



Jazz up the conversation with 'Jazz spirits' ジャズ精神で会話を盛り上げる

ALL ABOUT... JAZZ ?

Learn the art of conversation by listening to Jazz!



TALK LIKE JAZZ- LET'S SWING, SCAT AND IMPROVISE!

Finding methods for better communication methods in *JAZZ*

I love Jazz.
I love Language, too.
Language learning and Jazz
have strong similarities.

Jazz musicians devote their lives to learning, repeating, improvising and expressing themselves through music. At it's very best, jazz music engages in conversational communication with both musicians and audiences. Language learners can learn a lot from jazz musicians. According to a Johns Hopkins study (*1), our brains treat musical improvisation just like language. If you are not a jazz enthusiast, you may find jazz chaotic and lawless - noisy, even.

The fast and complicated rhythms and tunes, which are impossible to sing along at the Karaoke, annoy you.

This is quite similar to foreign languages . If you don't understand the language, it doesn't make any sense to you. And when things don't make sense, we react negatively. This could apply to any music, sound and noise, perhaps.

However, I found jazz is way more similar to language learning. What marks Jazz as different from many other music genres is the way it deals with "improvisation"

When you start to learn Jazz, first of all, you must master your instrument and then master the music.

You might play Jazz according to the score, but that is not playing Jazz. Jazz is expression via improvisation. Therefore, Jazz only exists after you master the instrument *and* the music.

*"Master your instrument, master the music, and then forget about all that (stuff) and just play."
By Charlie Parker*

To express yourself in Jazz beautifully and fluently, you need to practice your instruments. In terms of speaking language, our mouth, face and body. It won't be relevant to writing, however, if you wish to accomplish your writing fluently, it is necessary to reread and it's better to read out loud - after all, language is rooted in oral practise.

*1 <https://www.theatlantic.com/health/archive/2014/02/how-brains-see-music-as-language/283936/>

THE LESSON SCHEDULE FOR DECEMBER 24 & JANUARY 25

Group Lessons : All lessons will be from 20:00~21:30

For jazz musicians, mastering the music means learning which notes to play with which chords, rules/theory. They learn a variety of songs, set phrases, and licks that they can pull out in different situations.

This involves a huge amount of listening, exploring, memorising and practising. This applies to language learning. You must learn the letters, grammar, vocabulary, phrases and so on. Then you improvise all your knowledge to express your feelings and thoughts fluently. To accomplish to express yourself, it takes a ridiculous amount of listening, exploring, memorising, and practising.

Then forget all that and just play! In the language term, just communicate!

You don't want to stop your speech by thinking about the weird grammar rules. Like jazz, enjoy the unexpected dissonances and cacophonies.

So... Learn all kinds of vocabulary, grammar, sentences, and phrases. Practice them. Work on your accent. And then forget about all that and just go talk to people! Talk Japanese in group lessons as if you are playing Jazz in the Jazz club!

**Lesson 3
Beginner :**
Tuesday 10th December
Tuesday 17th December

Intermediate :
Thursday 12th December
Thursday 19th December

**Lesson 4
Beginner :**
Tuesday 7th January
Tuesday 14th January

Intermediate :
Thursday 9th January
Thursday 16th January

**Lesson 5
Beginner :**
Tuesday 21st January
Tuesday 28th January

Intermediate :
Thursday 23rd January
Thursday 30th January

PRIVATE LESSONS SLOTS

DECEMBER 2024

Monday

- 9:30-10:30 (Booked)
- 11:00-12:00
- 12:15-13:15 (Booked)
- 14:00-15:00 (Booked)

Wednesday

- 20:00~21:00
- 21:15~22:15

Friday

- 9:30-10:30
- 11:00-12:00 (Booked)
- 12:15-13:15
- 20:00~21:00

JANUARY 2025

Monday

- 9:30-10:30 (Booked)
- 11:00-12:00
- 12:15-13:15 (Booked)
- 14:00-15:00 (Booked)

Wednesday

- 20:00~21:00
- 21:15~22:15

Friday

- 9:30-10:30
- 11:00-12:00 (Booked)
- 12:15-13:15
- 20:00~21:00

**There are no lessons on 24th,
25th and 31st December~ 3rd
January 2025!**

JAPANESE LANGUAGE FACTOID

The Old Japanese Names for the Months

As you know, Japanese months are easy to remember. It is just counting numbers, The first month = Ichi gatsu 1月, the second = Ni gatsu 2月 etc. But there were different names under the lunar calendar until 1873, called the Wafugetsumeia 和風月名;

1. Mutsuki (睦月) / January
2. Kisaragi (如月) / February
3. Yayoi (弥生) / March
4. Uzuki (卯月) / April
5. Satsuki (皐月) / May
6. Minazuki (水無月) / June
7. Fumizuki (文月) / July
8. Hazuki (葉月) / August
9. Nagatsuki (長月) / September
10. Kannazuki (神無月) / October
11. Shimotsuki / November (霜月)
12. Shiwasu (師走) / December

Each month has meaning. December, Shiwasu, means even 師 (teacher) runs 走 in December because it is so BUSY!

12月のオノマトペ DECEMBER ONOMATOPOEIA

ぶるぶる ガタガタ

ぶるぶる ガタガタ



What sound is this?

- ぶるぶる = Shivering from the cold weather and with fear.
- ガタガタ = Chattering teeth from the cold weather or fear. Also, when you feel nervous, your knees shake with ガタガタ

For example

- My heater broke, so I wrapped myself in a duvet. But I am still shivering from the cold.
- I heard some noise in the middle of the night, so I crawled under my duvet in fear.

Now it is December!! Japan is at last getting cold and feels like winter. 2024 is the new phase of my teaching practice and I really hope to deliver a better service to you all!! I appreciate all your feedback. Don't hesitate to tell me your opinion about my lesson and this newsletter!!