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Teaching vocabulary using a positioning map for advanced learners of Japanese : Adjectives as a tool to express one's feelings and impressions

メタデータ	言語: jpn 出版者: 公開日: 2019-03-05 キーワード (Ja): キーワード (En): 作成者: 黒崎, 誠, 黒崎, 亜美, 播岡, 恵, 丸山, 伊津紀, KUROSAKI, Makoto, KUROSAKI, Ami, HARIOKA, Megumi, MARUYAMA, Itsuki メールアドレス: 所属:
URL	https://doi.org/10.15084/00001897

**Teaching vocabulary using a positioning map for advanced learners of Japanese :
– Adjectives as a tool to express one’s feelings and impressions –**

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This article explains a method of teaching adjectives using a positioning map. For learners of Japanese, even in the advanced class, expressing their feelings and impressions seems to be difficult. The authors consider that there are two reasons, that is, the learners’ Japanese vocabulary is limited and they cannot clarify what they felt in Japanese. The positioning map, the authors call it an ‘Adjective Positioning Map’ on which some adjectives are located, has two axes (Warm-Cool, Soft-Hard). The learners plot some images on the map, and can clarify what they felt visually. They can also understand the meanings of the words on the map. By practicing to use the map repeatedly, they come to choose the appropriate words easily and quickly when expressing their feelings and impressions.

Key-words: vocabulary instruction, positioning map, adjectives, feeling, impression