

IN THIS ISSUE ...

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the Fall Issue of *Learning Learning*!

Message from The LD Sig Coordinators

[Read more ...](#)

LD SIG MEMBERS' VOICES

Learner Development in Japanese High Schools

Farrah Hasnain

At my school, only a quarter of the students attend university after graduation, so many of them generally feel unmotivated to study most of their curricula. They're definitely not "bad students", but rather, students full of potential who have not practiced engaging in class for a long time. Over the years, I have learned that providing a context for them is the key to motivate them and essentially create a framework for their learner development. [Read more ...](#)

Learner Autonomy: A Question of Motivation

Adrian Wagner

It became clear to me that the most effective practice and best use of my time and effort was not to make people learn, but to make people want to learn. Since then, I have found the key to developing autonomous learners, is to identify motivation (or lack of) and build upon that together with the learners. [Read more ...](#)

Japanese Learning Websites for Self-directed Learning: An Interview with *Tofugu's* Koichi

Andrew D. Tweed

As learners of Japanese, one of the biggest frustrations is learning kanji. Not only is it notoriously difficult to learn, but not knowing kanji also makes it challenging to acquire other Japanese skills such as reading, writing, and vocabulary. While there is no magic formula to learning kanji, some methods are more effective and efficient than others. The best resource that I have found for learning kanji is the website *WaniKani*. [Read more ...](#)

Students Interacting in the "Flow"

Darin Schneider

An important dimension of intrinsic motivation is a coexistence of self-competency and autonomy among the learners (Ryan & Deci, 2000). This is because learners have a basic human psychological need to feel they can complete a new social task with competence and without any perceived outside aid. Teachers can evoke and support intrinsic motivation, crucial in cognitive, social, and physical development, with positive performance feedback (ibid: 58-59). [Read more ...](#)

Mimicry: The Straightest Path to Mastery

Trevor Raichura

... extra awareness of the gap between textbook language and local jargon, and setting aside ample time to practice mimicking native speakers, can go a long way towards improving pronunciation and language ability. [Read more ...](#)

Knowing about Autonomy

Dominic G. Edsall

For many language teachers, theories of knowledge begin with the ideas of explicit and implicit knowledge learned in a TESOL or CELTA class, and often end with staged debates between students respectively assigned to represent either side of the qualitative or quantitative debate ... [Read more ...](#)

FOCUS ON**Diary Studies: A View from the Heart**

An interview with Christina Gkonou, University of Essex (England), about using learner diaries for learner development research

Jenny Morgan

At the October 2016 Tokyo get-together we were extremely fortunate to have Christina Gkonou as our guest workshop leader on using diary studies for learner development research. Christina was in Tokyo on a brief visit to different universities to arrange joint postgraduate TESOL programmes between her university and potential partner universities in Japan. After her workshop I had the pleasure of interviewing Christina about her work with diary studies.

[Read more ...](#)

LD GRANT UPDATE**The 2016 JALTCALL Conference: A personal reflection**

Sean H. Toland

In many ways, teaching English in Japan can be an individualistic and isolating endeavor. A large number of English as a foreign language (EFL) instructors have long commutes, busy schedules, and are often segregated from one another in their own classrooms. Cuban, Kirkpatrick, and Peck (2001) argued that the “cellular organization” of the teaching profession as well as various other constraints reduced the “cross-fertilization of ideas” and sharing of technical expertise ...

[Read more ...](#)

INFORMATION**CALL FOR PAPERS**

[Read more ...](#)

PAN SIG 2017

Akita International University (May 19 – 21, 2017)

Theme: *Expand Your Interests & Visualizing Learner Development*

Deadline: Friday, December 9th 2016

The Learner Development Journal, Issue Two

Theme: *Qualitative Research & Learner Development*

Deadline: Friday, February 7th 2017

Learning Learning (Spring 2017)

Theme: Share your stories & expand your practice. Rethinking the role of education

Deadline: Tuesday, February 28th, 2017

JALT2016: Transformation in Language Education

42nd Annual International Conference on Language Teaching and Learning & Educational Materials Exhibition

Learner Development Forum: Learner Transformation as Personal Maturation

We have a lively and active forum for JALT 2016 in Nagoya! Here is a summary of the individual presentations.

[Read more ...](#)

LD CONNECT

A place to find out about upcoming local LD-SIG events in your area!

[Read more ...](#)

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