

Title of Session: Benkyoukai - Online Support for Teachers of Japanese

Moderator: Keiko Schneider

Guest Speaker: Shunko Muroya

Title of File: 20040324benk

Date: March 24, 2004

Room: After School Online Room

KeikoS: Maybe we can start from introduction???

NickMa: Hi, Adele!

JanineT: A Kiwi! Hi neighbour!

KeikoS: Welcome to benkyoukai!

MuroyaGst4: Is that Adele san that I know?

KeikoS bows to Muroya sensei.

NickMa grins.

KeikoS: Today's guest speaker is Shunko Muroya of Australia!

KeikoS: GOOD DAY

AdeleL: Yes.. used to be Adele Lilly, now back to my OWN name Adele

Scott...ohisashiburi [bow]

MuroyaGst4: G'Day, mate

KeikoS: Everybody please intro briefly.

JanineT smiles

KeikoS bows to Muroya sensei

NickMa: bows to Muroya sensei.

MuroyaGst4: Me?

NickMa: G'day mate!

NickMa: I suppose.

MuroyaGst4: Do I start intro myself?

MuroyaGst4: or?

KeikoS: I am Keiko Schneider, organizer of benkyoukai...

KeikoS: Everybody please put a short intro...

KeikoS . o O (don't be shy)

BJ: I'm an art teacher in Pennsylvania

NickMa: I'm Nick Maselli, retired Lucent technologies engineer.

JanineT: I'm Janine Tate - I teach Japanese kindergarten to Year 4 at an Anglican school

JanineT: Perth Western Australia

AdeleL: I am Adele Scott, secondary school teacher educator at Massey University

College of Education and advisor to schools in Japanese.

MuroyaGst4: And I'm Shunko Muroya,

KeikoS: If you want this chat window bigger, please see Actions on top right of this window...

MuroyaGst4: Japanese Adviser for the State of Victoria

AdeleL: p.s. also advise and teach papers to teachers at primary school level

KeikoS: Scroll down to DETACH

MuroyaGst4: sponsored by the Japan Foundation

KeikoS: Did everybody intro?

AdeleL: the Japan Foundation rock ! so much support

KeikoS looks around

KeikoS: Today's presentation is based on the paper, Muroya sensei prepared for this occasion.

KeikoS bows

KeikoS: Is everybody familiar with it?

KeikoS: I can post the URL here...

AdeleL: Yes..have read it and am familiar with Muroya sensei's site

MuroyaGst4: Thank you

JanineT: Yes I LOVE Muroya Sensei's site

MuroyaGst4: Thank you again

NickMa: I'm just reading it now.

KeikoS: I will paste it if anybody needs refresh your memory.

KeikoS: <http://www.geocities.com/shunkomuroya/muroya-paper.htm>

KeikoS: It is a link you can click.

KeikoS: Now Muroya sensei..

MuroyaGst4: Yes,

KeikoS: would you like to start?

MuroyaGst4: Where should I start?

MuroyaGst4: I need your help in direction

KeikoS: Should we RAVE your good job first?

KeikoS claps

MuroyaGst4: don't tease me

KeikoS: Oh, please start (please brag...)

MuroyaGst4: One thing I really wanted to get it going

MuroyaGst4: was this chat classroom thing

BJ smiles. Muroya, Keiko doesn't tease She is being sincere

MuroyaGst4: which I've been doing for about four weeks,

KeikoS listend intently

MuroyaGst4: but I don't think it's going that well

KeikoS: Oh, no?

MuroyaGst4: Yesterday, I didn't have any participants

MuroyaGst4: I was waiting in front of the computer reading newspaper sites

JanineT: Is it only open to Victorian teachers?

MuroyaGst4: but no one turned up

MuroyaGst4: I had one teacher signed up from TA

AdeleL: Well, I could rave... I access the site and show my student teachers around the site. It also features or is referred to on our Japanese teachers email list-serve on a regular basis... what is your favourite aspect of your site Muroya sensei OR which page do teachers find the most helpful?

MuroyaGst4: The annual event pages are quite popular

MuroyaGst4: Hinamatsuri page got more than 4000 hits

KeikoS: WOWOWOWOWOW

JanineT: Was the chat session popular in the first three weeks?

KeikoS rolls around with surprise

MuroyaGst4: some of the resources page items are quite popular, too

MuroyaGst4: I had about 10 teachers signed up
MuroyaGst4: to start with
MuroyaGst4: but then almost half of them had tech problems
AdeleL: What kinds of issues do you face setting up the site? you are obviously computer savvy.. are there other issues? copyright ? ..
KeikoS: Tech problems...
JanineT: You are typing in script?
KeikoS: Something with applet?
AdeleL: there's one.. technical probs.. I had one of those getting on here..java and mac don't mix
MuroyaGst4: somehow IME doesn't work in some cases
KeikoS: Oh, Global IME?
KeikoS: Or IME 2000?
AdeleL: I've heard that global IME doesn't work with XP
MuroyaGst4: This one teacher has XP running on her machine
MuroyaGst4: and Japanese doesn't work on the chat applet
JanineT: I have had no problems so far with XP - it was so much easier to set up
KeikoS: Huh...
JanineT: But I've never tried to chat in Japanese
KeikoS: Adele, XP has a built-in support for Japanese.
KeikoS: No need to download anything.
MuroyaGst4: I thought the XP was pretty good in terms of the different language usage
AdeleL: ok..thx will pass that on..it was a listserve query
MuroyaGst4: But this was not the case
JanineT: So it worked for some, but not for all?
KeikoS: Adele, remind me at the end of the session, I will show a site that explains how you can enable Japanese in XP
MuroyaGst4: Yes
AdeleL: Doomo doomo
MuroyaGst4: Is that Nihongo OK .com
KeikoS: No from MS themselves
KeikoS: Sooo, what are you plans, Muroya sensei...
MuroyaGst4: I', planning to keep it going in the term 2 and see how it goes.
JanineT: When do you meet?
KeikoS: TAPPED IN is supposed to become unicode soon.
MuroyaGst4: Also the difference of the level of the teachers was a problem
KeikoS: Then it will be Japanese capable, sort of, I guess.
MuroyaGst4: ?
MuroyaGst4: Where are we now? konran shite kita
KeikoS: Anybody has questions to Muroya sensei?
KeikoS: besides raving about his site?
JanineT: When do you meet for chat?
NickMa grin
MuroyaGst4: 4:00 -5:00pm wed & Thu
JanineT: Hmm.... time difference is a problem
JanineT frowns

AdeleL: have you managed to get the video link set up for the chat rooms?

MuroyaGst4: Even chatting is not easy at this stage, so not yet

JanineT: That's the middle of my school day!

AdeleL: as you mention in your paper it will probably take time.. we have online students for our secondary programme and even with only one time zone they can't seem to get online at the same time.

MuroyaGst4: plus, I don' know if we can do in the multi location

JanineT: You mentioned a list for Victorian teachers. How/where is that located? Are you the moderator?

MuroyaGst4: between two is Okay but

MuroyaGst4: I'm not sure if there are more than three

JanineT: We want to set up something similar in WA, especially to support teachers in remote locations.

MuroyaGst4: Is it already possible technically?

JanineT: Sorry, I was just talking about the list and/or chat. I don't know about video!!

MuroyaGst4: Anyone?

KeikoS: Video conferencing?

MuroyaGst4: video conference in multi locations?

JanineT: Way beyond my technical expertise (and budget!)

KeikoS: Hummm.

AdeleL: No idea about video sorry.. still only coming to grips with the online chat thing myself...In Middle Earth here we have a website and separate list-serve setup for Japanese language teachers.

KeikoS: Shouldn't be THAT difficult...

AdeleL: web address is www.japanese.ac.nz

MuroyaGst4: About the email group,

KeikoS: Adele, I think NJ already has a list for Japanese teachers...

AdeleL: NJ ?

MuroyaGst4: I started one for the teachers of Victoria

KeikoS: NZ

KeikoS: Sorry

MuroyaGst4: in Sep 2002

AdeleL: ok

MuroyaGst4: and it' been going quite well.

KeikoS: claps

JanineT: Is it a Yahoo group?

MuroyaGst4: There are about 430 members right now

MuroyaGst4: Yes, we use Yahoo Group

MuroyaGst4: Yahoo is good

KeikoS: grins

AdeleL: I belong to the JLTAV one as well as our NZ one..... interesting that similar issues come up on both.. perhaps we should do a comparative study...about list-serve and website usage!!

MuroyaGst4: It' easy and free and problem free

JanineT: I am thinking about that for teachers in Perth. I also wondered about using Tapped In as a meeting place

JanineT: Has file storage, chat, discussion boards
KeikoS: I use TI to work with my remote colleagues all the time...
KeikoS: . o O (conference presentation prep)
JanineT: We have a tech problem here -
AdeleL: Janine is your Japan Foundation advisor Nishiura sensei?
JanineT: Yes
MuroyaGst4: Nishiura san is gone
JanineT: Sorry -
JanineT: mixed up the names
JanineT: Now it's Nagai sensei
JanineT: I might meet up with Nishiura san next month in Tokyo
JanineT: Adele - Nishiura sensei has returned to Japan
MuroyaGst4: She will be teaching in Indonesia soon
AdeleL: Is she at Kita Urawa? I missed you last reply
MuroyaGst4: at the University where I started the program
JanineT: Back to use of Tapped In..
AdeleL: Please say yoroshiku from me.. she was one of the first people to introduce me to the Japanese lanugage when I was about 6!
MuroyaGst4: Yes
JanineT: We have a tech problem here in Perth - many teachers are using Education Department-supplied laptops...
JanineT: which have a firewall that blocks chat sites
JanineT: therefore, we can't access Tapped In unless we have a private ISP account
MuroyaGst4: Yes, Fire walls can be a big problem
AdeleL: Might mean a lobby group required.. letters of recommendation / benefits of chat sites etc.. it is a real problem here too
JanineT: (I shouldn't say we anymore as I now work for a private school)
JanineT: Yes - I'm wondering whether individual sites can be exempted/approved
JanineT: Does anyone know?
JanineT: Can a firewall make exceptions for individual sites?
KeikoS: Technically, yes.
MuroyaGst4: I'm not sure
KeikoS: But often it depends on system admin...
KeikoS: human decision
AdeleL: there must be an approval process with system admin...if not then 'someone' might need to test the system
KeikoS: For example, there is an IP address and port number to open for TI, specifically.
JanineT: I might have to check that out... do some lobbying!
MuroyaGst4: You say, this chat is fire wall free?
AdeleL: perhaps an 'international group of chatters' such as ourselves could offer support... an email here or there
JanineT: I don't work for the Department anymore, so I have a private ISP account - no problem
KeikoS: Sometimes you have prob, but if you have a decent system admin, we can make it work...
KeikoS nods solemnly

JanineT: I like Yahoo as a forum too, but sometimes those ads.....

JanineT: Do you have a lot of postings on your list Muroya sensei?

MuroyaGst4: about 80-120 a month

JanineT: wow!

KeikoS nods in agreement

MuroyaGst4: depending on which month

MuroyaGst4: some are private messages , though

MuroyaGst4: kind of annoying

JanineT nods

AdeleL: oops, like my yoroshiku to Nishiura sensei...gomen ne

JanineT: not at all!

AdeleL -)

MuroyaGst4: That's ok

KeikoS grins

MuroyaGst4: I do that, too sometime

HelenGst5 joined the room.

KeikoS: Hi. Helen.

KeikoS: Welcome.

JanineT: Do teachers help to add information to your site? Recommendations etc?

JanineT: Or do you do it all yourself Muroya sensei?

MuroyaGst4: Yes, I get some suggestions and recommendations,

MuroyaGst4: contributions as well

MuroyaGst4: for example

MuroyaGst4: the Japanese Day section of the Resources page

MuroyaGst4: is all contributions from the teachers

JanineT: Yes I've seen that - great ideas!

AdeleL: great...

AdeleL: Helen, where are you from?

HelenGst5: Hawaii

MuroyaGst4: That' nice

AdeleL: cool

HelenGst5: Where are you all from?

AdeleL: NZ

JanineT: Australia

MuroyaGst4: Melbourne AU

MuroyaGst4: Anyway,

KeikoS: New Mexico and that is USA

HelenGst5: Wow--this is international--cool!

AdeleL: Muroya sensei do you think that the geocities page is easy to set up? meets your needs etc? is it free to use?

MuroyaGst4: I thoght New Mexico

MuroyaGst4: was a part of Mexico

MuroyaGst4: just kidding

MuroyaGst4: Yes,

MuroyaGst4: it is very easy to use

KeikoS grins

AdeleL: I used tripod.com once
KeikoS: I gave up on Geocities a while ago, because it goes down so often
MuroyaGst4: and I haven't had any problems such as server down, etc.
KeikoS: Oh, maybe I should try again...
MuroyaGst4: At least not that I know of
JeffC joined the room.
KeikoS: JEFF!
JeffC waves
KeikoS: Hi
AdeleL: jeff the help person?
JeffC nods
JeffC: do you need help?
MuroyaGst4: Hi, Jeff!
JeffC: Hi all... just logged in... didn't mean to interrupt.
AdeleL: no, but you helped me last year...
JeffC: ah... cool
AdeleL: well actually I do have a problem with me mac and this chat thing.. am using my colleagues pc for this session.. perhaps we should chat after it privately !
JeffC: no problem
JanineT: I'm sorry everyone - I have to go. It's 7.5 am here and I have to get myself and the children off to school. Nice to meet you all, and thank you Muroya-sensei, for today and for your wonderful site.
KeikoS: Thanks for coming, Janine sensei!
AdeleL: Muroya sensei, have you conducted any formal evaluations of how useful people find the sites etc?
MuroyaGst4: Please feel free to contact me!
AdeleL: see you Janine. safe traveling
NickMa wave
JanineT: Mata ne!
JanineT waves
KeikoS winks
MuroyaGst4: Adele san,
AdeleL: hai
JanineT left the room (signed off).
MuroyaGst4: no I haven't
NickMa blinks.
MuroyaGst4: that was to answer your question about five lines above
AdeleL: mmm arigatoo... could be interesting to do.....
MuroyaGst4: If I were to do that, what s the best way, do you think?
MuroyaGst4: Keiko san
KeikoS: You already know which pages people visit...
KeikoS: You can poll.
KeikoS: Actually YahooGroups has a poll function.
MuroyaGst4: You did some kind of survey using the Internet
AdeleL: put a survey up on the website which could be optional for people to do..they could download it then email it to you privately..

KeikoS: Yeah...

KeikoS: I am going to make my own this fall...

KeikoS: . o O (if my ACTFL proposal comes through.)

KeikoS: It was a free site and again people got blocked

MuroyaGst4: how was the response last time you did it, Keiko san?

AdeleL: questions such as why something was accessed..how useful it was etc... just knowing about pages they visit doesn't give rich enough information about how to move forward...just a thought

KeikoS: I have a site to show.

MuroyaGst4: You answered my question.

KeikoS: Good questions, Muroya sensei.

KeikoS: Again, you could do that easily in YG

KeikoS: If you are not too fussy

MuroyaGst4: I just get a feeling that teachers are so busy that

KeikoS: . o O (like you wanted Japanese in, then probably not.)

MuroyaGst4: they really don't have time to respond to surveys unless

KeikoS: I think you have a loyal fan having 4000 hits!

MuroyaGst4: they really have to.

KeikoS: My Bookmarks site get 2000 A MONTH

AdeleL: yes they are busy but you have a large group of just as i was about to say too loyal supporters

KeikoS: So you have to understand that is a VERY WELL USED site.

KeikoS: nods in awe

AdeleL: sugoi ne!

KeikoS: Why don't you give it a try...

MuroyaGst4: I think I mislead you guys

KeikoS: Most online polls don't take five minutes...

HelenGst5: I'm thankful that you have put that website up-- it's very helpful

AdeleL: it would be interesting also to see the link between your PD courses and increased use and confidence in use

MuroyaGst4: When I said 4000, I meant total of 4000 so far

KeikoS: But ohanami alone, right?

MuroyaGst4: I think this month's access was about 400

MuroyaGst4: hinamatusri alone was about 400 in March

KeikoS: Oh, OK...

MuroyaGst4: Which is just about the number of primary schools in Victoria

MuroyaGst4: so I'm happy about that

AdeleL: yes!! omedetou

HelenGst5: How long does it take for you to put it all together?

MuroyaGst4: Your bookmark is something out of my reach, Keiko san

MuroyaGst4: It's benefiting teachers all over the world

MuroyaGst4: About half working day, Helen san

MuroyaGst4: 4-5 hours

HelenGst5: thank you for your hard work!

KeikoS: Mine is just a collection of links...

KeikoS: TOTALLY different animal.

AdeleL: do you have any problems with copyright? or is everything you put on original?

KeikoS: I am just providing links...

KeikoS: I really have nothing of my own...

MuroyaGst4: But it's great!

KeikoS: Muroya sensei...

HelenGst5: I agree--

KeikoS: are you OK with time?

KeikoS bows. Thank you for your kind comments.

MuroyaGst4: I have to go pretty soon.

AdeleL: what about copyright on your site Muroya sensei's site?

MuroyaGst4: The annual event thing is just all links,

MuroyaGst4: so

AdeleL: no copyright.. fair enough

MuroyaGst4: I don't think I have any copyright problem

NickMa: Sorry, folks. I have to run. It's been an interesting discussion, though. Thanks!

KeikoS: Well, Muroya sensei needs to go physically soon.

KeikoS: Maybe last question?

HelenGst5: I too have to go.. thank you for the time!

AdeleL: OTSUKARE SAMA EVERYONE

KeikoS: Thank you so much for coming everybody!

MuroyaGst4: Thank you for coming!

NickMa bows deeply.

KeikoS: And thank you, Muroya sensei for presenting and your works!

KeikoS: listserv, site and everything.

KeikoS bows deeply

NickMa: Thank you Muroya sensei!

NickMa claps.

HelenGst5: Thank you from me too!

MuroyaGst4: Thank you.

NickMa: I hope to see you all again.

KeikoS: doumo arigaotou gozaimashita.

KeikoS waves

AdeleL: goodbye from middle earth...thank you [bows and exits]

MuroyaGst4: It would be nice if one day we can all get together

KeikoS: Another benkyoukai???

KeikoS: or just idobata kaigi?

MuroyaGst4: I mean physically

AdeleL: yes..and perhaps at a conference somewhere.!! NZ one in July this year !

Christchurch..irasshai..

KeikoS: Oh, physically.

KeikoS contemplates

MuroyaGst4: I gotta go. See you folks!

KeikoS: Thank you!

JeffC: ah... ok... my suggestion would be to update your java runtime environment...
make sure you have the right version for your OS.

KeikoS: Thank you, always, BJB

KeikoS bows and hugs

BJ: nice discussion, Keiko

KeikoS: It was interesting in many ways.

KeikoS: I better go.

KeikoS waves and hugs

BJ hugs. Take care

KeikoS: Thank you, you, too!