

# Crossroads

CROSSROADS Language Studio's Newsletter, March 2011



## Bobby Fischer

"You don't learn anything in school. It's just a waste of time". So said Bobby Fischer (born on 9<sup>th</sup> March, 1943). The youngest US chess champion in history (he was 14 when he won) and, later, World Champion, his name appears frequently in the lists of 'Top Ten Smartest People of All Time' that appear from time to time.

Skill at chess depends, to some extent, on memory: the ability to remember positions from previous games and the correct move to make give a player an advantage. From analysis of his speed chess games (a type of chess where each player has only 5 minutes to complete all his moves) it seems that he could see three or four moves ahead with a glance of only a second or two, and five or six moves ahead if he studied the position for five seconds. For fun, Fischer liked to give his opponents 10 minutes and himself only one. He usually won. Even more remarkable is the fact that Fischer could remember most of his speed chess games. After one tournament, Fischer recalled all the moves – over 1,000 - from his 22 games from memory.

Fischer taught himself several foreign languages in order to read foreign chess periodicals. After arriving in Iceland for the World Championship he rang a chess-playing friend but got through to his young daughter, who explained - in Icelandic, a language Fischer had no knowledge of - that her parents were out for the evening and would return late. When he finally got through to his friend Fischer related the little girl's message word for word with perfect intonation.

Fischer declined to defend his 1972 World Championship and forfeited the title in 1975. A rematch with his 1972 opponent was held in Belgrade, Yugoslavia in 1992 (Fischer won), a match which broke the United Nations embargo on the country (which included a ban on sporting events). Thereafter, he led a wandering life living for some time in Hungary, Germany and the Philippines. He was detained for nine months in Japan in 2004-5 under threat of deportation to the US but was released after the Icelandic government granted him full citizenship ('for putting Iceland on the map'). He died there in 2008.



*Article by Jonathan*

Fischer and Spassky competing for the world chess title in 1972

## Net News

**NET LESSONS:** Try our *lessons on the Internet!*

It's CROSSROADS in your home or office!

Call for details: **089 9217595**

**NET SITE OF THE MONTH:**

If you'd like to learn how to play chess, try this site:

[www.chesscorner.com/tutorial/learn.htm](http://www.chesscorner.com/tutorial/learn.htm)

**CROSSROADS ON MIXI:** Check it out!

[http://mixi.jp/show\\_profile.pl?id=30381548](http://mixi.jp/show_profile.pl?id=30381548)

# *Some Thoughts for the Month*



**Joshua Says:** Well, it's the end of the term again, and that means we have our end-of-term performance night coming up. I hope many of you will come along and join in the fun. You do not have to be in a performance group to enjoy the night. There will be wine, food and lots to do. You can bring friends or family members, too. So, I'm looking forward to seeing you all at the party!

**Junko Says:** Last month, I wrote about the new WiFi Internet connection we have installed at Crossroads. Now, Joshua is preparing Bookcase files of many English books for you to read on our new "Crossroads i-Pad". Our i-Pad will be available to you from next month. If you have any books you'd like to read, please come and see me in the office and fill out a "Books I'd Like to Read" request form.



**Jonathan Says:** Buying a 30kg bag of brown rice recently I pondered on the relative importance of this food in Japan compared to England. The English would perhaps buy a bag of one or two kilograms (there exist 250g bags for the ultra-cautious). The biggest bag you would find in a supermarket would be perhaps five kilograms, 10 or 15kg in an Indian food shop. But then, in Japan, I can't buy boxes of 250 tea bags that I bought in England...

**Greg Says:** It's always terrible to hear about an earthquake, but the Sendai earthquake hit very close to home for me. Sendai was the first place I lived in Japan (for 4 years) and many of my old students lived in the places that got wiped off the map. I have no idea if they are safe but I truly hope they are. I know the city will recover. I just hope the people involved can as well.



**Sean Says:** I just realized today that White Day is around the corner and I mustn't forget to buy a few presents (you know who you are!). I have to laugh because the ones who bought me chocolates are also the ones who "helped" me eat them. No wonder jewelry or brand goods are the usual requests for White Day!

# NOTICE BOARD

*Don't forget  
our End-Of-Term Party  
and Performance Night*



**On... Saturday the 26<sup>th</sup> this month! We start at 8:00pm -**  
All students are invited to come along, and you can bring all your friends and family with you, too!



## Notice

*Crossroads is getting wired up! - Actually. "Wirelessed up!"*  
For private study in our café, you can now bring along your personal laptop or i-Phone. settle in anywhere in the building with a coffee, let the background music put you into the right mood and just get to work! We also have special adapters for your computer if you require one. For more details, just ask Junko in our office. Happy studies.....

## Miho and Akane's Adventures Overseas - a serial by S(A)3 students - Episode 2

**O**n Sunday, Akane woke up early in the morning. As her job was relatively easy, she had energy to go jogging in the mornings at weekends. Jogging refreshed her in mind and body. She thought of nothing on these jogs but today she was thinking of Miho. Her call was very short last night; she seemed to be in a hurry. Just travelling? Or has anything happened to her?

In the afternoon, Akane got to the bookstore a little early but Miho was already there. Akane checked her watch; she wasn't late. Miho recognised her, smiled and waved. A smile came over Akane's face, too, and they hugged. Miho looked more feminine than before. Akane asked what had brought her to Sydney. Miho wore a bitter smile and suggested that they go to a burger restaurant where they used to go.

At the restaurant, Miho took a big mouthful of burger saying she really wanted to eat this again. Akane stared at her face trying to guess what the situation was. Miho noticed her curious eyes. Suddenly, Miho asked if she could stay with Akane for a while. Akane blinked in surprise at the request. Miho explained she was chasing after her Australian boyfriend who had come back to Sydney because his visa had expired. She badly wanted to find him; she really liked him. Akane remembered that Miho got obsessed about things. ....to be continued

## クロスローズの好きなコースで英語を学ぶ。

### GENERAL (ジェネラル) コース

英語+実践練習

60分 x 2回/週:

1学期-4ヶ月毎にレベルが上がる  
クロスローズのメインプログラム

90分 x 1回/週:

忙しい方のための週1レッスン

プライベート(個人)

月2回からレッスン回数自由選択

セミプライベート(セミ個人):

月3回からレッスン回数自由選択

### クロスローズで学べるその他の外国語

フランス語 - スペイン語 - ドイツ語 - イタリア語 - ロシア語 - 中国語 - 韓国語

### COSMOPOLITAN (コスモポリタン) コース

英語+実技を通した実用練習、だから誰でも分かる、自然に上達する。

英語でギターを習う

英語で歌う

英語で料理

英語でマジック

ピアノ

英語劇

ヨガ

### NET(ネット) レッスン

グループOR プライベート

レッスン料 ¥4,725/月~  
詳細はお問合せ下さい



### KIDS' (キッズ) クラス

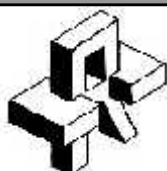
グループOR プライベート



### MOTHER & CHILD

(マザー&チャイルド)

グループOR プライベート



# CROSSROADS

ランゲージメタジオ  
英会話スクール

T 790-0004 松山市大街道  
2丁目1-3 2F, 3F



Phone: 0120-21-7594

Tel: (089) 921-7595

Fax: (089) 921-7319

E-mail: info@crossroadsco.com

Web Site: www.crossroadsco.com