

Crossroads

October CROSSROADS Language Studio's Newsletter 2007

A Paperback Version of Botchan

A new version of Soseki Natsume's "Botchan" is about to come out in paperback to mark the 100th anniversary of its original publication. But this isn't going to be just any version of this classic novel. This will be a **reproduction** of the original manuscript handwritten by Natsume himself. As such, this version will allow Natsume's many readers to see his actual penmanship, and his mistakes, corrections and text notations, for themselves. It is claimed that Natsume's "**methodical** and nervous **disposition**" is **apparent** in the style of his handwriting. So, for Natsume's many fans, here's a chance to get to know their hero a little more **intimately**.



Oscar Wilde, Britain's greatest wit

In a recent poll in Britain, Oscar Wilde was voted the "wittiest of them all". Britain has produced some of the world's greatest and best-known **wags** of all time. Take for example Spike Milligan who had inscribed on his tombstone, "I told you I was ill." Spike was an entertainer/comedian, but even Britain's politicians get into the act of delivering humorous, and sometimes biting, witticisms. When accused by an opposition backbencher of being drunk, Churchill replied, "Bessie, you are ugly. And tomorrow morning I will be sober but you will still be ugly." Winston came in at number 5 on the list, Spike was number 2. But the winner, Oscar, was placed above them all. He is even said to have **muttered** on his death bed, "Either those curtains go or I go!" Now that's **wit**!



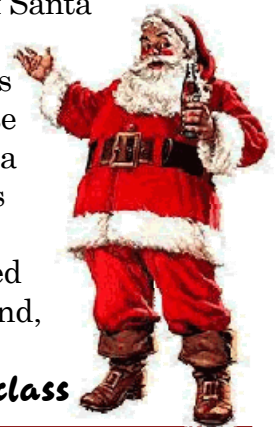
Tiny Tokelau to Hold Referendum

Tokelau, comprising of three small atolls in the mid-Pacific is to hold a referendum to decide if its population of about 1,500 should declare independence from New Zealand (pop. 4,000,000). Do you think they are expressing their disappointment at New Zealand's performance in the recent Rugby World Cup? In any case, if they **secede**, they will become the smallest self-governing state in the world. Good luck, Tokelau.

Do You Believe This "Urban Legend"?

I'm sure Santa Clause is the most famous symbol associated with Christmas. He has always been an **essential** part of the Christmas celebrations for us. But, the modern image of Santa didn't develop until the 19th century. So, who made Santa's image, especially his red-and-white costume?

At the beginning of the 1930's, the developing Coca-Cola Company was still looking for a way to increase sales in the soft drink market for their product during winter. They chose a talented commercial illustrator named Haddon Sundblom who created a series of famous drawings of a red-and-white costumed Santa Clause with Coca-Cola. Coke's annual advertisements – showing Santa holding bottles of Coca-Cola, drinking Coca-Cola, etc. – became a great Christmastime **feature** and helped Coca-Cola's sales throughout the winter, having a particularly strong **appeal** to children. The success of this advertising campaign has created the legend that Coca-Cola actually invented the modern-day image of Santa Clause, with his red-and-white costume, to promote the company's colors. But, in fact, Coca-Cola chose the red-and-white version of Santa over a variety of competing figures in order to help establish red and white, their colors, as the accepted image of Santa Clause. The legend, then, is not exactly true.



Story by Kenji Mouri, A(1) class

Colored words are in the glossary on page 2

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:

For an interesting review of Botchan, go to:
<http://januarmagazine.com/fiction/botchan.html>

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: We're getting ready for another "performance night" at the end of next month. This is our term party also, so I hope those who are not in a performance group will come along anyway and give their support to those who are performing, as well as enjoy the party. This evening is a reward for all the great work you have done throughout the term and we all want to relax and "let off some steam"! I'm looking forward to seeing many of you at the party!

Junko Says: Isn't the power to live great! Especially, in the plant kingdom. I just heard of a new vegetable called a "Cabekon". Farmers in Japan have created this vegetable by splitting a white radish (daikon) shoot just after it starts to grow and grafting a cabbage onto it. This two-in-one vegetable, the "cabekon", can be cooked and eaten. So, look for this new vegetable to appear in your local supermarket soon. And if you try one, let me know what you think!



Michael Says: A friend of mine and I were asking each other riddles. Here are three I had. Can you figure them out? If you ask me for the answers, I *might* tell you!: 1) What seven letter word becomes longer when the 3rd letter is removed? 2) Paris starts with a P and ends with an E. Why? 3) What can you always find in the middle of a taxicab?

Iain Says: A large wasp came into my office and got his head stuck in the window. He got out, but in the process, he cut his head half off. Then, he attacked the head with his stinger. The severed head and body were alive and moving vigorously for at least 30 minutes! It just goes to show you that you don't need to go to outer space to find strange alien life. We have it right here on earth!



Adrienne Says: Some of my Saturday students had some interesting questions to ask about "extreme ironing". For example, "how do they supply electricity to the iron? Are there batteries in the iron?" Perhaps, in the near future, we will see specialty "Extreme Ironing Goods" sports stores in Matsuyama!

Greg Says: It has been interesting watching my little daughter doing her best to stand up over the past week or two. She can get to her feet but then the wobbles take over and she crashes to the ground like a giant sequoia. What is interesting is how, not only my baby, but any baby, never ever gives up....they just roll back over and try again. Wouldn't it be a wonderful event if we could all keep this mentality in never giving up throughout our entire life?



Dean Says: As the days get shorter and the nights get colder we prepare for another oncoming winter..., hopefully not too cold. What are your plans for the remainder of autumn? I plan to climb Mt. Ishizuchi and have a look at the beautiful autumn leaves. I had my last swim in October in a lovely little mountain pool with a beautiful waterfall to cool me down. I won't be going back there 'til the weather warms up again next spring. So, I hope you have a great time for the remainder of Autumn, whatever you choose to do!

Glossary

(These words are in **color** in the story on page 1)

reproduction 複製(本)

methodical 方法論的な

disposition 気質

intimately 親密に

wag ひょうきん者

mutter つぶやく

wit 機知

secede 分離する

essential 最も本質的な

feature 主人公(呼び物)

appeal 興味をそそる

Notice Board

a reminder
Announcing...
**This year's Christmas Party
WILL BE HELD ON
Sunday, December 16th.**

Check out the
new Illustrated
Short Stories
in the library
for easier
reading...

note
Crossroads is going to help Nova's students keep up their English by offering them a chance to join us free for a short time. Why? We do not want to see **anyone** lose their passion for English.

PERFORMANCE NIGHT

SATURDAY, Nov. 24th:
AT 8:00PM
HERE AT CROSSROADS

Everyone is invited - friends,
family, everyone! to come
to the Party!

Get the details form the office...

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!

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

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、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

NET (ネット) レッスン

グループOR プライベート

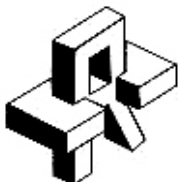
KIDS' (キッズ) クラス

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



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