

Tusome Nihongo Research Class (May-July 2024): Experiment on learning materials

Participant's Explanation Form

A) Researcher's Self Introduction and Explanation on the Research Project

My name is Njeri Kagea, a PhD candidate at Tohoku University and Chairperson of the Japanese Language Teachers Association of Kenya. My research is geared at the advancement of (JLE) in Kenya. In this phase of my research, I am focusing on learning materials.

I would appreciate your cooperation if you could take part in my study that involves observing your performance after using different materials for self-study of Japanese. This study will be conducted over a period of approximately 9 weeks (between May and July 2024).

No payment will be offered for this study. However, I will give you free Japanese language and culture lessons during the study period. Each lesson will be conducted after you have studied the weekly content by yourself and submitted 2 assignment performances. Please note that the success of this program is highly dependent on your timely submission of assignments, and therefore, I will appreciate your kind cooperation.

During the lesson, you will be able to consult me on the content you will be learning, and to interact with other Kenyans who will be participating in the study.

I assure you that your personal information will not be recorded in any of your assignments and that all data obtained from you will be handled with the utmost confidentiality. I will be ready to answer any questions you may have regarding my research to your satisfaction before you begin your participation.

In addition, you have the right to opt out of the study altogether at any stage with no consequences of any kind. Further, you have the right to withdraw permission to have your data used before it is published. All data obtained from you will only be preserved within my study period as a PhD candidate at Tohoku University, after which it will be deleted/destroyed.

B) Consent form

I..... voluntarily agree to participate in this research study.

- I understand that even if I agree to participate now, I can withdraw at any time without any consequences of any kind.
- I understand that I can withdraw permission to use data obtained from me before it is published, in which case the data will be deleted.
- I have had the purpose and nature of the study explained to me in writing and I have had the opportunity to ask questions about the study.
- I understand that participation involves using different materials to study Japanese by myself, and having my performance evaluated after self-study using those materials.
- I understand that I will not benefit financially from participating in this research, though I will get free Japanese lessons from the researcher during the study period.
- I understand that all information I provide for this study will be treated confidentially.
- I understand that in any report on the results of this research, my identity will remain anonymous. This will be done by changing my name and disguising any details which may reveal my identity.
- I understand that disguised extracts from my work may be quoted in the interviewer's doctoral dissertation, conference presentations, and publications.
- I understand that signed consent forms and data received from me will be retained exclusively by the researcher and only accessed by herself and her PhD supervisor, until she completes her doctoral course.
- I understand that all documents pertaining to my participation in the study in which all identifying information has been removed will be retained for a period not going beyond when the researcher will complete her doctoral course.
- I confirm that I am an adult (at least 18 years old)

• *Signature of Participant*

Date

Researcher details

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