

1. Let's Talk in Simple Japanese!

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Did you think that English was the key to communication with people from other countries?

Shizuoka City is home to about 12,000 international residents from about 90 different countries, with a variety of native languages. However, over 80% of these residents can understand "Simple Japanese". That's why the City of Shizuoka is promoting the widespread use of "Simple Japanese!"



What is "Simple Japanese?"

Simple Japanese is a simplified version of the Japanese language that avoids difficult words, making it easier for non-native Japanese speakers to understand.

The key to Simple Japanese is the "はさみ(Ha, Sa, Mi)" technique:

- は (Ha) *Hakkiri* (Speak clearly)
- さ (Sa) *Saigo made* (Finish your sentence)
- み (Mi) *Mijikaku* (Keep it short)



For example, can you understand the following phrases in regular Japanese?

1. 公共交通機関でお越しく下さい
2. こちらでの写真撮影はご遠慮ください

A little difficult, right? Here is the same information in Simple Japanese:

1. 電車や バスで 来て下さい
2. ここで 写真を とらないでください

It's a lot easier to understand, don't you think?

Simple Japanese Rakugo with Katsura Kaishi

Laugh and Learn with this Free Event!

What: Rakugo is a traditional type of Japanese storytelling, where one speaker takes on the roles of multiple characters. This event will be performed in easy-to-understand "Simple Japanese" so both native and non-native speakers can enjoy this unique part of Japanese culture together!

When: Thurs 23 November (public holiday), 14:00-15:00 (admission from 13:30)

Where: Shimizu Fureai Hall (3rd floor, City Hall Shimizu Office) *No parking available

Cost: FREE!

Capacity: 200 people

Applications: Advance application required. (<https://logofrom.jp/form/79j2/384194>)



Translated by:
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