TAPESCRIPTS & VOCABULARY



Unit 1 Getting Acquainted

Listening tapescript-p.2 (Kimo and Ai)

(Begins at 1:16 on Track 1)

Excuse me, do you speak English?

Uh, yes, I do. A little.

I think I'm lost. Can you tell me how to get to Shibuya Station?

Oh, it's not far from here. I'm going to Shibuya Station, too. Just follow me!

Thank you. I'm afraid I still don't know my way around Tokyo. *Oh, where do... uh... where are you from?*

I'm from Hawaii. By the way, my name's Kimo. Nice to meet you, Kimo. My name's Ai.

Nice to meet you, too, Ai.

So you're from Hawaii! I love Hawaii! Uh, why did you come to Japan, Kimo?

Well, my company wants me to learn Japanese. I work for a company that arranges

tours... uh, sightseeing tours for Japanese tourists in Hawaii. Here's my business card.

Oh, thank you. So you're studying Japanese here?

- **Yes, I am. Let's see, your name Ai means love, doesn't it?** *Yes, it does. Would you believe that I have a twin sister named Yuu?*
- Yuu? Yuu and Ai! Cute! You don't have a brother named 'He,' do you? Ha ha ha! No! But I do have a brother. His name's Dai.

Dai. Hmm, your parents chose short names.

Well, I think Kimo is a short name, too. I've never heard the name Kimo before. What kind of name is that?

Oh, it's Hawaiian for James. I was named after my grandfather.

Oh, I see. Well, Kimo, Shibuya Station's right here. Which train are you taking?

I'm taking the Shonan-Shinjuku line to Yokohama. How about you?

I have to take the Ginza line.

Shucks! Well, it was really nice talking to you. Thanks for showing me the way to the station.

It was nice talking to you, too. I really want to know more about Hawaii! Someday I want to go there again.

Hey, well, let's keep in touch. You can email me if you like. My email address is on my card.

Okay. Maybe I can help you with your Japanese!

Oh, that would be great! Okay, then. See you later!

See you. Bye-bye.



by the way (tokorode) "don't know my way around" (Boku wa mada...no atari o shiranai.) follow (tsuitekuru) I see. (Naruhodo.) I'm afraid... (=polite "I think...") keep in touch (renraku o toritsuzukeru) Let's see... (Soo desune...; Eeto...) (be) lost (mayou) (I've) never heard... (...watashi wa kiita koto ga nai.) Shucks! (Che!) still (mada)



Listening tapescript – p.8 (Ai and Kimo)

(Begins at 1:16 on Track 2)

Well, let's see. Have you ever been to a Japanese baseball game?

No, I haven't. But to tell you the truth, I'm not so interested in baseball.

Hmm. Have you ever been to Tokyo Disneyland?

No, but I've been to the one in Los Angeles. Anyway, I want to experience Japanese culture. Baseball and Disneyland both came from America.

So I guess you don't want to go to McDonald's.

Ha ha ha! No!

How about, umm... kabuki? Have you ever seen a kabuki play?

Yeah, actually, I have. My Japanese class went to the kabuki theater in Ginza. I enjoyed it.

Oh, really? Could you understand the story?

Yeah! They had these little devices with earphones, so I could listen to an English explanation during the play.

Oh, I didn't know they had an English explanation. Well, let's see, umm... I know! Would you like to try pachinko? Have you ever played pachinko?

No, I haven't. That sounds interesting. I'd like to try. Do you have any other ideas?

Uh, how about Japanese food? Have you ever been to a kaiten-zushi?

Kaiten-zushi? What's that?

It's a restaurant where little plates of sushi move past the customers on a, umm, you know, like a conveyor belt. If you want to eat something, you just pick up a plate.

Oh, that sounds pretty cool, but to be honest, I'm not crazy about sushi. I really don't care for raw fish.

How about shabu-shabu? At a shabu-shabu restaurant, you get to cook your own food. You cook thin slices of beef by dipping them in hot water, then you dip the meat in a special sauce and eat it with hot rice. It's good fun and the food is good, too. I think you'd like it. I love shabu-shabu!

Mmm. That sounds great! I want to try that, too!

Okay, then, so why don't we play some pachinko, and afterwards try some shabu-shabu? I know a great place.

All right! Sounds like a great plan!



Unit 2 Experiences

Listening Vocabulary

actually (jissai ni) afterwards (=later) anyway (tonikaku) culture (bunka) device (soochi) dip (tsukeru) don't care for (X) (=formal "don't like") explanation (setsumei) get to (cook) (=can) good fun (tanoshii) I guess... (...to omou) "I think you'd like it." (*Anata wa kiniiru to omou.*) I'd like to... (=more formal "I want to...") (be) interested in (X) (*X kyoomi ga aru*) Let's see... (*Soo desune...; Eeto...*) (I'm) not crazy about (X) (*...suki dewa nai*) pick up (*toru*) raw (*nama no*) sounds (pretty) cool (*tanoshisoo; omoshirosoo*) sounds interesting (*omoshirosoo*) thin (*usui*) to tell you the truth... (*shoojiki ni itte...*)



Listening tapescript—p.14 (Ai and Kimo)

(Begins at 1:25 on Track 3)

- Kimo, can I ask you some questions about sport and leisure? Sure. Go ahead.
- **Okay.** First, how many meters can you swim without stopping? Oh, I'm not a strong swimmer... um, 25, maybe 50 meters at the most.

All right. Next, name a dangerous sport.

Uh... skydiving! There's no way I'm ever jumping out of a plane.

Oh, come on! Why not? It's something I'm going to try someday.

Well, you're braver than me, that's for sure!

Okay, well, next question. What Disneyland ride do you like best?

Uh, let's see... Space Mountain. I once rode it four times in a row! I also like Pirates of the Caribbean.

Four times! Wow! All right, what is the longest you'd be willing to wait in line for your favorite ride at Disneyland?

I hate waiting in long lines, but for Space Mountain, I guess I'd be willing to wait an hour.

What English word does a Japanese baseball umpire use?

Hmm, I don't know. I don't watch Japanese baseball. I have no idea.

Oh, that's okay. Next, for what sport do you need a net? *Basketball.*

In one year, how many times do you go to the beach?

Oh, not often. Maybe once a year. I don't swim much, but walking on the beach is very nice. I wish I could do it more often.

All right. What sport do you NOT understand?

What sport do I NOT understand? Let's see... I don't know much about rugby. Oh, another sport I don't understand is cricket. I know it's popular in England and India and some other countries, but I don't understand the rules at all!

Okay, just a few more questions. What sport is the most exciting to watch?

I love football... I mean American football. I like basketball, too. Those are the most exciting to me.

Okay, what sport is hard to play on a windy day?

Uh, let's see... golf can be difficult to play on a windy day. Also, how about hang gliding? Hang gliding has to be pretty dangerous on windy days.

Finally, what marine sport would you like to try?

I'd like to try... jet skiing. It looks like it'd be a lot of fun.

Yeah, I agree. I'd like to try it, too. Okay, that's all. Thanks for answering my questions.



Listening Vocabulary

at all *(zenzen)* brave (dokyoo ga aru; yuuki ga aru) Finally (Saishuutekini) I agree. (Watashi mo soo omou.) l quess... (...to omou) I mean... (Tsumari...) I wish... (...nara iinoni to omou) I'd like to try... (=more formal "I want to...")

in a row (tsuzukete) It looks like it'd be (a lot of fun). (Tanoshisoo.) Let's see... (Soo desune...; Eeto...) pretty (dangerous) (kekkoo abunai) That's for sure! (Tashikani ne!) "There's no way I'm ever ... " (=strong "I will never...!")



Unit 4 Shopping & Money

Listening tapescript-p.16

(Begins at 1:24 on Track 4)

- 1. 30,400
- 2. 58,807
- 3. 380,600
- 4. 867,960
- 5. 9,530,000
- 6. 61,280,000
- 7. 112,450,000
- 8. 2,734,000,000



Listening tapescript-p.24 (Kimo and Ai)

(Begins at 1:15 on Track 5)

Ai, in Hawaii did you try loco moco?

Loco moco? What's that?

Oh, it's a popular dish in Hawaii... basically a bowl of rice and a hamburger patty, covered with brown gravy and topped with a sunny-side-up egg. I guess you could call it a Hawaiian-style donburi. The locals love it because it's filling and inexpensive.

That sounds pretty good! I'll try it next time I go to Hawaii. My grandmother says you add 72 days to your life every time you try a new dish.

Really? I've never heard that before.

Yeah. I tried guava juice for the first time in Hawaii, and I really liked it. And I enjoyed eating papaya and mango, too. But I ate mostly American food in Waikiki. Can you tell me more about Hawaiian food?

Well, Hawaiian food begins with poi. Poi is boiled taro root that's been pounded into a purplish-gray paste. And there's kalua pig, which is pork that's been cooked underground. Laulau is pork or butterfish, wrapped in taro leaves and steamed. I think you would really love haupia, a kind of coconut pudding. Oh, another dish I like is pipi kaula, a kind of beef jerky. I LOVE Hawaiian food...

Hey, you're making me hungry! I want to try Hawaiian food. Where can I get some?

You'll have to go to Hawaii! And you'll have to go to a place that serves Hawaiian food. I recommend a small restaurant called Ono Hawaiian Food. It's within walking distance from Waikiki.

Ono?

Ono means delicious.



Listening Vocabulary

add (fuyasu; tsukekuwaeru) basically (kihontekini) boiled (yuderu) butterfish (managatsuo) dish (ryoori) covered with (X) (X ga kaketearu) filling (volume ga aru) I guess... (...to omou) I've never heard... (...boku wa kiita koto ga nai.) inexpensive (takakunai) locals (jimoto no hito) mostly (hotondo) pounded (tsubushita) recommend (susumeru) serve (tabemono ya nomimono o dasu) sounds (pretty) good (kekkoo oishisoo) steamed (mushita) sunny-side-up egg (medamayaki) taro root (satoimo) topped with (X) (X ga nosetearu) underground (chika) within walking distance (arukeru kyori) wrapped (tsutsumareteiru)



Listening tapescript—p.29 (Clerk and Reiko)

(Begins at 1:26 on Track 6)

Good afternoon. Checking in?

Yes, I have a reservation. My name's Reiko Suzuki.

Reiko Suzuki. Oh yes, Ms. Suzuki. You're staying three nights with us. Is that right? *Three nights... yes... I think so... (yawn). Sorry, I'm a bit sleepy from the long flight.*

Oh, that's quite all right. You're in room 924. Here's your key. I hope you have a pleasant stay with us.

Thank you. Oh, I was wondering... is there a Starbucks near here?

Yes, there's one right across the street from the hotel.

Great!



Listening Vocabulary

I was wondering... *(Shiritai no desu ga...)* pleasant (=nice)

reservation (*yoyaku*) right across the street (*mukai ni*)



Listening tapescript-p.36 (Ai and Kimo)

(Begins at 1:14 on Track 7)

Who's your favorite actor, Kimo?

Oh, definitely Tom Hanks. I love all his movies—Forrest Gump, Apollo 13, Cast Away, Saving Private Ryan...

Yeah, he's a great actor. I loved him in You've Got Mail and The Green Mile. Oh, The Terminal was good, too!

Mm. So many good movies. How about you? Who's your favorite actor?

Oh, I'd have to say Johnny Depp. He's so cool!

Yeah, I like him, too. He was great in Pirates of the Caribbean.

Yeah, he was awesome in that. Have you seen him in Edward Scissorhands? It's my favorite Johnny Depp movie.

Aw, I haven't seen that one. I ought to rent the video some day. So Ai, what kind of movies do you like? I mean, besides Johnny Depp movies...

I like all kinds of movies, but I especially like romantic comedies. My favorite movie of all time is Love Actually.

I haven't seen that one, either. You know, I'm not so crazy about romantic comedies. I prefer more exciting stuff like action, suspense, or horror.

Oh, yeah? Well, what's the scariest movie you've ever seen?

The scariest? Hmm... Alien. Alien was pretty scary. And Jaws. I didn't want to go swimming for a long time after I saw that movie!

(laughs) Oh, have you ever seen 'Ring?' It's a Japanese horror movie. Hey, and you know what? It's on TV tonight!

Oh, but I don't have a TV!

You don't have a TV? Well, you can watch it at my place. I definitely don't want to see it alone!

Sounds good! I'll bring the popcorn!!

Unit 7 Movies & Television

Listening Vocabulary

awesome (sugoi) besides (X) (X no hoka ni) cool (kakkoii) definitely (zettai ni) especially (tokuni) I mean... (Tsumari...) I'd have to say... (Zettai...) I'm not (so) crazy about (X) (...amari suki dewa nai) ought to (=should) prefer (...no hoo ga suki) pretty scary (kekkoo osoroshii) scariest (mottomo osoroshii) stuff (mono: nanika)



Listening tapescript-p.42 (Ai and Kimo)

(Begins at 1:26 on Track 8)

Kimo, do you ever wish you could be a movie star? I'd love to be rich and famous and have lots of fans. And wouldn't it be really cool to see yourself on the big screen?

Yeah, I suppose so. But I don't know if I'd like to be too famous. I mean everybody would recognize you wherever you went. You wouldn't have any privacy! And the paparazzi would be bothering you all the time.

Hmm, I guess you're right. Then you wouldn't want to be a famous athlete, either, like a pro golfer or baseball player?

Oh, I love golf. It'd be nice playing golf every day and making a lot of money doing it! But, on the other hand, I think the life of a pro athlete wouldn't always be easy. I mean, you have to travel a lot and be away from your family. I don't think I'd like that too much. Plus, you'd have to deal with injuries all the time. Athletes get hurt a lot.

Yeah, that's true. Well, then, tell me... what's your dream occupation?

When I was a boy, I wanted to be an astronaut. I was a big Star Trek fan. I wanted to go on a space adventure... maybe even meet beings from other planets. And I wanted to experience weightlessness.

I don't know. I would think being so far away from earth could get pretty lonely. And I think being an astronaut could be dangerous!

Yeah, but that's what adventure is all about. You know, I still would like to be the first man on the sun.

The sun! Are you crazy? The sun's too hot. You'd burn.

Not if you go at night!

Oh, ha ha ha. Very funny. Don't forget to take some sunscreen.

Well, I don't want to be an astronaut anymore. Actually, these days sometimes I think I'd like to be a farmer.

A farmer? Really?

Yeah. It'd be great to grow your own food... work outdoors in the sunshine and fresh air... raise farm animals, too, like cows or chickens...

Yeah, but I don't think a farmer's life is all that easy. You'd have to get up early and work hard all day. And you'd have to deal with all kinds of problems, such as bad weather, insects, crop diseases, and low market prices.

Gee, I guess any job's going to have its good and bad points.



actually (jissai; jitsuwa) (be) away from (=not be together with) beings (ikimono) bother (jama o suru; meiwaku o kakeru) crop disease (byoochuugai) deal with (injuries) (...o atsukau) experience weightlessness (mujuuryooku o keiken suru) get hurt (kega o suru) grow your own food (jikyuu jisoku o suru) l guess... (...to omou) I mean... (Tsumari...) I suppose so. (=I think so.) I would think... (=I think probably...) insect (*mushi*) (pretty) lonely (kekkoo sabishii)

market prices (shijookakaku)
occupation (=job)
on the other hand (ippoo de)
planet (wakusei)
Plus... (=And also...)
raise (animals) (dobutsu o shiiku suru)
recognize (kizuku)
"see yourself on the big screen" (=see
yourself on the movie screen in the theater)
still (mada)
"that's what (adventure) is all about" (=that's
the true meaning of adventure)
weather (tenki)
wish (negau)
"wouldn't it be really cool?" (sugoi to omowanai?)



Listening tapescript—p.47 (Kimo and Ai)

(Begins at 1:28 on Track 9)

(coughing and sniffling) Oh boy, I must be coming down with a cold or something. I've been feeling pretty run down lately, and now I have a cough and a runny nose.

Gee, Kimo, I'm sorry to hear that. You ought to see a doctor. Do you have a fever?

No, I don't think so. But this is my second cold since coming to Japan!

I guess you're being exposed to a lot of new bacteria and viruses. You should do all you can to strengthen your body's immune system.

Like how?

Well, do you get enough vitamin C in your diet? You can get vitamin C in citrus fruits and tomatoes.

Yeah, I guess I ought to eat more fruit. (coughs) What else can I do to prevent colds?

I heard that zinc supplements can be helpful. It's supposed to boost white blood cells, the cells which fight off viruses in the body. But you shouldn't take too many of them.

Hmm... zinc supplements... I should try that. Anything else, Doctor Ai?

Um, my grandmother says that eating shiitake can help prevent colds. Garlic is supposed to be effective, too.

Garlic! Ha! Maybe my breath will get so bad that people with colds will stay away from me.

(laughs) No one will want to kiss you, either. To me, the best thing is to keep fit... get enough exercise and rest, avoid stress, you know... stuff like that.

Yeah, I agree. But I want to try some of those zinc supplements. Do you know where I can get some?

Sure! Let's go to the pharmacy.



Anything else? (Hoka ni arimasuka?) avoid (sakeru) boost white blood cells (hakkekyuu o fuyasu) citrus fruits (kankitsurui) come down with a cold (kaze o hiita) cough (seki) effective (kooka ga aru) exposed to (sarasareru) fever (netsu) I agree. (Watashi mo soo omou.) I heard that... (...rashii yo.) I guess... (...to omou) I'm sorry to hear that. (Oki no dokuni.) immune system (men'eki shisutemu)
lately (saikin)
"my breath will get so bad" (boku no iki wa
totemo kusakunaru)
ought to (=should)
prevent (fusegu)
(pretty) run down (sugoku darui)
runny nose (hanamizu)
strengthen (=make strong)
stuff (mono; nanika)
supposed to (hazu; rashii yo)
zinc (aen)

Unit 10 Love & Marriage

Listening tapescript—p.53 (Kimo and Ai)

(Begins at 1:20 on Track 10)

Ai, I was wondering... are you free on Friday night? Yeah, I think so. Why?
Well, would you like to go see a movie with me? Sure, I'd love to. What do you want to see?

I want to see that new movie with Tom Cruise. *Oh, me too!*

Great! There's a show at 6:30. Why don't we meet at 6:15 in front of the theater? All right. Sounds good. I'll meet you there at 6:15.

Say, why don't we have dinner after the movie! Um, all right... if you're paying!

Unit 10 Love & Marriage

Listening Vocabulary

I was wondering... (Shiritai no desuga...) I'd love to. (Yorokonde; li desune.) Sounds good. (*li desune.*)



Unit 11 Music & Books

Listening tapescript—p.57 (Kimo and Ai)

(Begins at 1:29 on Track 11)

Wow, this store is huge! I can't believe the wide selection they have here.

Yeah, six floors, each with a different category of music... J-Pop, foreign CDs, classical, you name it. And there's a bookstore on the top floor.

Cool! Well, I want to buy a Bob Marley CD.

Oh, do you like reggae?

Yes, I do. I once went to a party where they played reggae all night and I really got hooked. Actually, I like all types of music, though.

You know what? I think I'll buy some CDs for my parents for Christmas.

Good idea. What kind of music do your parents like? *Uh, my mother likes classical music and my dad likes jazz.*

Cool. I like jazz, too. By the way, can you play any musical instruments? Yeah, I can play the piano. I'd be a bit rusty now, though. I took piano lessons for several years, but I haven't played for a long time.

Boy, I wish I could play the piano. Oh, Ai, can we stop by that bookstore upstairs later on? *Sure. Why? Do you need to buy a book?*

Yeah, I want to get something to read on the train. Oh. What kind of books do you like to read?

I like mysteries and science fiction mostly. Oh, I like mysteries, too! Who's your favorite writer?

I guess I'd have to say my favorite writer is Agatha Christie. Me, too!

Oh, really? Have you read Murder on the Orient Express? (fade out)

Unit 11 Music & Books

Listening Vocabulary

actually (jissai; jitsuwa) by the way (tokorode) cool! (kakkoii!; sugoi!) get hooked (suki ni natta; hikareta) huge (hijoo ni ookina; kyodaina) I guess... (...to omou) I'd have to say... (Zettai...) I wish I could... (...nara iinoni to omou) mostly (*taitei; hotondo*) musical instrument (*gakki*) rusty (*ude ga ochita*) science fiction (*kuusookagaku shoosetsu; SF*) several years (*nan'nen ka*) though (...*dakedo*) you name it (*nan demo*)

Unit 12 Culture & Places in Japan

Listening tapescript-p.64 (Kimo and Ai)

(Begins at 1:37 on Track 12)

Ai, could you help me? I don't know what these things are.

Sure, no problem.

What's number one?

These are streamers in the shape of carp that families hang outside their homes to bring their children good luck.

Carp? Why carp?

Well, it's a strong fish that can swim upstream, so it represents a strong will that can overcome obstacles.

I see. What's number two?

Hmm...uh, Japanese believe that certain food combinations are bad for you. For example, you shouldn't eat tempura and watermelon together. Another bad combination is eel and umeboshi.

Really? I didn't know that. What's number three?

Oh, this is like a doll with no arms or legs. It's usually painted red, except for the face. It's considered a good-luck charm. When you buy one, it has no eyes. You paint in one eye and make a wish. Then if your wish comes true, you paint in the other eye.

Okay, I think I know what you're talking about. I've seen those in souvenir shops. How about number four?

Well, you know when you visit a shrine, sometimes you see statues of lions that are positioned on both sides of the entrance? They're supposed to protect the place from evil spirits. One of the lions has its mouth open and the other one has its mouth closed.

Yeah, I remember seeing statues like those. I was wondering about that. Okay, two more. What's number five?

This is a great way to keep warm and keep your electric bills lower in winter. It's a low table that's covered with a thick quilt. A heater is attached to the underside of the table. It doesn't warm the entire room, but it can keep your legs warm, and that's enough to make your whole body feel warm.

I'd like to get one of those. Okay, last one. Number six.

This is a Japanese storytelling method that uses large color pictures. Candy sellers used to travel from neighborhood to neighborhood on bicycle. The candy seller would clap two pieces of wood together to let children know that he had come. Then he would sell his candy and tell his story, using his picture cards.

I've never seen such a person.

Yeah, that's because they disappeared when television became popular. But this storytelling method is still used in kindergarten classes and libraries.

I see. Okay, thanks for your help, Ai!

Unit 12 Culture & Places in Japan

Listening Vocabulary

(be) attached (tsuite iru) carp (koi) certain (food) combinations (aru kumiawase) clap (tataku) covered with (X) (kabusareteiru) disappear (inakunaru) electric bill (*denkidai*) entire (room) (zentai no) entrance (*iriquchi*) evil spirit (akurei; akuryoo) except for (X) (X igai; X o nozoite) for example (tatoeba) good luck charm (engimono) I see. (Naruhodo.) I was wondering about... (=I wanted to know about that before) it's considered... (=people think it's...) keep warm (atatakaku shiteoku) kindergarten (yochien)

make a wish (gan o kakeru; negaigoto o suru) method (-kata; -hoo) neighborhood (kinjo) overcome obstacles (konnan ni uchikatsu) positioned (okareteiru) protect (mamoru) represent (*shoochoo suru; arawasu*) shrine (*jinja*) souvenir (omiyage) statue (zou) still (mada) streamer(s) (=something that flies in the wind, like a flag) (a) strong will (tsuyoi ishi) supposed to *(omowareteiru)* underside (...no shitagawa ni) upstream (jooryuu e) used to (izen wa...shita) whole (body) (zentai; karadajuu)



Unit 13 World Problems

Listening tapescript-p.69 (Kimo and Ai)

(Begins at 1:23 on Track 13)

Ai, did you feel the earthquake last night? That was a pretty big one.

Oh, yeah, I felt it. By the way, Kimo, are you prepared for a really big earthquake?

Uh, no, not really. I have to admit I haven't done anything to prepare for any kind of disaster.

Well, there are some things you should have ready just in case—a small portable radio, a first-aid kit, and a flashlight. It's also a good idea to keep some emergency food and drinking water.

Gee, I don't have any of those, except for a flashlight.

My family also keeps a bag full of old clothes and footwear handy just in case we need them.

Wow, you guys are really prepared.

You should also check your place for things that can fall and hurt you. For instance, you should try to secure furniture so they don't fall over. You can buy braces, adhesive pads, and so on.

Come to think of it, I have a very heavy bookshelf that I'm sure would fall over and crush me if there was a big earthquake. I'd better go and buy something to secure it. What should I do when a big earthquake DOES strike?

First of all, don't panic. If you run outside, you could get hit by a falling object or a piece of glass.

Okay...

Turn off electrical and gas appliances that could cause a fire. Did you know that in the Great Kanto Earthquake of 1923, fire killed more people than the earthquake itself?

I can imagine. All those wooden houses built so close together.

You should also get under a table or desk to protect yourself from falling objects. And you should stay there for a while because earthquakes are often followed by aftershocks.

Someone told me a small toilet room is the safest place to be.

Yeah, that could be so. And it'd be convenient if you had to use the bathroom.

(laughs) Is there anything else I should know?

Uh, well, let's see. Oh, if you happen to be near the ocean, it's a good idea to get to higher ground. There's always the danger of a tsunami occurring after an earthquake.

Is there any way we can be warned BEFORE an earthquake strikes?

They say catfish become very active before an earthquake, but I think it's just a superstition.

Hmm, maybe, but it's worth a try. I think I'll buy a catfish and keep it as a pet.



adhesive pad (nenchaku paddo) ...and so on (...nado) be warned (chuui o unagasu) brace (kotei kanaqu) built close together (misshuushite taterareteita) by the way (tokorode) catfish (namazu) cause (hiki okosu; okosu) come to think of it... (soo iwarete miru to...) convenient (benri) crush (oshitsubusu) disaster (sainan) earthquake (jishin) electrical appliance (denkikigu) emergency food (hijooshoku) except for (X) (X naradewa; X o nozoide) fall over (taoreru) (a) falling object (rakkabutsu) flashlight (kaichuudentoo) followed by aftershocks (yoshin ga okoru)

footwear (hakimono; kutsu) for instance (tatoeba) furniture (kaqu) higher ground (koochi) I can imagine. (Soo da ne.) I have to admit... (Jitsuwa...; ...mitomezaru o enai) "if you happen to be (near)" (=if you are) itself (sonomono) just in case (man ga ichi (no baai) ni sonaete) keep (something) handy (tejika ni yooi suru) Let's see... (Soo desune...; Eeto...) occur (=happen) prepare (junbi o suru) prepared (junbi ga dekiteiru; sonaeru) pretty (big) (kekkoo ookii) protect (mamoru) secure (shibari tsukeru) strike (okoru) superstition (meishin) wooden (=made of wood) worth a try (tamesu kachi wa aru)