her head sticking out of the water and she splashes around. We haven't tried to teach her any strokes yet. There is another local pool that does 'baby swim' classes, but it's not really worthwhile to only go once every week or two, since they charge a monthly fee.

I just paid my city resident's tax the other day and now I am determined to get

my money's worth, so I'll probably be spending more time at public facilities like the Fureai Kenkokan in future.

The other day, one of the ladies at the pool saw all three of us together and asked my husband, "Are you her father? So she's 'half' then?" There's not much you can say to a nice old lady asking if your kid is "half," so he just said yes. I know she didn't mean any harm and I couldn't be bothered to launch into a poolside lecture on racial terminology. I know some people like to say double instead of half, but I don't like either, personally. I'd rather people just say she has a Japanese dad and a white mom and leave it at that.

japanese lesson

have you ever had the experience where your Japanese is technically correct, yet people misunderstand, or make a strange face at you? That's what we are here for - it's the "you can't just learn it from studying sentence patterns" Japanese Usage Series!! This month we focus on intonation.

1. 『でしょう』

A: あの人は独身でしょう。 - That person is single, isn't he?

B: ええ?! 結婚してるでしょう。 - Huh? Surely he is married.

C: どちらでしょう。 - Which could it be?

desho - if you raise the sound at the end, it means "don't you think so too?" - you are indicating that you expect the listener to agree with you.

desho - if you lower the sound at the end, it means "I think so" - you are fairly certain that what you say is true.

2. 『いいですよ』

Case One:

しなくてもいい - it's not necessary

い
い
de su
です
yo
よ。

1) (居酒屋で) (at the bar)

A: そろそろ帰りましょうか。

B: ええ、会計はいくらですか。

A: 今日はわたしが払います。

B: いいですよ。割り勘にしましょう。

A: Let's get going home, OK?

B: Sure, what's the bill?

A: I'll pay today.

B: That's not necessary. Let's split it.

Case Two:

してもいい - it's alright, sure

い
い
de su
です
yo
よ。

2) (会社で) (at the office)

A: ちょっと、よろしいですか。

B: ええ、いいですよ。

A: すみませんが、この資料に目を通して

いただけませんか。

B: いいですよ。

A: Have you got a minute?

B: Oh, sure.

A: Sorry, but could you take a look at these papers?

B: Sure.

Depending on whether the intonation goes up or down at the end, the meaning can change completely. Ask your Japanese friends or co-workers the following questions and listen to how they answer:

1) 少し休みましょうか。 - Shall we take a little break?

2) このパソコンを使ってもいいですか。 - Is it alright if I use the computer?

If the person you're talking to uses Awa-ben, you will get a totally different intonation pattern. In this case, ask them if they mean *してもいい* (it's alright) or *しなくてもいい* (it's not necessary).

Have you ever gotten into trouble because of mistakes with intonation? If you have any questions or personal stories about learning Japanese, please contact me!



Speech Contest

Come watch Tokushima's foreign residents compete in the annual Japanese Speech Contest!

2006 Tokushima Prefecture Japanese Speech Contest For Foreign Residents

date: 17 July, 2006 (Holiday Monday) 13:00 - 16:00

place: Tokushima Seishonen Centre

for more info: call TOPIA at 088-656-3303

日本語弁論大会

2006年度外国人による徳島県日本語弁論大会

応援に来てください!

日時:平成18年7月17日(月・祝日)13:00~16:00

場所:徳島県青少年センター

問合せ:(財)徳島県国際交流協会

TEL:088-656-3303

FAX:088-652-0616

Tokushima Scenery Photo Contest

Enter your photo of a Tokushima scene and win fabulous prizes! It can be any kind of scene - natural or manmade.

"photo" category: submit a mutsugiri (六ツ切) size (18cm x 23cm) print

"snap" category: submit an L size print

submission deadline: August 15, 2006

Application forms are available at photo shops and public offices around the prefecture or write the following on a separate page and send with your photo: Name of photo, address, name, phone number, gender, age, reason you chose the photo, place the photo was taken.

Mail your application to: Tokushima Ken Doseibi-bu Toshi Kikaku Ka "Arudenaide Ee Keikan" Bandai-cho 1-1, Tokushima City, 770-8570

*photos submitted must be unpublished

*digital photos must not be digitally altered

*photos submitted may be published by the prefecture and related groups

*names of the winners will be published

*submitted works will not be returned

ええ景観 フォトコンテスト

あなたの好きな徳島の景色や町並みを写真にして、みんなに見てもらおう。

フォト部門:六ツ切りサイズの写真

スナップ部門:Lサイズ程度の写真

応募締め切り:平成18年8月15日

両部門とも、県の出先機関等に設置している募集要項の中の応募用紙をご利用ください。なお、必要事項(1. 作品名, 2. 住所, 3. 氏名, 4. 電話番号, 5. 性別, 6. 年齢, 7. 選んだ理由, 8. 撮影場所)が記載されていれば、他の用紙を利用して応募いただいても構いません。

○応募先:〒770-8570 徳島市万代町1丁目1番地

徳島県県土整備部都市計画課「あるでないで ええ景観!」係

* 作品は、未発表のものに限ります。

* デジタルカメラの場合は、画像加工した作品は不可。

* 徳島県及び関連団体は応募作品を自由に使用できるものとします。

* 受賞者の氏名は公表いたします。

* 応募作品は返却しませんのでご了承ください。

Toastmasters Meet

when: July 16 (Sunday) from 1:30

where: TOPIA (Clement Plaza 6F)

what: Expand your communication and leadership skills by giving speeches in English on a variety of topics and themes. Both native and non-native speakers of English are welcome.

contact: Ms. Seo: 090-7570-7370

徳島トーストマスターズ例会

日時:7月16(日)午後1時30分より

場所:徳島県国際交流協会(クレメントプラザ6階)

内容:コミュニケーションとリーダーシップの能力を伸ばすため、身近な出来事などさまざまなテーマで英語によるスピーチを楽しみます。日本人及びネイティブスピーカー歓迎。

* 問い合わせ:瀬尾佳子 電話<090.7570.7370>

memoranda

Fireworks Festivals

Anan Fireworks Festival
Wednesday, July 26 20:00 - 21:30
Hamanoura Park, Anan

Naruto Fireworks Festival
Saturday, August 12 20:00 - 21:00
Near the Naruto Bunka Kaikan by the Muya River

Komatsushima Port Fireworks Festival
Holiday Monday, July 17 20:00 - 21:15
Komatsushima Port Area

花火大会

阿南の夏まつり花火大会
7月26日 20:00～21:30
阿南市 浜の浦公園

鳴門納涼花火大会
8月12日 20:00～21:00
撫養川沿い鳴門市文化会館周辺

小松島港まつり花火大会
7月17日 20:00～21:25
小松島港新港岸壁一帯

The Japanese Language Proficiency Test

Take this annual test to see how far you've progressed in your language study, or to improve the contents of your resume! Application packs are available at Kinokuniya Books in Sogo and at Koyama Books in front of Tokushima Station.

application period: July 3 - September 5
test date: December 3 (Sunday)
test locations: Kobe, Takamatsu, Hiroshima, and other big cities nearby
cost: application pack costs ¥500, test fee is ¥5,500
for more info: www.jees.or.jp

日本語能力試験

自分の日本語能力を確認してみませんか？この試験は毎年12月に開かれています。就職などにつながる貴重な資格。勉強のやりがいにもなるこの試験にチャレンジしよう！

出願受付期間：7月3日～9月5日
試験日：12月3日（日曜日）
試験地：神戸市、高松市、広島市等全国の都会（徳島では受けられません）
願書：500円（徳島市では紀伊國屋書店と小山助学館本店で買えます）
受験料：5,500円
詳しく：www.jees.or.jp

Disaster Prevention Exercise

Come along to this exercise in preparedness for large-scale disasters such the Nankai earthquake, which is predicted to occur sometime in the near future.

when: September 1 (Friday) 10:00am-12:00pm
where: Tokushima-shi, Ojin-cho Higashi Sadakata Aza
Minami Kawabuchi, Tokushima Shimin
Yoshinogawa Kitagan Undo Hiroba
applications to: the counter at TOPIA
for more info: contact TOPIA at 088-656-3303

徳島市総合防災訓練について

近未来に起こるといわれている南海地震を想定した総合的な防災訓練が実施されます。

日時：9月1日（金）10:00から12:00まで
会場：徳島市応神町東貞方南川渚、
徳島市民吉野川北岸
運動広場
申し込み先：トピアのカウンターまで
問い合わせ：トピアまで電話 088-656-3303

memoranda

Doitsu-kan Events

August 6 - 26

An exhibition of drawings by local school children with the movie "Baruto no Gakuen" as the theme (the usual entrance fee to the Doitsu-kan applies)

August 13 - 14

German Beer and Wine Fest 10:00-16:00

Entry is free.

for more info: Call the Doitsu-kan at 088-689-0099

Take a look at the Doitsu-kan homepage for more seasonal event information and other details, here at: <http://www.city.naruto.tokushima.jp/germanhouse/index.html>

ドイツ館イベント

8月6日～26日

学生たちが描いた「バルトの楽園」をテーマにした絵の展示会（ドイツ館の入場料が必要となります）

8月13日～14日

ドイツのビールとワインの祭り 10:00～16:00

入場無料

詳しく：ドイツ館まで電話 088-689-0099

ドイツ館のウェブサイトにも季節のイベント情報などがあります：<http://www.city.naruto.tokushima.jp/germanhouse/index.html>

Japanese Summer School

Japanese class for schoolchildren whose first language is not Japanese. Have fun and make new friends!

when: July 21, 24, 27, 31 & August 2,4,7,9 from 10:30 to noon.

where: TOPIA (Clement Building 6F)

cost: free

participants: must be aged 6 to 15 and whose first language is not Japanese.

for more info: call 088.656.3303, e-mail topia@topia.ne.jp or drop by TOPIA and fill out a registration form. Presented by JTM Tokushima.

application deadline: July 14 (Friday)

夏休み子ども日本語サマースクール

日本語を母語としない小中学生のための日本語学習。楽しみながら新しい友達もたくさん作れる。

いつ：7月21日、24日、27日、31日、8月2日、4日、7日、

9日、午前10時半から12時まで

どこ：TOPIA（クレメントビル6F）

対象：日本語を母語としない小中学生

申し込み（問い合わせ）：TOPIA（財）徳島県国際交流協会）

tel.088-656-3303 メール topia@topia.ne.jp

講師：JTM とくしま日本語ネットワーク

締め切り：7月14日（金曜日）

Counselling Service at TOPIA

トピアの相談窓口

TOPIA offers a counselling and advisory service to all foreign residents to help with issues involving accidents, working conditions, housing, visas, international marriage, and more. Counselling is available in English and Japanese. Please note that although every effort will be made, we may not be able to deal with all cases.

Monday to Friday, 10:00 - 16:30

tel. 088-656-3303 or 088-656-3320 (allows three way conversations with an interpreter)

人権守って輝く明日