

Hot Info Paper for International Students

Hello, everyone. Welcome to the world of HIPIS.

This is the 1st edition of our “Hot Info Paper for International Students”. Just call it HIPIS!!

We would like to introduce many, many things related to Japanese things or topics on this paper, and we hope that your eyes will be glued on them!!



① Hello, friend!!

This corner introduces your co-students and our first guest is **Chen Zhi** san, from China. He is now in his 4th year of a Ph.D. course and he is in the Department of Pharmacology.

■ Hi Chen san, thank you for coming today. First, you like to be called “Alex”. Right?

1. Why do Chinese people often have an English-sounding second name?

★ “For foreign people, our original Chinese names are too difficult to pronounce correctly. In my case, I have been called “Alex” by English-speaking teachers since elementary school. So, I got used to this way of how non-Chinese speaking friends call me.”

2. OK, then, what was your first impression when coming to Izumo?

★ “When I came to Izumo for the first time from Tokyo by overnight bus, the sunrise over Lake Shinji caught my eyes and soul. Though I might have been accustomed to life in metropolitan areas, the spectacular scenery made me so moved that I was looking forward to a new life in the beautiful countryside-Izumo.”

3. Wow, it moved me a lot too, and next, what’s your favorite Japanese food?

★ “When I was in China, sushi was the most famous food known by us. But it was costly. Luckily, in Japan, we can enjoy delicious sushi at inexpensive prices while watching the chefs make sushi professionally and aesthetically over the counter.”

■ **4. I love sushi too, next, what's your favorite Japanese word?**

★ "It's 'Otsukare sama deshita'. It's a good sentence for saying good-bye to our colleagues in a thoughtful way."

■ Yeah, Otsukare sama deshita is a really convenient word and I use it almost every day.

5. Next question. What's your favorite sightseeing spot in Izumo?

★ "There is a river called the Akagawa, which flows through the southern area of Izumo-shi station. Cherry trees are lined along the river in the area, and in spring, people can walk under the cherry blossom arcades. I love the beautiful scenery."



■ Oh, I didn't expect your answer to be such a niche choice. Interesting.

Next. You look to have lost lots of weight in a healthy way. I think some of the international students are keen to know the tips to do it successfully.

6. So, how have you achieved the feat?

★ "I strictly calculated my Basal Metabolic Rate, the calories I consumed by exercise and intake every day. Only if I lose the calories steadily in a proper range, could I achieve a healthy way to lose my weight without rebounding - a long story!"

■ Well, easier said than done, really.
OK, the final question. You are a very fluent Japanese speaker.

7. Could you tell us the best way to study Japanese you would like to recommend?

★ "Patience and persistence." There is no shortcut for learning a language! Some recommend just watching movies or TV programs and do not need studying grammar. But I think such a way could jeopardize the long-term goal for you to master a language. We need to study from the virtually basic grammar and gradually build up our language system in mind. University students in China who majored in Japanese offered me valuable experience.

■ Wow, I am happy to hear many interesting stories from you today. Thank you!!

② Let's cook Japanese dishes !!

Today's recipe is "Gohan".

As some of you know, you can cook Gohan even if you don't have a rice cooker.
Here is how to do it.

Ingredients

- Rice & Water(0.9ml of rice)
- Thick pot (an earthenware pot is recommended)



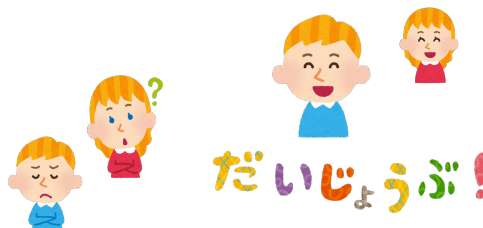
- ① Wash the rice and soak in water for about 20 min.
- ② Drain ① through a colander.
- ③ Put the rice and water in the pot and cover it with the lid. Cook it on high heat until boiling. (When boiling, bubbles are coming up around the rim of the pot.)
- ④ Lower the heat to extremely low (←important!!). Cook for exactly 10 min.
- ⑤ After 10 min., turn up the heat again and cook for exactly 1 min. (Ignore the pot's sound.)
- ⑥ Rest for about 10 min. Now ready!! Savor the simple but rich taste of "Takitate" (fresh) Gohan!!

③ Useful Japanese expression

Today's expression is "Daijyoubu desu"
Daijyoubu means "It's OK."

Scene 1.

"Shindosou desu ne (You look very tired).
Daijyoubu desu ka? (Are you all right?)"
"Daijyoubu desu (I'm all right)."



Scene 2.

"Rejibukuro irimasu ka (Do you need plastic bags?)"
"Daijyoubu desu (I don't need them)."

④ Japanese onomatopoeia

Today's onomatopoeia is
"Pekopeko"(ぺこぺこ(Hiragana), ペコペコ(Katakana)).
Pekopeko means that you are really hungry.



Scene 1.

"Yatto kaigi ga owarimashita (The meeting was finally over).
Mou 7 (Shichi) ji desu. (It's already 7:00)"
"Onaka ga pekopeko desu (I'm really hungry)."

Scene 2.

"Jyugyou ni maniaimashita ka (Were you in time for class?)"
"Hai, demo asagohan o tabemasen deshita (Yes, but I didn't have breakfast)."
"Dakara ima onaka ga pekopeko desu (So I'm really hungry now)."

⑤ Events & Sightseeing information

Hotaru (Fireflies) festival in Daito town on June 15 (Sat.)



Part 1. Events & Workshops at the waiting room of JR Izumo Daito station from 1:30 pm to 7:00 pm.

Part 2. Fireflies watching tour: The bus leaves JR Izumo Daito station at 7:00 pm to take you to the viewing spot.



The watching tour costs ¥2,000/adult, ¥1,000/elementary school child and requires reservation. Call: 0854-74-0500

If you want to go to watch Fireflies by yourselves, access (<https://goo.gl/yeED6N>) (Daito area) or (<https://goo.gl/4b7c4e>)(Taisha area) for the locations.

High time for Fireflies watching: from the middle to end of June



⑥ Official Consultation by Shimane Kokusai Center

You can contact and ask them for advice for visa status, child's education, job, or medical care by phone or e-mail. English is available along with Japanese, Chinese, Vietnamese and a few more languages.

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