



How to plan messages for the talkboards

Some of you might think it's difficult to post your ideas and opinions on an internet site like Japan UK LIVE! Perhaps you're nervous that other people won't understand you or that no-one will write back.

However, if you stick to some basic rules and think carefully about what you write, you'll find it's not that difficult at all! Just follow these simple guidelines. It's great fun to make friends with people in other areas and foreign countries. How many people will you get to know on the talkboards this year?

Worksheets.

The worksheets give you ideas of things to write about. There are also sheets to help you take notes and plan your message. Have you had a look at the Wicked Worksheets area. There are worksheets for each theme to give you ideas.

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ead and Reply. First, read through some of the messages already on the talkboard to see what's being discussed. If someone sounds interesting, then send them a reply. Tell them what you think about their message or ask them to explain a bit more.

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images. It's true what they say - a picture is worth a thousand words. Your message doesn't have to be long. Go out with a digital camera, or draw a picture and scan it in. Post it on the talkboard with a caption. It will help people to understand your message.

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hink. Before you start writing, decide what you want to say. You don't have to write a lot, but choose your words carefully. You can even use a word processor to run a spell check, then copy and paste your message into the talkboard message box.

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xpand. Are you continuing a topic? - Make comparisons with what other people have written and share your opinions. Try and find out more about your topic by interviewing people around you or using books and the internet. Then write up your report on the talkboard. Now go out and investigate in your local area.