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David Barker

Ten Things I Learned in French Class

The focus of the talk was actually on the things I learned from being a student instead of a teacher. My ten points were:

- 1) Japanese learners of English face a much bigger challenge than European learners of other European languages.
- 2) As a student, you forget more than you think you would.
- 3) L1 is both useful and necessary for efficient learning.
- 4) Explicit L1 explanations of grammar are useful for learners.
- 5) Students need to listen to CDs more times than teachers think they do.
- 6) Homework needs to be meaningful.
- 7) Learners need to do extensive practice of even apparently "simple" language like numbers.
- 8) Teacher-centred lessons are more interesting than you might think.
- 9) Extensive reading is hard work.
- 10) Learners need to review and revise constantly.

Please let me know if you have any questions.