8th Immediate Method **Autumn Workshop**

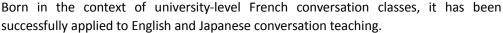
Teaching Conversation in Japan

What is the Immediate Method?

The Immediate Method is a simple and powerful conversation classroom management technique that was created in Japan in response to several challenging situations:

- (1) large classes;
- (2) low levels of language ability and motivation, and
- (3) the reticent classroom behavior of Japanese learners. Its primary objective is to have the students learn to speak in two-way, real-time communication; in short, to take part

in free flowing conversations.



Kobe University November 23rd, 2008

Organized by

The School of Languages and Communication, **Kobe University**

The Research Group for Teaching Conversation in Japan

What is the IM Autumn Workshop?

The Immediate Method (IM) Autumn Workshop is an annual event that brings together foreign language teachers from all over Japan to learn and exchange ideas about conversation teaching.

TRAINING

Culture and conversation

Japanese culture is not conducive to free, spontaneous expression in conversation classes. In this introductory lecture we will cover:

- how to break the "barrier of silence" in the classroom
- how to integrate pragmatic competence into our students' learning, helping them to sound "natural" in English (in effect,

teaching them to respect the cultural codes that govern oral expression in English).

Introduction to the Immediate Method

For the duration of a short simulation class, participants will take on the role of learners of a language other than English (Russian this year). This is an efficient and fun way to experience all the components of the IM, from the inside. We will then discuss a few key elements of this approach, focusing on testing and group management techniques.

SHARING

■ The Immediate Method applied to different teaching contexts

Teachers using the IM in various contexts (class size, students' levels, JHS or university, etc.) share their experiences and invite questions and discussion. This is always a much-appreciated part of the Autumn Workshop, and is the reason we call this a workshop; the idea is that there is not one set way to do things. Presentations are practical and discussions are friendly.

Roundtable

IM teachers often go through "honeymoon" and "post-honeymoon" stages, experiencing bursts of energy, followed by fatigue, stress or uncertainty, the process of experimenting with or settling into routines, and reviving their creativity. We will share our experiences and ideas.

Presenters



Jean-Luc AZRA

Seinan Gakuin University



Pierre BABINEAU

Poole Gakuin University



BILL PERRY

Kobe University



Stephen **RICHMOND**

Shiga Kenritsu University



Kathleen RILEY

Tamagawa University



Marc SHEFFNER

Tezukayama University



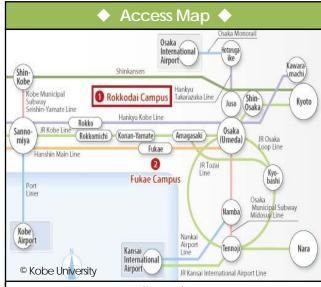
Bruno VANNIEU

Kobe University



Workshop Program ------

TRAINING			
The pragmatics of conversation	10:00 – 10:45		
Break the barrier of silence			
Simulation class: Basic Russian	10:45 – 12:00		
Discover the Immediate Method as a			
student.			
Testing	12:10 – 12:35		
Different types of in-class tests / Grading			
tests			
Group management	12:35 – 13:00		
Techniques for pair work and group work			
SHARING			
The IM in different contexts	14:00 – 15:30		
Poole Gakuin University			
Tezukayama University			
Kobe University			
Round table discussion	16:00 – 17:00		
The stages IM teachers go through			
Dinner party	17:30 – 19:00		



- ◆ From Rokko station (Hankyu) to Kobe University: 10 minutes by bus or 5 minutes by taxi (about ¥600)
- · Osaka (Umeda) Rokko: 30 minutes by train
- · Sannomiya Rokko: 10 minutes by train
- ◆ From Shinkobe station (JR) to Kobe University:
 10 15 minutes by taxi
- ◆ This workshop is free of charge. Participants are welcome to attend the post-workshop dinner (¥3000).
- $\ensuremath{\blacklozenge}$ If you need information on hotels or a detailed access map, please contact us!

Workshop Registration

1	Name	
2	School (s)	
3	E-mail	
4	Telephone Number	
5	Address	〒
6	Average size of your class(es)	
7	How many years have you been teaching English in Japan?	
8	What is your Japanese language level?	Non-existent / poor / basic / intermediate / fluent
9	How did you hear about this	direct mailing / friend or colleague / other:
	workshop?	

For more information or to register:

FAX: 078-803-7559 / E-mail: