

# CrossTalk

CROSSROADS Language Studio's Newsletter, March 2008

## BIOFUELS

### Food or Fuel?

The increasingly high demand for both food and biofuels will bring food shortages to the world. Recent expectations are focusing on bioethanol to greatly decrease our dependency on crude oil.



Bioethanol is an alcohol made by fermenting materials, such as corn, sugarcane, wheat and rice. According to a study, vehicles driven by

bioethanol emit less carbon dioxide into the air. Because of global warming and (the need for) alternative energy, researchers have been trying to improve bioethanol-fuelled cars. Of course, bioethanol-based fuels are an environmentally friendly idea. The rapidly growing demand for bioethanol is raising sugarcane and corn prices, so farmers have been trying to produce more of these products as they have to adapt to the global market in order to survive.

But using foodstuffs for energy is a sensitive issue. It creates another problem. Sugarcane and corn are staple and reliable food resources for poor people. But, because of rising prices, poor people can't buy these agricultural products for food. And to make matters worse, deforestation to make way for sugarcane and corn farming accelerates global warming. This is a completely vicious circle.



Do you have any good ideas for solving this problem?

## AND...

## ...WATER SHORTAGES

### Chinese Problems Related to Water

China has become a major player on the global economic stage. They also have big events happening this year, with the Olympics being a prime example. However, despite economic improvements, there are still many problems to face related to water.

Water shortage is a big problem. The existing population and the modernization of Chinese capital cities have resulted in huge amounts of water being utilized. Especially during the Olympic Games, many people from other countries, including the athletes, will need a lot of clean water. Drinking water will not be available for people who live close to the Olympic Village because reserves from the neighboring regions have to be used for the Olympics.

On the other hand, China has another water related problem to worry about. According to the news, there is a plan to fire rockets into the sky to scatter any rain clouds to ensure perfect weather while the Olympic Games are in progress. China has already guaranteed perfect weather during this exciting time.



- Articles from Kenji in AI

## Net News

**NET LESSONS:** Are you too busy to come to CROSSROADS?... Try our *lessons on the Internet!* It's CROSSROADS in your home or office! You get CROSSROADS' great teachers, teaching programs, even classmates, *on-line!* Call for details: **089 9217595**

### **NET SITE OF THE MONTH:**

Check out the 'You-Tube' videos on bio-fuels here:  
<http://www.alternative-energy-news.info/technology/biofuels/>

**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.

# Some Thoughts for the Month



**Joshua Says:** This month we have the pleasure of welcoming our new teacher, Owen, to Crossroads. Owen hails from England and you can find out a little about him on our school notice-board, here in our newsletter's notice-board on P3, or just talk to him when you see him in the Open House. Welcome aboard, Owen! It's great to have you with us here in Matsuyama, and on our teaching staff.

**Junko Says:** About 100 years ago a book called "A Wonderer in the Spirit Lands", written by "the spirit author" Franchezzo, was transcribed by Farnese and published in English. This book is now experiencing a quiet "boom" in Japan. Believe it or not, Franchezzo is a spirit wondering about in the spirit world, describing his experiences and what he sees there! I find it most interesting that Franchezzo's descriptions (100 years ago) have much in common with the pitch blackness we see from space probes today!



**Michael Says:** So much change! I recently moved into a new apartment; Iain has moved to Okinawa; Owen has come to us from Great Britain; and many new students have joined the school! Not to mention, Spring is coming! Isn't Spring a symbol of change? Of growth? Of birth and rebirth? I remember my father told me when I was young that the only thing that doesn't change is change itself. This is a good time of year.

**Owen Says:** Wow! My first week in Matsuyama has flown by. It has been wonderful meeting my new work colleagues and students. It is so nice to be in a city with such beautiful surroundings. I went up to the castle recently, and could see snow capped peaks in the distance. Are castles haunted in Japan? It seems every castle in England has at least one ghost. Thankfully I haven't seen one... yet.



**Sheri Says:** Well, my time here at Crossroads is coming to an end. I am leaving soon for an ashram in India and after one month or so, I'll be returning to Canada. Although I have only been teaching here for a short time, I am sad to leave! There is such a nice feeling at this school and I enjoyed meeting each and every one of my students. I hope we meet again someday! Take care everyone, *Sheri*.

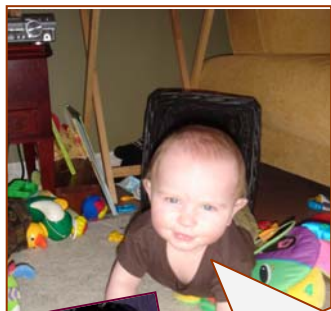
**Greg Says:** Here are some questions to ponder: Why do we press harder on the remote control when we know the batteries are flat? Why do people go up in tall buildings and then put money in binoculars to look at things back down on the ground? Why is it that when you blow in a dog's face he gets angry but when you take him for a drive he sticks his head out the window? Why do people believe you when you say there are 4 billion stars but they check when you say the paint is wet?



# WANTED

## Lead Articles for our Newsletter!

The new format for our newsletter relies on you, our students, to come forth with articles for the front page. We will edit them and the best ones will appear on the cover page every month. Short articles, long articles, any subject, all are welcome. So, come on! Ask your teachers for details, and let's see how interesting our newsletter can really get!



# Notice Board



Meet our new teacher  
OWEN NORTH

Owen is from Devon in England. He has a diverse background in the Arts. At various times he has worked as an illustrator, a sculptor, a fire performer, and as an actor.

Following in the footsteps of Houdini, he once attempted to escape from 126 metres of red tape... he failed. Thankfully someone had brought along a pair of scissors.

His main focus, however, has been on the creative process and directing.

As well as working in the Arts, Owen has held a number of positions, some of which were managerial. Formerly he was a director of a health care and fitness company.

Owen is also CELTA certified as an English teacher. His intention is to continue in this profession whilst drawing from his wealth of previous experience.

Hello, my name is Dominic. I live in Canada. My favorite things to do are eating and playing. My father makes excellent bread. Oh! And I love my toys... on this photo, you can see me playing with all my toys. Sometimes, I'm so excited that I don't know which one to play with. I'm going to be 10 months old on the 7th of March! My mom will send a DVD so you can see me play guitar!

**a reminder:**  
**25th Anniversary Campaign!!!**  
This year we are going to be 25!!!  
-And to celebrate, we are going to have a campaign all year long--  
Invite your friends to join and get free lesson credits for you and your friend.  
let's make Crossroads bigger and better than we have ever been!!!

## Overseas study and homestay has never been easier!!!



There is a great chance to really put the English you study at Crossroads to good use. Overseas study and home-stay have never been easier! And cheaper!! Great teachers, great deals. Check out your options with Junko in our office, today!!!

## クロスローズの好きなコースで英語を学ぶ。

### "GENERAL (ジェネラル) コース

英語+実践練習

60分 x 2回 / 週:

1学期-4ヶ月毎にレベルが上がる  
クロスローズのメインプログラム

90分 x 1回 / 週:

忙しい方のための週1レッスン

プライベート(個人)

月2回からレッスン回数自由選択

セミプライベート(セミ個人):

月3回からレッスン回数自由選択

### クロスローズで学べるその他の外国語

フランス語 - スペイン語 - ドイツ語 - イタリア語 - ロシア語 - 中国語 - 韓国語



### COSMOPOLITAN (コスモポリタン) コース

英語+実技を通した実用練習、だから誰でも分かる、自然に上達する。

英語でギターを習う

英語で歌う

英語で料理

英語でマジック

ピアノ

英語劇

ヨガ

レッスン料 ¥4,725/月~  
詳細はお問合せ下さい

### NET(ネット) レッスン

グループOR プライベート



### KIDS' (キッズ) クラス

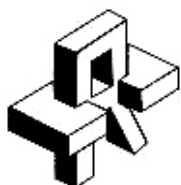
グループOR プライベート



### MOTHER & CHILD

(マザー&チャイルド)

グループOR プライベート



## 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

