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ABSTRACT

A group of classroom activities to develop oral Japanese skills at the high school level are described, with illustrations and, in some cases, student worksheets. The activities include: (1) a game for determining the appropriate referent for an adjective; (2) a paired-student activity in which students match individuals with characteristics; (3) a board game, with cue cards and answer cards provided; (4) a game in which students find a classmate who has a specific characteristic; (5) a personal oral interview exercise; and (6) a game for discovering shared interests. A list of additional resources for oral activities appropriate to the high school classroom is appended. (MSE)

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Oral Activities for the High School Japanese Language Classroom

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ACTFL '94 (Atlanta, Georgia, Nov. 18, 1994)

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Cliff Darnall

Introduction To the Packet

TO THE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC).¹

Anyone who has taught high school realizes the importance of including a variety of activities in the classroom. Many high school students are not willingly to do long sequences of teacher-led drill sessions. They enjoy having frequent chances for student-to-student interaction, which gives them a chance to use the language without having to fear making mistakes in front of the entire class. Moreover, if we as teachers are indeed striving to improve our students' ability to use the language for communication, we must provide opportunities for information to be exchanged in the classroom.

The activities in this packet are my adaptations and variations on ideas I have picked up at workshops, in coursework, and in the literature. These oral activities are student-centered, involving pairs, small groups, or the milling of students around an entire class. The activities are highly structured, as is necessary at the early levels of learning; but most also involve simple communicative interchange.¹

It is important, I feel, to provide lots of time for speaking practice in class. Students can do much of their writing practice outside of class, but in general students' speaking opportunities are mostly limited to the classroom. Students must realize that their teacher places great importance on the oral language. Although it may be impossible to have frequent speaking tests in large classes, many quizzes and tests should still involve listening. Moreover, oral participation in class should compose a major part of each student's grade, and students should be made aware of this fact.

Finally, I would note that activities such as the ones presented here should be integrated into the overall lessons, not just introduced haphazardly. In many cases, careful preparation for the activity will be needed to make sure that the students will have the language ability to carry out the tasks well in their small groups. Once the activities have been set up, the teacher is free to stand back, circulate, and help out--or in the case of the milling activities at the back of the packet, take part as one of the participants.

¹The exception is the board game, which provides a fun, student-centered way for students to get additional meaningful practice on difficult structures. Student teams must correctly complete a mini-dialog exchange in order to advance. Because whenever a team pulls a cue card the other team pulls an answer card to check what the other team says, grammatical accuracy can be carefully monitored in small group work even when the teacher is on the other side of the room. By making new question and check cards and an appropriate instruction card (on the middle of the gameboard), the teacher can easily use the same gameboard as a change of pace activity several times during the year. Communicative tasks can also placed on the cue cards, though this may sometimes affect how well the other team can check accuracy.

(Note that if the locations marked ~つ戻る result in any net advancement for the students, they must successfully carry out the mini-exchange or return to the location they rolled from. Teachers may prefer to have the locations marked 一回休む interpreted to mean that students return to their location before rolling and forfeit only that current attempt.)

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BATTLESHIP: い- and な-Type Adjectives

Cliff Darnall, Elk Grove H.S. (IL) copyright 1994 Illustrated by Ayano Tamura

ACTFL '94

(Source of Battleship idea: Teachers' Manual to Japanese Now, Vol. 1, by E. Sato et. al. U. of Hawaii Press)

DIRECTIONS: First choose eight squares below for which you will say that the left-hand adjective applies to the noun, and mark those eight squares on your paper. Do not let your opponent see which ones you marked. Do ジャンケンポン to decide who goes first. If you ask your partner a question and he/she answers affirmatively ("yes"), you get a point and get to ask again. If he answers in the negative, you lose your turn. (If the partner does not complete the negative answer, your turn continues.)

Roleplay adult acquaintances for the first part of the game. The teacher will have you switch to informal style later. Be sure to include the necessary particles when you speak. Use the patterns below:

Sample with い-type Adjective: その車 ^{くま} 高い ^{やす} (安い)。

-> Question: その車は高いですか。

その車 (は)、高い?

-> If yes: ええ、高いです (よ)。

うん、高い(よ)。

-> If no: いいえ、高くありません (よ)。(安いです)。

ううん、高くありません (よ)。(安いです)。

Sample with な-type Adjective: 真理さんの部屋 ^{まじ} 静か ^{ずか} (うるさい)

-> Qu.: 真理さんの部屋は静かですか。

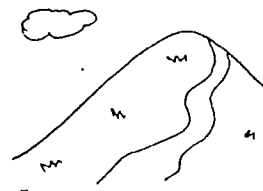


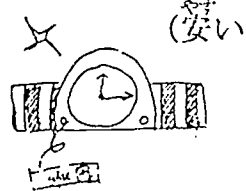




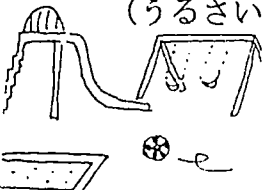
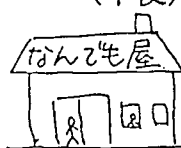
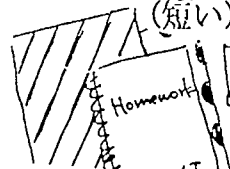

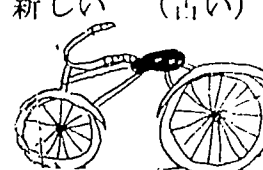



真理さんの部屋 (は)、静か?

-> If Y: ええ、静かです (よ)。

うん、静か (だ) (よ)。

-> If N: いいえ、静かじゃないです (よ)。(うるさいです)。

ううん、静かじゃない (よ)。(うるさいです)。

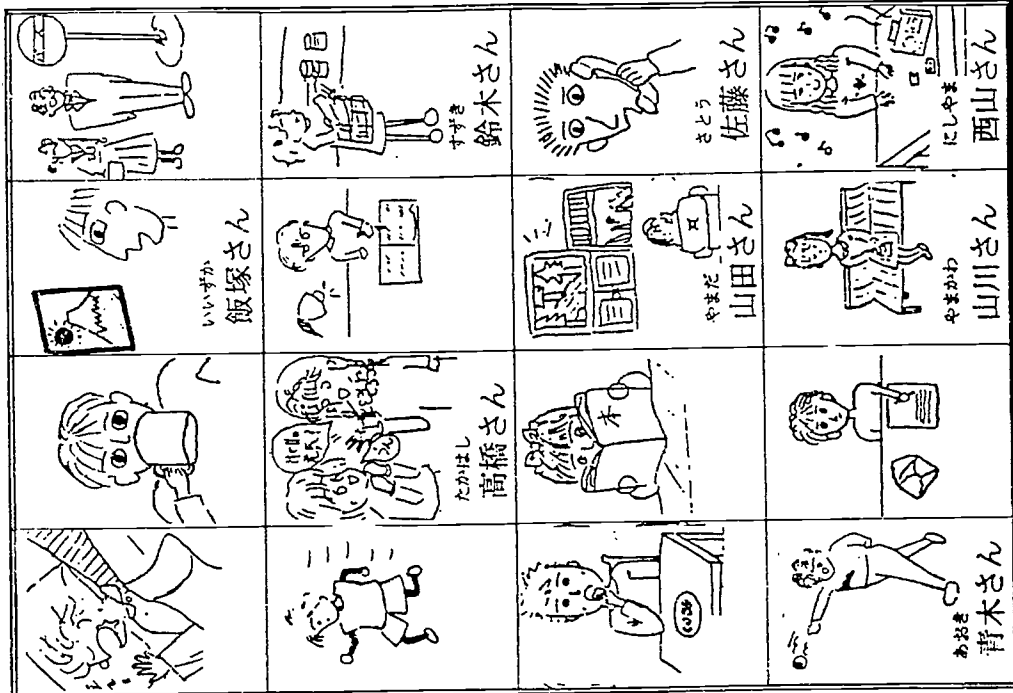
<p>おか たか ひく あの丘 高い (低い)</p> 	<p>えいが おもしろ あの映画 面白い (つまらない)</p> 	<p>すざき がっこう 鈴木さんの学校 大きい (小さい)</p> 	<p>とけい たか その時計 高い (安い)</p> 
<p>かる そのかばん 軽い (重い)</p> 	<p>あつ そのココア 熱い (ぬるい)</p> 	<p>みず ぬる プールの水 温かい (冷たい)</p> 	<p>きれい あの湖 きれいな (汚い)</p> 
<p>こっせん しず あの公園 静か (うるさい)</p> 	<p>みせ べんり あの店 便利 (不便)</p> 	<p>しゅごい なが その宿題 長い (短い)</p> 	<p>むづか そのゲーム 難しい (やさしい)</p> 
<p>たなか じてんしゃ 田中さんの自転車 新しい (古い)</p> 	<p>せんせい じょうたん 先生の冗談 いい (悪い、くだらない)</p> 	<p>そのケーキ おいしい (まずい)</p> 	<p>りょうり フランス料理のレストラン 近い (遠い)</p> 

“Who’s The Person Who’s...An Information Gap Activity Card A

Presented at ACTFL '94 名前: _____
 Cliff Darnall, Elk Grove High School (IL), copyright 1994
 Illustrations by Tasuku Iizuka, Takako Takayanagi, Ayano Tamura and Shinobu Itoh

You know who half of the people in the pictures are. Your partner knows who the other is. Use Japanese to find out who the people you don't know are. Roleplay adult acquaintances for the first 4 people on each side, high school students for the others.

Formal-level interaction: だれ
 S1: すみません、～ている人は誰ですか。 S2: ーさんです (よ)。
 Informal-level interaction: だれ
 S1: あのう/ね、～ている人は誰? S2: ーさん (だ) (よ)。

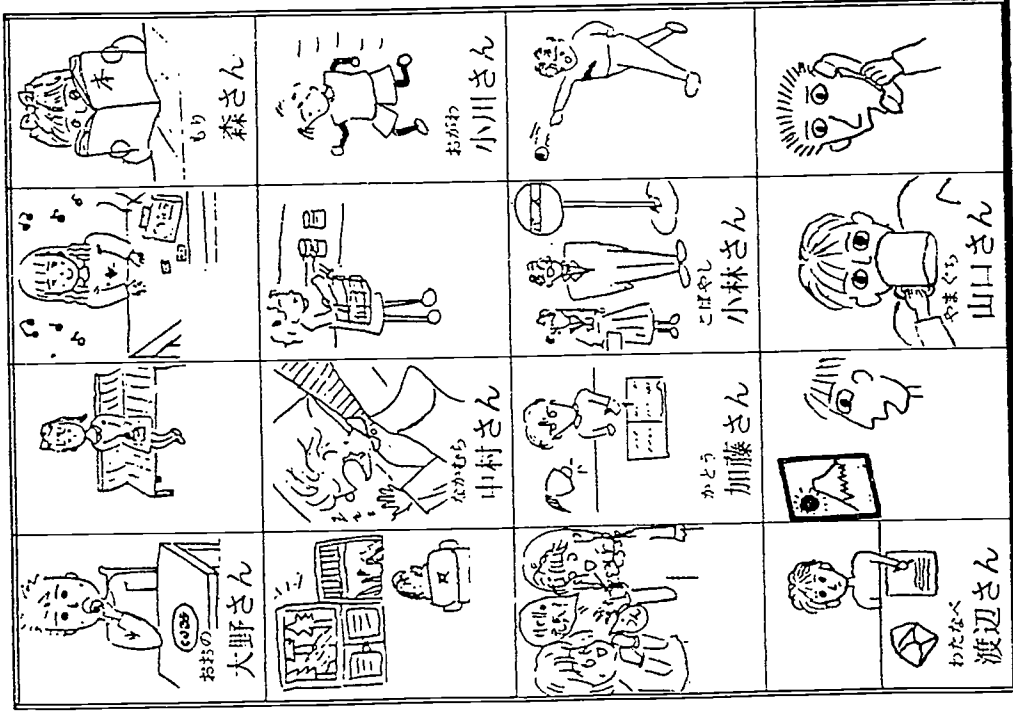


“Who’s The Person Who’s...An Information Gap Activity Card B

Presented at ACTFL '94 名前: _____
 Cliff Darnall, Elk Grove High School (IL), copyright 1994
 Illustrations by Tasuku Iizuka, Takako Takayanagi, Ayano Tamura and Shinobu Itoh

You know who half of the people in the pictures are. Your partner knows who the other is. Use Japanese to find out who the people you don't know are. Roleplay adult acquaintances for the first 4 people on each side, high school students for the others.

Formal-level interaction: だれ
 S1: すみません、～ている人は誰ですか。 S2: ーさんです (よ)。
 Informal-level interaction: だれ
 S1: あのう/ね、～ている人は誰? S2: ーさん (だ) (よ)。



Speakers: Two high school friends

Cliff Darnall ACTFL'94 illus.by Tasuku Iizuka 1

Speakers: Two family members

Cliff Darnall ACTFL'94 illus.by Tasuku Iizuka 2

Speakers: S1: A h.s. student
S2: An adult

Cliff Darnall ACTFL'94 illus.by Tasuku Iizuka 3

Speakers: S1: A h.s. student
S2: An adult

Cliff Darnall ACTFL'94 illus.by Tasuku Iizuka 4

Speakers: Two high school friends

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Speakers: Two family members

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Speakers: S1: A h.s. student
S2: An adult

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Speakers: S1: A h.s. student
S2: An adult

Cliff Darnall ACTFL'94 illus.by Tasuku Iizuka 8

Speakers: Two high school friends

Cliff Darnall ACTFL'94 illus.by Tasuku Iizuka 9

Speakers: Two family members

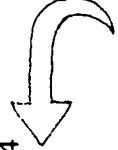
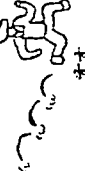


Cliff Darnall ACTFL'94 illus.by Tasuku Iizuka 10

Speakers: S1: A h.s. student
S2: An adult

Cliff Darnall ACTFL'94 illus.by Tasuku Iizuka 11

Speakers: S1: A h.s. student
S2: An adult



Cliff Darnall ACTFL'94 illus.by Tasuku Iizuka 12


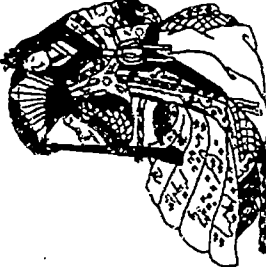
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
スタート ->			 2つ戻る	 3つ進む	 3つ進む			 スタートに 戻る




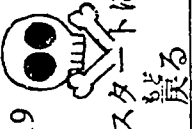

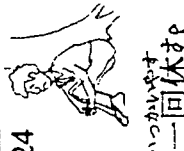
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ゲームボード・アクティビティー

by Cliff Darnall, Elk Grove High School (IL), copyright 1994. Presented at ACTFL '94
Illustrations by Tasaku Iizuka and Takeshi Fukui and Enzan-hoshigumi Co. (Japanese Clip Art 2). Thanks also to Shiro Watanabe.

28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35
	 スタートに 戻る					 2回休み	

27	26	25
 3つ進む		
<p>HERE'S WHAT TO SAY: (The speakers and situations are indicated on the cards.)</p> <p>SPEAKER #1 comments how it was before, asking for agreement at end.</p> <p>SPEAKER #2 agrees, but says it has now become the opposite and asks for agreement.</p>		
<p>ゴール! おめでとう!</p> 		

12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
 3つ進む		 1回休み			 もう一回 いかい		 スタートに 戻る		 2つ進む			 1回休み

ANSWER CARDS FOR GAME BOARD ACTIVITY

By Cliff Darnall, Elk Grove High School (IL), c. 1994 (W/ thanks to Shiro Watanabe and Tasuku Iizuka.) ACTFL '94

Copy these cards off on cardstock and place the number of the card on the reverse side. When the team whose turn it is picks up a cue card to produce the mini-dialogue, the opposing team picks up the answer card with the same number and checks for accuracy. This way, the teacher does not need to "be with every group at once."

<p style="text-align: right;">1.</p> <p>S1: ^{まえ}前は、きれいだったね。</p> <p>S2: うん、でも^{いま}今は、^{きたな}汚くなったね。</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">2.</p> <p>S1: ^{まえ}前は、^{たか}高かったね。</p> <p>S2: うん、でも^{いま}今は、^{やす}安くなったね。</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">3.</p> <p>S1: ^{まえ}前は、^{あた}新しかったです。</p> <p>S2: {ええ}、でも^{いま}今は、^{あつ}暑く{なりました}ね。</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">4.</p> <p>S1: ^{まえ}前は、^{しず}静かでしたね。</p> <p>S2: {ええ}、でも^{いま}今は、うるさく{なりました}ね。</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">5.</p> <p>S1: ^{まえ}前は、^{せま}狭かったね。</p> <p>S2: うん、でも^{いま}今は、^{ひろ}広くなったね。</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">6.</p> <p>S1: ^{まえ}前は、^{あづ}不便だったね。</p> <p>S2: うん、でも^{いま}今は、^{えい}便利になったね。</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">7.</p> <p>S1: ^{まえ}前は、^{おお}大きかったですね。</p> <p>S2: {ええ}、でも^{いま}今は、^{ちひ}小さく{なりました}ね。</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">8.</p> <p>S1: ^{まえ}前は、^{ひく}低かったですね。</p> <p>S2: {ええ}、でも^{いま}今は、^{たか}高く{なりました}ね。</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">9.</p> <p>S1: ^{まえ}前は、やさしかったですね。</p> <p>S2: うん、でも^{いま}今は、^{むづ}難しくなったね。</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">10.</p> <p>S1: ^{まえ}前は、^{はや}速かったね。</p> <p>S2: うん、でも^{いま}今は、^{おそ}遅くなったね。</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">11.</p> <p>S1: ^{まえ}前は、^{とほ}遠かったですね。</p> <p>S2: {ええ}、でも^{いま}今は、^{ちか}近く{なりました}ね。</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">12.</p> <p>S1: ^{まえ}前は、^{なが}長かったですね。</p> <p>S2: {ええ}、でも^{いま}今は、^{ひか}短く{なりました}ね。</p>

FIND SOMEONE FOR WHOM ... IS TRUE

Cliff Dornall, Elk Grove High School (IL), ACTFL '94
With thanks to Takeshi Fukui and Shiro Watanabe.

名前: _____

Use Japanese to find someone for whom each of the following is true.

EXAMPLE: _____さんはこの学校に兄弟がいる。*

-> Question: _____さん、この学校に兄弟がいる？*

- Yes Answer: --うん、いる。* (-> Have the person write name in Japanese in blank.)
- No Answer: --ううん、いない。* (-> Try a different question.)

* Of course, change to formal (distal) style when speaking to an adult in the classroom.

- _____さんは大学に行っているお兄さんがいる。 (名前: 歳:)
- _____さんは大学に行っているお姉さんがいる。 (名前: 歳:)
- _____さんは二つのスポーツ部に入っている。 (どんなスポーツ?)
- _____さんは三つのスポーツ部に入っている。 (どんなスポーツ?)
- _____さんは日本に行ったことがある。 (いつ?)
- _____さんは日本に行きたい。 (いつ?)
- _____さんは大学で日本語を勉強するつもり (だ)。 (どの大学?)
- _____さんは他の外国語を勉強している。 (何語?)
- _____さんはホワイトソックスよりカブスのほうが好き (だ)。 (だ)
- _____さんはフットボールよりバスケのほうが好き (だ)。 (だ)
- _____さんは自分の部屋に電話がある。 (自分で払う?)
- _____さんは自分の部屋にテレビがある。 (自分で買った?)
- _____さんはアルバイトをしている。 (どこで?)
- _____さんは筆をもっている。 (自分で買った?)
- _____さんは東海岸の大学に行きたい。 (どの大学:)
- _____さんはイリノイ出身じゃない。 (出身はどこ?)

Note to Teacher: The cues can be placed on a bingo grid instead, resulting in an activity called "People Bingo." (Both "Find Someone Who..." and "People Bingo" have been used by foreign language and ESL teachers for years.) Questions can be made to focus on a particular structure or structures or can review several structures (as above). I believe it is important to try to get students to ask follow-up questions and thus have added the additional blanks to the right of most questions.)

Personal Info. Oral Interview Activity
 Cliff Darnall, Elk Grove High School (IL), copyright 1994

名前: _____
 Presented at ACTFL '94

You will receive a card showing who you are to pretend to be. All of you will be high school students, but you will use the formal style because it is the first time you have met each other, especially since you're from different schools. Interview students in your group to complete this chart. For each person, find the name of the chart with his or her last name, then fill in the person's first name, the person's age, where his or her home is (use a letter from the map), and the name (number) of his/her school.

Name: _____ Tanaka
 Age: _____ Home: _____ Schl: _____

Name: _____ Suzuki
 Age: _____ Home: _____ Schl: _____

Name: _____ Morizaki
 Age: _____ Home: _____ Schl: _____

Name: _____ Yamakawa
 Age: _____ Home: _____ Schl: _____

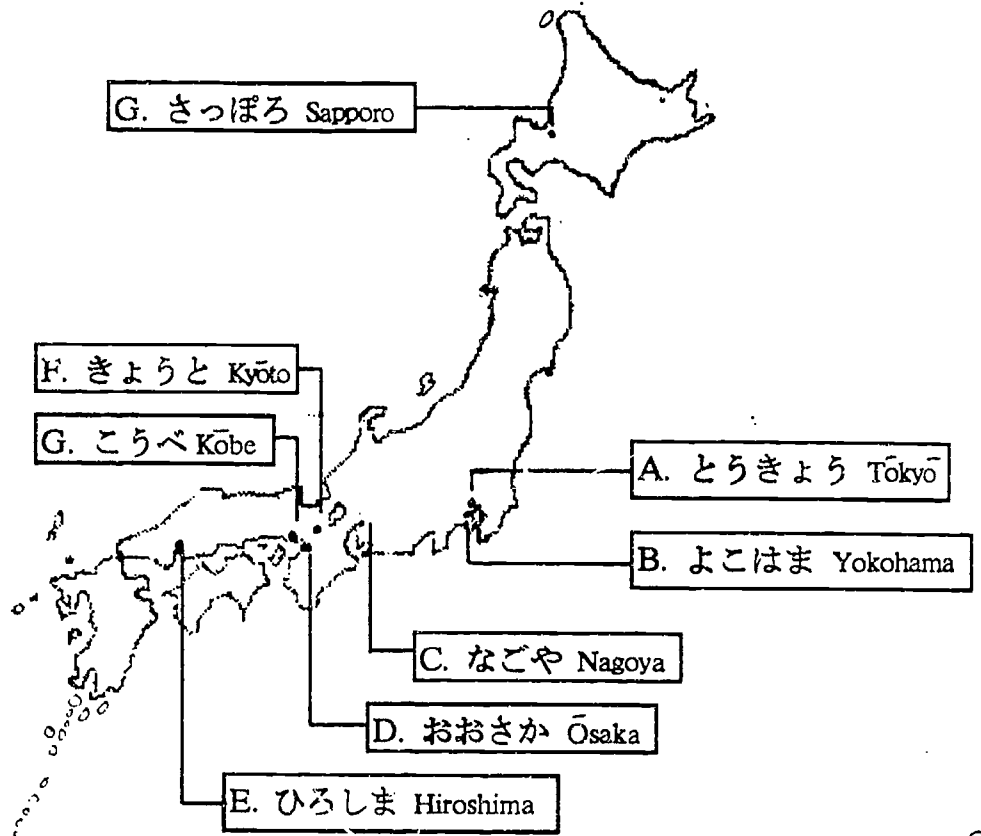
Name: _____ Kobayashi
 Age: _____ Home: _____ Schl: _____

Name: _____ Matsuo
 Age: _____ Home: _____ Schl: _____

Name: _____ Itō
 Age: _____ Home: _____ Schl: _____

Name: _____ Watanabe
 Age: _____ Home: _____ Schl: _____

Name: _____ Iizuka
 Age: _____ Home: _____ Schl: _____



YOUR ROLE:
 Family name: Tanaka
 Given name: Haruki (M) or Haruko (F)
 Age: 15 years old
 Home: Ōsaka
 School #8 High School

YOUR RÔLE:
 Family name: Yamakawa
 Given name: Masashi (M) or Masako (F)
 Age: 16 years old
 Home: Kōbe
 School #3 High School

YOUR ROLE:
 Family name: Itō
 Given name: Kiyoshi (M) or Shinobu (F)
 Age: 17 years old
 Home: Hiroshima
 School #2 High School

YOUR ROLE:
 Family name: Suzuki
 Given name: Yukio (M) or Yukiko (F)
 Age: 15 years old
 Home: Yokohama
 School #4 High School

YOUR ROLE:
 Family name: Kobayashi
 Given name: Hideki (M) or Miho (F)
 Age: 15 years old
 Home: Nagoya
 School #7 High School

YOUR ROLE:
 Family name: Watanabe
 Given name: Haruki (M) or Ayano (F)
 Age: 18 years old
 Home: Tōkyō
 School #1 High School

YOUR ROLE:
 Family name: Morizaki
 Given name: Makoto (M) or Megumi (F)
 Age: 17 years old
 Home: Sapporo
 School #10 High School

YOUR ROLE:
 Family name: Matsuo
 Given name: Masahiro (M) or Kayoko (F)
 Age: 15 years old
 Home: Kyōto
 School #9 High School

YOUR ROLE:
 Family name: Iizuka
 Given name: Yasuhiro (M) or Yasuko (F)
 Age: 17 years old
 Home: Tōkyō
 School #1 High School

cut!
 Note to the Teacher: First review appropriate questions and answers. Then break the class into groups of 9. (For smaller groups, use fewer cards.) Each student in a given group gets a map (top section of page) and one of the roleplay cards from the bottom of the page. (Of course, additional information can be added to the cards if desired. Once students are comfortable reading hiragana, the information can be written in hiragana or kanji with furigana.)

FIND YOUR PERFECT MATCH

by **Cliff Darnall**, Elk Grove High School (IL), copyright 1991, 1994 ACTFL '94
 (Drawings by Shinobu Itoh, Takako Takayanagi, Ayano Tamura and Tasuku Iizuka. This game an adaptation of an activity presented by Hiroyo Demers at a University of Illinois/Center for the Improvement of the Teaching of Japanese Workshop.)

For each indicated time period, circle the activity of your choice from the options given. Do not show anyone your card. Your goal is to use Japanese to find others who match or nearly match your choices. Assume you are talking to a high school student you have just met, so you might still be using the formal style.

The conversation should proceed as follows :

A: B-さん、TIME WORD、なにを しますか?
 B: ~ます。A-さんは?
 A: {わたし} {も}、~ます。
 {ぼく} {は}

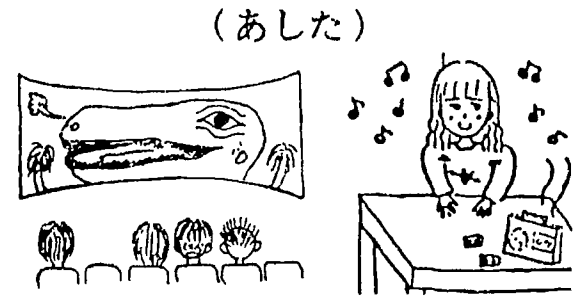
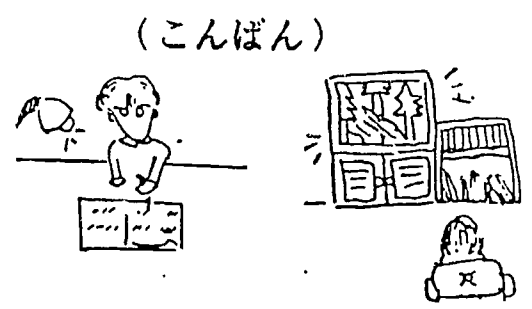
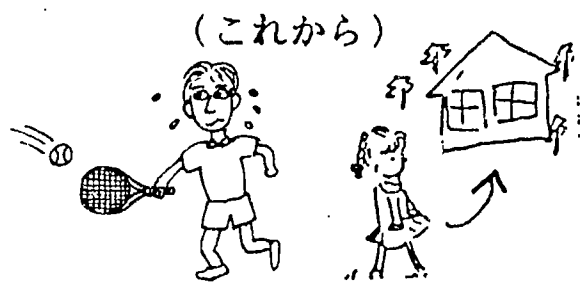
Use this one if you had chosen the same activity.

Use this one if you had chosen the other activity

Then reverse roles to carry on the conversation concerning the next time period. You might use *じゃ* or *それじゃ* to start later parts of the conversation. Talk about all four periods with the same partner. Then each of you should give yourselves the following number of points, depending on how many times you matched, and find a new partner.

SCORING TABLE:
 6 points for a perfect match of answers
 4 points if you matched on three activities
 2 points if you matched on two activities
 1 point if you matched on one activity
 3 points if you matched on no activities

NAME OF PARTNER	POINTS
TOTAL POINTS:	



(Note: Transitional writing style is being used.)

SOME RESOURCES FOR ORAL-ACTIVITIES IN THE HIGH SCHOOL CLASSROOM

Two Key Background References:

Omaggio, Alice C. 1986. *Teaching Language in Context: Proficiency-Oriented Instruction*. Boston: Heinle & Heinle Publishers.

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- Teachers editions and student texts and workbooks of your text and other texts
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