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The value of helping JSL students to discover their reason for continuing higher education : Action research based on report analyses and episode interviews

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**The value of helping JSL students to discover their reason for  
continuing higher education**  
—Action research based on report analyses and episode interviews—

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This report details research conducted during our Japanese as a second language (JSL) course that focused on student self-awareness and motive recognition. The focus was each student's reasons for studying Japanese and continuing their education in Japan. We based our research primarily on data obtained from student 'A' who showed significant change during the course. As a result of the analysis, we found that self-reflection helps to enhance and develop students' learning both in and outside the classroom. Finally, we stress the value of such self-reflection classes as an important aspect of the Japanese education curriculum.

**Keywords:** Motive for continuing higher education, self-awareness activities, recognition, Japanese language school, understanding of self