

1. Why literature? Why manga?

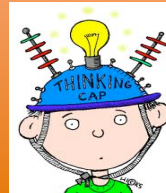
- This section is based on ACTFL (2010).
- As for the history of Botchan project, please refer to Prof. Joan Ericson's presentation (2012).

Benefits of Teaching Literature in Japanese language course

provides language models



offers ways to think creatively and critically



provides opportunities for interaction



motivates students



Literature is an effective tool for language learning

facilitates the understanding of human moods, thoughts, and ideas beyond one's culture and society



Teach literature: *why using manga?*

Too difficult to read the original literature text



Conventional solutions

- Read a very short story
- Read a simplified version of the literature
- Read only a portion of the text
- Use bilingual books

Any other ways?

Manga – good points

1. Manga is a friendly means to explore Japanese literature.
2. *Manga* provide “**context**” to assist comprehension and promote interest in the literature
3. Grammar and syntax are often simpler
4. It is good for visual learners
5. Students are interested in *manga* – motivated learners
6. *Manga* makes it possible to ‘read’ an entire story in a short period of time

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Botchan: Literary Text in Japanese

親譲りの無鉄砲で小供の時から損ばかりしている。小学校に居る時分学校の二階から飛び降りて一週間ほど腰を抜かした事がある。なぜそんな無闇をしたと聞く人があるかも知れぬ。別段深い理由でもない。新築の二階から首を出していたら、同級生の一人が冗談に、いくら威張っても、そこから飛び降りる事は出来まい。弱虫やーい。と囃したからである。

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Using authentic *Manga* in class - potential problems

1. Often include inappropriate graphics and language (e.g. violence)
2. Fantasy and fictional *manga* stories are hard to understand
3. *Shojo manga* - my students sais that characters in *manga* look similar (e.g., Asaki yumemishi).
4. *Serifu* language in *manga* is sometimes too creative. Students may use them in a wrong context (e.g., 日本人の知らない日本語).

