

CrossTalk

June CROSSROADS Language Studio's Newsletter 2005



Fashion by the Sea

Going to the beach in the 1800s was not a common thing but once the railway was established more and more people scooted out of the city to take a dip in the sea.

Covered from head to toe, a woman's swimwear would be called a bathing dress. Then, in the 1860's wearing a two-piece became acceptable. In the 1920's, women started wearing sleeveless tops, showing more ankle, necklines were lowered and the overdress shortened.

The swimwear evolution came about slowly due to religious beliefs and taboos surrounding sexuality. But watch-out! Fashion changes caused a shock in 1929 with the introduction of short pants, and even lower necklines. In the 1930's, we saw more playful designs in swimwear, with lower backs and shorter skirts. From the 1940's through to the 60's, corsets came in, helping to mold the figure and produce the perfect shape.



The bikini was still thought of as risqué and suitable only for film stars or strippers, although the modern version was actually invented back in 1946 by Louis Reard. The bikini finally came of age in the 70's when it became popular among teenage girls.

So, we have gone from the full coverage last seen in the 1920's styles to today's minimum coverage. In the 1980's in Europe and America, the G-string – the thong, also called the Brazilian tanga - became acceptable. By the 1990's, the tanga became the norm. But, a recent innovation since the 1990's in swimwear has been the use of the kinds of fabrics that allow the sun's rays to partially pass through while wearing them. This allows for an allover, or "total", tan without being naked.

So, this summer, if you go to the beach have a look at the various styles and fashions. And, while you're there, why not go for a dip as well!



Glossary

(These words are in color in the story)

scooted 逃れ出した

take a dip ひと泳ぎする

taboos タブー(禁忌)

corsets コルセット

risqué きわどい

came of age 開花した

innovation 革新

partially 部分的に

allover 全体的な

A Word From Us



Joshua Says: Things are really getting interesting at Crossroads these days. We have many new courses including German with Marita on Fridays and, if you take a look at the “notice board” on page three, you’ll see that we are going to start singing lessons with Steve. His brother, “B”, will be here in August to give piano lessons too (more on this in next month’s N/L). And, next month we’ll have a Bar-B-Q party on the rooftop (also, see the notice board). Like I say, “interesting”, don’t you agree?

Junko Says: That famous Okaido summer event is about to happen again. In fact, the “Saturday Night Open Market” has been held on Saturday nights every summer since I was small. Okaido has continued to hold this event for a long time and so it has almost become a tradition. Even the people that come to the market behave in the same way now! So, I think to myself how I would like to see something new, something surprising for people when they come here. Well, anyway, Crossroads will have a booth in the market, so please come and pay us a visit with your friends. The market goes from 25th June to the 30th July.



Adam Says: Can you believe summer is almost here! Back in Canada, the changing of seasons is so fast approaching. For instance, it was about half a month ago that it was still snowing. It may seem hard to believe, but that’s the way Mother Nature works her magic in Canada. I find Ehime or better yet, all of Japan, having a slow moderate change in temperatures. I feel this way is much more appealing than it is back in Canada.

Greg Says: Well, last week I had an unexpected one week holiday but the only place I went to, was the doctors....actually various ones. I was feeling lifeless and spent one week laying down in bed counting sheep. Now I am up and about and back into things as usual. Before I became ill, I began learning piano and have taken up the challenge of playing one piece during a students’ concert to be held in August. I am already feeling nervous so I hate to think what I will be like come August!!!!



Natacha Says: I sometimes think of the weather as reflecting the mood of the earth. What I like about Japan is its distinct seasons – including the rainy season and the typhoon season. Every season has its respective duties in the natural cycle of the earth. So, every time I have a rainy day, I know that I need it and accept it, just like the earth.

Steven Says: Last month in CrossTalk, Yuka wrote about getting back into eating natto to improve her health. I want to give you a tasty alternative to the daily natto ritual: “Natto on Toast”. Toast one slice of bread and then lightly butter the toast, or you can use Tahini (sesame paste). Mix some soy sauce with natto to a spread able consistency and pour the natto onto the toast. Add a few sprinkles of shiso powder for an extra tangy flavor.



Magnolia Says: This month we welcome new students to the English yoga classes. It is nice to see people caring about their health and wanting to make changes in their lifestyles. Some people are hesitant to start yoga because they think that it is difficult or that their body is not flexible. The truth is that anybody can do yoga – from babies to the elderly. Yoga is not one particular method. As soon as a person starts thinking, “I want to be a better person”, that’s the start of yoga!

Natasha Says: I thought you might like to learn some more about the Faberge-Easter Eggs this month. The most expensive are intricately designed eggs made of gold, silver and enamel encrusted with diamonds, rubies, emeralds, sapphires or pearls. The Eggs would open to reveal miniature surprises such as animals, flowers or even a carriage. 50 Eggs were created and you can see 19 of them at the Kremlin Museum in Moscow. One Egg was valued at \$24 million at a Sotheby’s Auction!! Not bad for an egg!!



Yuka Says: When you were a student, did you like your English grammar classes? I didn’t! They were so boring and I didn’t take much interest in them. But, nowadays somehow or other I enjoy reading English grammar books. I find some interesting rules and expressions every time I read. There are a lot of interesting grammar books at the bookstore. It might be a good idea to pick one you like. I’m sure you’ll find it helpful for improving your English conversation skills.

A Word From You

Yayoi Says: During Golden week, my family and I performed tea ceremonies at Ninomaru Park. We gave 6 different presentations. Last year this event was held at Gudabutsuan. I have been studying the tea ceremony for 3 years. My grandmother is a tea master and has 30 students. We performed two different styles, Sen-cha and Ma-cha. My grandmother is a Sen-cha master. Two hundred people visited the Sen-cha marquee. Next year's tea ceremony will be held in Ninomaru Park. Hope to see you there!



Mikiko Says: Six months ago, I went on a 6 month trip to Nevada, Arizona in the U.S. with my father. We are interested in world heritage sites, so we had a great wish to visit the Grand Canyon. It was actually better than we expected. We met many people from other countries and we had a wonderful time. This trip left a great impression on us.

We are going to start a new Cosmopolitan class next month - 'Singing in English'! Steven will be exploring all styles of modern singing, including vocal training exercises to develop "the voice within". Everyone can join, From beginners to advanced! So, join up with your friends and have a ball (in English) at your next karaoke night!!



Notice Board



End-of-Term
Roof-Top
PARTY!

We'll have a Bar-B-Q, some live performances, welcome our new teacher "B" and have a great time! So, come along, Bring your favorite food and drinks and invite your best friends to join us.....

DATE: Sun. 24July
TIME: 5:30pm -
PLACE: CROSSROADS

Net News

NET LESSONS:

Are you too busy to come to CROSSROADS to study? Try our *lessons on the internet!*

It's CROSSROADS in your home or office! You get CROSSROADS' great teachers, teaching programs, even classmates, *all on-line!* Call for details.

NET SITE OF THE MONTH:

To learn more about early swimwear fashion, log onto:

http://fashion-era.com/early_swimwear.htm

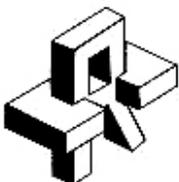
NET NOTEBOOK: Don't forget to take a look at the Internet Activity Notebook in our Open-house lounge. You'll find great games, news and English study sites.

Easy English Lesson

CONTRACTIONS

When we want to shorten and combine words we use contractions. Here are some examples where two words have been combined in this way:

We're	= we are	It's	= it is
I'll	= I will	Isn't	= is not
I've	= I have	Don't	= do not
You're	= you are	She'll	= she will
They're	= they are	They'll	= they will



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