Study Tips from Yeo Yuanting

1. **Sending email to Japanese Friends**

   If you have Japanese friends, you can practice your Japanese skills by writing to them in Japanese. It is a good way to keep in contact with them too. You may receive replies from them pretty soon too, as they can check emails using their cell phones (take note, however, that their cell phones cannot receive messages that are too long—about 5 sentences, otherwise it gets cut off).

2. **Watching Japanese Dramas**

   Personally, I find that watching Japanese dramas in the original soundtrack is the best way to learn Japanese if you do not have Japanese friends or anyone to practice Japanese with outside curriculum time.

   Through watching dramas, you get to learn:
   - the correct pronunciation and intonation / accent;
   - new vocabulary and grammar;
   - the different forms of speech: respect / polite / casual / male / female / dialects
   - improve listening skills;
   - Japanese culture

3. **Japanese songs & Lyrics**

   Another way interesting way to learn Japanese is by reading the lyrics while listening to / singing Japanese songs. Though this may not be the best way to learn Japanese, due to the fact that the order of sentences are sometimes rearranged to fit the melody, and sometimes another reading is used to pronounce a kanji eg. 理由 is sometimes read as 理由 in songs. Nevertheless, if you are into J-pop songs, it is still a method of revision.

4. **Listening to radio broadcast**

   FM96.3 is the only Japanese broadcasting FM in Singapore. The Broadcasting hours are short, but it is a good form of listening practice. Early birds do take note!!!

   - Monday~ Friday: 6.50am~9.00am
5. **Watching Japan Hour**

Every weekend on Channel News Asia, there is a Japanese program introducing viewers to different food and lodging places in various parts of Japan. The 3 timeslots are:

- **Saturdays**: 7.30pm~8.30pm
- **Sundays**: 8am~9am, 1pm~2pm

6. **Japan experience**

If your financial ability allows you, do grab the opportunity and take part in at least one of these programs:

- Hiroshima Internship (June)
- Hiroshima Home Stay (December)
- Shizuoka Home Stay (December)

The internship had been a very fruitful experience while the home stay gave me the rare opportunity to experience daily life with a Japanese family, and of course, the chance to improve my Japanese. Please take part if you can!