

Clarification face2face

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Most of my classes go back to F2F (face to face) tomorrow. I'm looking forward to seeing the students, especially those who I haven't met yet but have gotten to know via Zoom.

Am I nervous? Sure. But six months ago, we were all nervous about teaching on-line. First semester worked out. So now it is time for a new learning curve.

Of course, everyone will be wearing masks. And we need to social distance. Students must be at least a meter away from each other and two meters is better. As long as the weather is good, I hope to take them outside for at least part of the class. I'm thinking especially when doing speaking activities like pair work and group work. I'm asking students to bring something to sit on and to wear hats with big brims for sun shade. Another teacher and I have requested that the school set up the tent-like covering that we use during school festival on the lawn. It will make teaching outside seem more "official." And being outside will make social distancing easier.

Masks will make hearing each other more difficult. Masks muffle a bit. We don't see the mouth of the person we are talking to. I want to make sure that students know and use English phrases to clarify.

Here's part of mine plan for the first class.

I'll copy the clarification phrases below onto strips. Each student gets one.

They copy that sentence on to the inside cover of their book. Then, standing up and keeping social distancing, they collect the other sentences via peer-dictation. Each person will have six different partners. When I do this sort of activity, I have them put away the sentence strips. They have to pass the sentence to partners by speaking.

Then, whenever they are doing a pair work or groupwork, the sentences are easy to access.

Good luck. Stay safe.

Here are the clarification sentences:

Pardon?

Excuse me?

Once more, please?

How do you spell (that)?

I don't understand yet.

How do you say that in (Japanese)?

Can you say that a different way?
