

Lesson 12

She has a strong accent.

Target: Having a conversation about communication.

Vocabulary

単語

Communicating across languages



Related vocabulary

- to **get** one's **point across**
- a **gesture** / to **gesture**
- to **make** oneself **understood**
- to **get the gist of...**
- to **express** oneself
- to **figure out**
- to **make out**

- to **infer**
- to **interact with...**
- to **pick up...**
- to **catch on...**
- to **decode...**
- to **assume...**
- **context**

- an **accent**
- a **dialect**
- to **converse with...**
- to **interpret...**
- to be **deaf / blind**
- to be **impaired**
- a **nuance**

Conversation

会話

1 Use the questions below to have a conversation with your partner about the topic

Partner #1: Questions

1. What is body language, and why is it important?
2. What are some gestures that you know?
3. Have you ever had to translate or interpret something before?
4. How important is grammar when you are trying to communicate?
5. Can you normally get the gist of what someone is talking about when they are talking to you in a foreign language?
6. Are you good at inferring what people are trying to say?
7. Do you enjoy conversing with other people?
8. When you don't know a word, are you usually able to guess it from context?
9. What are some good ways to always make sure you get your point across?

Partner #2: Questions

1. What should you do when you can't figure / make out what someone is trying to say?
2. How do you communicate with someone who is deaf?
3. Are there any written languages that you can decode, but can't read?
4. Do you find it difficult to express yourself in English sometimes? Why?
5. How important do you think it is to understand the nuance of each and every word in the conversation?
6. What's the difference between translating and interpreting something?
7. Do you usually catch on quickly when people are trying to explain something to you?
8. What's your favorite dialect in English and Japanese? Why? e.g. Osaka-ben
9. Do you always get what people are talking about?
10. Do you pick languages up quickly, or does it take you a long time? Why?

2 Complete one or more of the situations below

- 1. Role-play:** Partner #1: Communicate 3 ideas to your partner, but you aren't allowed to speak Japanese.
Partner #2: Guess what your partner is trying to say?
- 2. Speech:** Explain the best ways to communicate with someone who doesn't speak Japanese.
- 3. Speech:** Discuss a time when you had to communicate with someone who didn't speak your language.
- 4. Debate:** You think everyone should learn two languages, but your partner doesn't agree.