Listening Comprehension Materials Suitable for Academic Japanese

Results of the "Listening Comprehension Item Creation Project"

SAKAMOTO Megumi, NAKAMURA Noriko, OOKI Rie, TASHIRO Hitomi

The paper illuminates all of the special characteristics, methods of actual classroom use and pedagogical development features of the newly created listening comprehension materials at this institution. The materials were created under the auspices of an educational research venture called the "Listening Comprehension Item Creation Project" at JLCTUFS (Japanese Language Center for International Students, Tokyo University of Foreign Studies). These materials are well suited to academic Japanese and conform to the "JLC Japanese Standards." The contents are substantial and include well-crafted monologs.

Listening practice consists of tasks that ask the learner to understand the content, comprehend the structure and write summaries of the content. The goal is to cultivate the ability in the learner to digest and process the content. Materials focus on different vocabulary at each of the intermediate and advanced levels and they are made up of true and false questions, as well as content questions. In the actual classroom, learners answer questions, think about the structure and practice summarizing, so as to develop the ability to achieve the stated goals.

This report includes information about material development for the different levels and the type of questions that were created, along with classroom methodology points.