

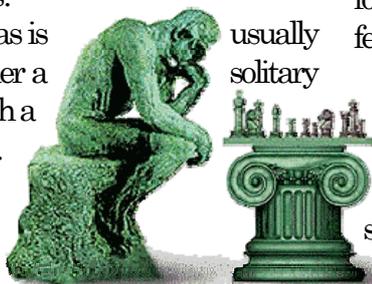
CrossTalk

November CROSSWORDS Language Studio's Newsletter 2006

Anyone for a game of Chess?

 It was on a visit to London that a friend of mine, by chance, happened to find himself inside one of London's most **exclusive** "Gentlemen's Clubs". This particular club had a "games room" that was equipped with draft boards, backgammon sets and the like. There was a bar off to the side and two or three newspaper **racks** with all the main London and International papers available for the members to enjoy. My friend was clearly out of place there, but he had an appointment with one of the members who insisted that my friend wait in the games room while he attended to some other matters.

The room was almost empty, as is the case, but over towards a corner a member was sitting at a table with a chess board placed in front of him. He had a newspaper in one hand and seemed, to my friend, to be rather **intensely** studying both the board and the paper, his eyes passing from one to the other in quick **succession**. My friend, being the **inquisitive** type, quietly edged himself over, step by step, to this gentleman's side until he was standing right over him watching every **flurried** movement of eye, hand, chess piece and newspaper. When the gentleman finally noticed my friend, he glanced up and politely inquired if he was interested in chess. My friend, wishing to seem as equally polite, answered, "Well, yes I suppose you could say that".



usually
solitary

The gentleman lifted the paper up so my friend could inspect it more closely and referring to the small corner devoted to "The Games of the Masters", remarked, "beautiful opening, don't you agree?"

Now, if you haven't guessed already, my friend knows **absolutely** nothing about chess, but not to appear rude, he answered, "Well, yes! And, it's drawn well too!"

"Oh, no" replied the gentleman, "can't you see, white wins!?"

"Of course", replied my friend, not wishing to seem foolish. "How silly of me! White must be a very talented fellow."

"I beg you pardon", replied the gentleman. You do mean Fisher, don't you?" "It was Fisher who was playing White". "I see," replied my friend. "Fisher played White and lost." "No, no!" contradicted the gentleman, growing somewhat impatient "you see", pointing at the paper, "Spassky played black and lost."

My friend was about to point out that if Fisher played White and White won, then surely Fisher lost!! And was also about to inquire just how did Black and Spassky get into the game (even my friend knows that chess has a maximum of only two players per game; or, was there such a thing as "tag chess"...?), when my friend's **acquaintance** returned to save the day and, with some polite but embarrassed introductions, whisked my friend off just in the **nick of time**. Thus ended the **saga** of my friend's one and only game of chess., ever!



Glossary

(These words are in **colour** in the story)

exclusive 厳選的な

racks (新聞)掛け

intensely 熱心に

succession 間断なく

inquisitive 好奇心が強い

flurried あわただしい

absolutely 全然(...ない)

acquaintance 知人

nick of time きわどい時に

saga 冒険談

A Word From Us



Joshua Says: It's the end of the year again, and that means it's party time again! This is when most of our students become very "busy" attending "end-of-year" parties, Christmas parties and so on. We also have two parties to keep you occupied with at Crossroads – the end of term "performance night" this month and the Christmas party next month (details on P3). I'm looking forward to seeing you at both of our "bashes" this year.

Junko Says: Perhaps you've noticed the records folders we are making up for all our students. If you haven't received yours yet, please be patient and your teacher will hand one to you shortly. The idea is to help you organize your notes and other study related items. We want you to bring these folders to every class and make the best use out of them you can! As always, "good luck" with your studies!



Alice Says: This week I felt very "ditsy". **Dit•sy:** *Pronunciation* [dit-see] –*adjective*, -si•er, -si•est. *Slang:* Flighty and easily confused; mildly or harmlessly eccentric. *Also, ditzzy.* This is one of my favorite words! I think the sound really describes the feeling, and it feels nice when you say it. Some of my best friends are "ditsy". Usually, they are very intelligent but occasionally they have ditzzy moments, for example, leaving their wallet in a taxi! Have you ever had a ditsy experience?

Iain Says: I can't believe how quickly the temperature can change! It seems as if God is playing with the "weather switch". I hope everyone can stay healthy. I caught a cold last weekend, but I used my secret technique to get better. My secret is to stay home and take it easy. So many people go to work even when they are sick. Not me! I sit on the couch and play video games. You should try this if you get sick.



Greg Says: Will Japan ever become an international country? I think about this when I take my daughter somewhere and the other children stare, point and comment about her being a "gaijin". My daughter was born in Japan and speaks perfect Japanese, however it is sad that she will never be "Japanese" in the eyes of many Japanese people. In Australia, an Australian is not a white skinned person. They may look Asian, Middle Eastern or European, but we certainly don't judge them as not being Australian by the way they look. Will Japan ever become international?

Adrienne Says: Christmas is coming soon. The city is being decorated with lights, Christmas trees and Santa. On Christmas Day, there will be young couples seen going out on romantic dates... Romantic dates? They have Christmas confused with Valentine's day!



Dean Says: I have just had a short trip back to Australia and discovered prices have escalated substantially in recent times. Some prices that may surprise you are: bananas are now AU\$14 a Kg (1,300 yen), due to many Australian banana plantations being damaged by cyclones. Gasoline has skyrocketed to between \$1:30 to \$1:40 per Lt, and the average price of houses has increased by 100% in Perth in the last 4 years. You had better take a lot of money if you are planning a holiday "Down Under"!

William says: December is upon us, the busiest season with many parties and family gatherings. As the weather gets colder, take care to stay clear of the flu bug. And, stay bright during the darkest days of the year.



Yuka Says: I'm not an athlete myself, but one of my favorite winter pastimes is watching marathons on TV. Every time I watch a marathon race, I am always amazed at the runners' strength and willpower to keep running over 42 kilometers. Sometimes there is a come-from-behind victory which increases the enjoyment of watching the race. Marathon requires a lot of daily effort like any other sport, and I think it also has the power to tell us about the importance of endurance.

A Word From You

Mari and Yumeko Say: When we were staying in Sydney, we needed to worry about using water because it is possible that water will be exhausted there in less than 10 years. So, we needed to take less time when taking a shower and use less water to wash clothes. We had to conserve water and the city governments had guidelines for using water in their towns. If people use too much water, they had to pay extra money as a penalty. So, that is a serious problem in Sydney. Water is a valuable and limited resource.



Notice Board

Christmas Party

Date: Saturday, 16th Dec. 2006

Time: 8:00pm - ?

All Students and Your Friends
are Welcome to Come
Along and Join In
the Fun!!

Bring along some of your
favorite food and drinks
to share with everyone!



*Natacha's
News from
Canada!*

A road-trip to North Quebec... The most beautiful time of the year for exploring nature! From whale watch to bird watching to mushroom picking! Canada is a paradise for the wild. It's not unusual to see deer, raccoons and other animals while driving your car. Fall is the season of colors, it's simply beautiful!

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:

Check out some of the history of chess at:
http://www.chess-poster.com/english/chesmayne/history_of_chess.htm

NET NOTEBOOK: Don't forget to take a look at the Internet activity notebook in our open-house. You'll find games, news and English learning sites.

Courses you can take at CROSSROADS

GENERAL COURSES:

- 2 x's 60mins / week
- 1 x's 90mins / week
- Private 1 x / week
- Semi-Private 1 x / week

MOTHER & CHILD, group or private
KIDS, group or private

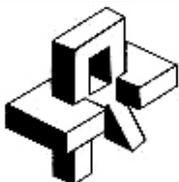
COSMOPOLITAN COURSES:

- "Singing in English" with Alice
- Yoga with Dean
- Guitar with William
- "Cooking in English" with Alice
- "Magic English" with Iain
- Piano with Adrienne
- Acting with Alice

- FRENCH with Natacha
- SPANISH with Patricio
- RUSSIAN with Natasha
- GERMAN with Marita & Matthias
- CHINESE with Noriko
- KOREAN with Kim



NETLESSONS:
group or private



CROSSROADS

ランゲージスタジオ
英会話スクール

〒790-0004 松山市大街道
2丁目1-3 2F, 3F



Phone: 0120-21-7594

Tel: (089) 921-7595

Fax: (089) 921-7319

E-mail: info@crossroadsco.com

Web Site: www.crossroadsco.com

