

SURVIVAL TIP SHEET FOR JAPANESE EXCHANGE STUDENTS

Communicative Task for Japanese as a Second Language

Japanese 20 (3-Year)

TASK SUMMARY

Students prepare a survival trip sheet for Japanese high school exchange students to use during their stay in Alberta.

Student Focus for the Task

I can describe simple problems that Japanese exchange students might encounter and how to solve them.

PRINCIPLE OUTCOME FOR THIS TASK

General Outcome	Specific Outcome
Applications: A-5.3: solve problems	a. identify and describe a problem
Applications: A-5.3: solve problems	b. offer solutions

SUPPORTING OUTCOMES FOR THIS TAS

General Outcome	Specific Outcome
Language Competence: LC-3.2: writing	b. produce short, simple written texts on familiar topics in guided situations
Global Competence: G-1.3: applying cultural knowledge	a. identify commonalities and differences between Japanese culture and their own, and apply knowledge of Japanese culture to interpret these similarities and differences
Strategies: S-2.3: productive	a. identify and use a variety of productive strategies to enhance language use

PREPARING FOR THE TASK

- Introduce the “I can” statement to the class. Ensure it is visible throughout the task. Ask students how they will know they have been able to describe simple problems that Japanese exchange students might experience in Alberta, and describe what the solutions might be. What type of language do people use to describe problems in a simple way? What possible problems could Japanese students encounter when visiting Alberta?
- Build a list of indicators that will help them know they have achieved the “I can” statement.

I can describe simple problems Japanese exchange students might encounter and how to solve them.

I know this because...

- I have stated simple problems.
- I have stated simple solutions.
- I have created a simple text for use on a website.

INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT

- Introduce the task to students.
- Discuss what it would be like for students to go to Japan as a student. “What kinds of challenges, besides language, would you encounter as a student in Japan?” “What cultural behaviours do you

need to show in Japan?" (express thanks, nod, aizuchi, be punctual, follow the strict dress code, take off shoes at the entrance below the step, gift-giving, etc.)

- Brainstorm problems that international students might face in Canada.
- Sample Problems:
 - They do not know how to use busses:
 - getting on and off the bus
 - where to buy the bus pass.
 - where to buy and insert bus tickets.
 - knowing about special seats on the bus
 - They are late for class, what do they say and do?
 - The classes they are in are too difficult.
 - People are speaking English too quickly.
 - They are gaining weight in Canada.
- Sample sentence starters:
 - Please...
 - Saying something is too much, e.g. Too difficult: *muzukashisugimasu*
 - When you are -----, please -----: *Michi ni mayoi toki, hosuto famirii ni denwa wo shite kudasai.*
 - Don't do ----: *Naide kudasai.* E.g. *Takusan tabenaide kudasai.*
 - Where do I -----: *Doko de -----?*
 - How do I -----? *Basu wa dou yatte norimasuka.*
 - I don't understand how to -----: *X no V kata ga wakarimasen. Basu no norikata ga wakarimasen.*
 - You should: *V ta hou ga ii desu.* E.g. *Eigo no hon wo takusan yonda hou ga ii desu.*
- Students write a first draft of their survival tips sheet, using the sample sentence starters.

FEEDBACK FOR LEARNING

- Students exchange first drafts of their survival tips and use peer feedback to improve their work. Students use the sample words and phrases, the "I Can" statement indicators, and the task description to provide feedback for improvement.
- Students self-reflect on whether or not they have achieved the "I Can" statement.
- Students prepare a final draft of their survival tips sheet, using peer and teacher feedback.

This task was developed by teachers at the Alberta Assessment Consortium (AAC) Summer Workshop for Second Languages, funded by a grant from Alberta Education.

SURVIVAL TIPS SHEET – Student Task

Every year, Japanese exchange students from Osaka, Japan live and study in your school for one year. These exchange students encounter many interesting challenges during their stay in Alberta. Write a survival tip sheet for new Japanese exchange students visiting your school. In your survival tip sheet, you need to include the following:

- Describe a minimum of three problems a Japanese student might encounter in your school, city or town.
- Generate solutions to the problems you have outlined above.

You can write your tip sheet, in point form. Post your tip sheet on the FAQ section of the international student website as well as giving your tip sheet to new Japanese exchange students.