

Previous Endeavors

Evidence for the Ability to Launch a Successful Project

Lunarpages is the host of both hashimori.com and imaginejapan.net. Please find attached Lunarpages' *General Summary* and *Monthly Report* for each website. I submit these documents along with the current document as evidence of my ability to generate an audience worthy of investment. It is my belief that Grammar Captive will reach a far greater and vastly more recurrent audience.

hashimori.com

click and go

HISTORY

This site was begun after 1994 as a personal landing page under the name HSMR, a syllabic acronym for my formally registered Japanese family name, Hashimori. It was hosted by asahi.net.jp for several years before I moved it to www.gol.com under the same name. It was also while in Japan that I began development of the moogoonghwa website as a folder (subdirectory) of the HSMR website. Moogoonghwa would later become the name of my first website hosted at mac.com in Hong Kong. Its original purpose was to serve as a transition from my former Japanese home to my new Chinese residence, but quickly became the main folder for the Hong Kong Language Needs Assessment (HKLNA) Project, the Tsongkit Project, and my registered Hong Kong company, East Asian Research and Translation in Hongkong (EARTH). By 2007 I was compelled to abandon further work on all three of these projects. In 2008, while still living in Berkeley, California I undertook a serious effort to salvage the HKLNA Project in the form of the Global English Needs Assessment (GENA) Project. As the domain mac.com was hardly a place to do business and the gol.com domain was all about Japan, I signed on with Lunarpages as my host for the thegenaproject.com — my first privately owned domain name. The gol.com and mac.com sites were left in tact.

By 2009 I was once again short of funds and had found new employment in Korea. By 2010 it was clear that my future was neither in Seoul, nor in DaeJeon. In anticipation of my return to Japan I launched the Imagine Japan website under my second privately owned domain name imaginejapan.net and hosted it with Lunarpages. The purpose of the site was to host a book project undertaken just before my departure from Japan in 2000. A permanent return to Japan did not materialize, and I soon found myself in Thailand where I began my study of PHP. Still unable to make ends meet I took up work in Saudi Arabia for a second time in 2011. While working at King Abdulaziz University in Jeddah, Apple Computer stopped hosting personal websites and the Moogoonghwa website disappeared from the internet for two years. In 2014 it was recombined and launched as a subfolder to my newly created domain name hashimori.com. Much of the current site has remained unchanged since its origination. On the other hand, a large portion of it has been removed.

MAIN FEATURES

The primary motivation for all four of these projects can be best summarized in a single letter sent to more than 1223 academicians and educational researchers from around the globe. You are invited to open any of the [mail packets](#) for a copy of the letter. At the time mass mailing was not so easily accessible as it is today, and it seemed that my chances were better, if I were to send one-to-one. The packets were designed as a means to keep track and advertise whom I had approached.

- **The Hong Kong Language Needs Assessment (HKLNA) Project** - My single-handed effort to reform the English language industry in Hong Kong.

This project examines the Hong Kong language industry just after the turn of the millennium. It is based on data obtained from the Hong Kong Ministry of Education and various other Hong Kong government sources. It looks closely at the language industry from the point of view of government, education, and society. Further, it includes an extensive outreach and funding campaign. There is even a series of newsletters that track an important portion of its development. Also included are a large amount of comparative data from Singapore and Hong Kong's trade partners, as well as a completed theoretical economic model on the ramifications of artificial demand in the English language industry, an outline of several descriptive and analytical multivariate statistical techniques, and several papers on key issues related to the English language and its role in Hong Kong society. This list is by no means exhaustive. Although the data is now somewhat dated the conclusions are likely still very current.

As the site is completely public in nature, it can be accessed directly from any of its pages. I recommend that it be accessed from its [index page](#) or from my personal [2006 annual greeting](#). Alternatively recommended, but less direct access points are the [moogoonghwa](#) and [kiusau](#) homepages.

- **The TsongKit Project** - This project is designed to assist beginning learners of the Cantonese language in their acquisition of Hong Kong's most popular input method. The pages are fully indexed using the barest minimum in internet technology — namely, HTML and CSS.

The pages are based on Yale University's three term course previously, if not currently, offered at The Chinese University of Hong Kong. The site is divided into three major parts each consisting of 10 chapters. In each chapter 20 new characters are introduced. For each character is included the Tsong Kit input method, a guide to the characters pronunciation, and several vocabulary words associated with each character. For each character there is also one Cantonese sentence that provides a means for learners to practice the input method that they have just acquired, as well as the proper use of at least one newly acquired word corresponding to the character. For each sentence, but on a different page, is provided a fully annotated grammatical analysis. Finally, for each chapter is provided a Cantonese passage that has been

translated into English. Wherever there was doubt with regard to the meaning of a particular word, phrase, sentence, or even passage, members of the [proz.com](#) website for professional translators and interpreters were invited to comment. From these comments alternative interpretations were provided in annotative form.

In addition, special pages were created for difficult grammatical sticking points. These pages are especially popular on the net; one can easily ascertain their popularity by performing a web search for the English spelling of the Cantonese word *tsongkit*. Finally, the entire set of characters learned are indexed at the end of the site with cross-references to the chapter in which they were first acquired.

As with the HKLNA Project, all pages are public. Direct access to the project is best achieved at the [kiusau](#) homepage or the sites [table of contents](#).

- **East Asia Research and Translation in Hongkong (EARTH)**

A business plan for one-day turn around of translated documents that takes advantage of the different time zones that translators of the same language typically live. This project was to provide the financial means to realize the HKLNA Project after the project was rejected by most, but not all, of the world's academic community, numerous international development programs, the Hong Kong government, and the Hong Kong Jockey Club.

Like the HKLNA and Tsongkit Projects, EARTH was also abandoned when I was compelled to leave Hong Kong for lack of appropriate means. It was left on the internet as a business plan for all those who helped in the creation of the Tsongkit Project, and anyone in the world looking for a means to begin a successful and timely global translation project. Unfortunately, for me it was merely a means to an end to fight city hall and survive in Hong Kong without an employment sponsor. It was never a commercial passion.

The interrelationship between the HKLNA Project and EARTH can be most easily discovered in the organizational [flow chart](#) among the HKLNA Project webpages. Best access to EARTH can be found at its former [homepage](#). Even today, more than a decade after its creation I receive invitations from translators looking for work.

- **HKLNA Project Research Proposal:** “Understanding the nature, cause, magnitude, and direction of English language attrition in Hong Kong society: measurement and assessment”. Abstract ([HTML](#)) and Proposal ([PDF](#) - 109 pages, 1MB)

In order to move forward on the HKLNA Project in a serious manner, it appeared to me at the time that I must first prove my own thesis — not only to the Hong Kong government and other potential funders, but also to myself. It was to this end that this research proposal was created and taken before the Hong Kong Ministry of Education. After six months of delays, special formatting requests, and outright subterfuge on the part of ministry officials I was told in a face-to-face interview with

the division head in charge of the region's language programs that the government would not fund any project that might undermine current policy. In other words, the government was not interested in inconvenient truths. It was my first serious wake-up call to the nature of the state, and EARTH became more important than ever.

General Summary

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Figures in parentheses refer to the 7-day period ending Jul 22 2016 at 11:47 PM.

Successful requests: 235,880 (2,686)

Average successful requests per day: 319 (383)

Successful requests for pages: 133,595 (2,033)

Average successful requests for pages per day: 180 (290)

Failed requests: 23,136 (38)

Redirected requests: 97 (1)

Distinct files requested: 5,737 (133)

Distinct hosts served: 17,724 (106)

Data transferred: 28.87 gigabytes (404.31 megabytes)

Average data transferred per day: 40.04 megabytes (57.76 megabytes)

Monthly Report

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Each unit (■) represents 300 requests for pages or part thereof.

month	#reqs	#pages	
Jul 2014	2700	504	■
Aug 2014	3073	1066	■■
Sep 2014	2739	1160	■■
Oct 2014	4094	2974	■■■
Nov 2014	2282	1214	■■■
Dec 2014	2004	854	■
Jan 2015	14424	4175	■■■■■
Feb 2015	11121	5865	■■■■■
Mar 2015	10006	6692	■■■■■
Apr 2015	7976	6216	■■■■■
May 2015	9074	7057	■■■■■
Jun 2015	4603	2597	■■■
Jul 2015	8695	5207	■■■■■
Aug 2015	13361	9634	■■■■■■■
Sep 2015	10771	7744	■■■■■
Oct 2015	19125	8900	■■■■■■■
Nov 2015	11839	8448	■■■■■
Dec 2015	10601	6233	■■■■■
Jan 2016	9186	6026	■■■■■
Feb 2016	8875	6213	■■■■■
Mar 2016	12559	9499	■■■■■■■
Apr 2016	21461	5741	■■■■■■■
May 2016	16072	7552	■■■■■■■
Jun 2016	12568	7539	■■■■■■■
Jul 2016	6671	4485	■■■

Busiest month: Aug 2015 (9,634 requests for pages).

imaginejapan.net

click and go

HISTORY

Just prior to my departure for Hong Kong in 2000 I needed a way to make good on what appeared to be my lost decade in Japan. I had learned the language with good oral and written fluency and had gotten to know the Japanese society and people well. As a non-native resident I knew much about Japan that most Japanese did not know. Still, I was unable to find full-time work as an economics instructor at a Japanese university — this, despite my having worked part-time at one of Japan's better known national universities. For six years in its general studies program as an English language instructor, and four years in its faculty of economics as an economics instructor. When I learned from the Japanese government that I would not be eligible for social security upon retirement, I decided to seek my fortune elsewhere.

My disappointment was large, but I was not about to leave Japan with resentment. Simply, I needed to settle my troubled heart. Within six months I had composed my first draft of a book outlining what I thought and still believe to be a serious problem in Japanese-American relations and Japanese society as a whole. The [first online version](#) was entitled *Imagine: The rudiments of a book about Japanese society*. It can be found on the [moogoonghwa homepage](#) on the hashimori.com website.

In 2010 after it had become clear that I would not be permitted to remain in Korea I began making preparations for my return to Japan. In the belief that I could best secure employment with a book about Japan I set to work in making a more presentable online version of my first draft. My previous work took on a new face called *Imagine: Bridging Japan's Historical, Cultural, and Linguistic Gap*. Unable to find employment in Japan I moved to Thailand where my interest in finishing the book came to an abrupt end. I have not had the inclination to return to it since. Japan proved to be one of the greatest disappointments of my life. Still I learned much about human society in Japan that I could not have acquired anywhere else in the world. And, I would likely eagerly finish the book were I ever provided with the opportunity to return.

CONTENTS

In very brief outline the book seeks to recreate the immediate post war conditions in an effort to separate the real and imagined outcomes of the occupation and its effect on Japanese society as a whole.

In effect, the occupied must have known much more about the occupiers than the occupiers knew about those whose nation it was occupying. This disparity in knowledge made it easy for the Japanese people to hold the American occupation at arms length. Nevertheless, this gap was exploited by both sides. On the one hand, it insured that the pre-war and wartime Japanese bureaucracy remained in place; and on the other hand, it made it easy for the occupation to ignore its stated tasks of thorough going reforms and go about its true intention of establishing a colonial outpost in its struggle against the Soviet Union and Communist China — the legacies of US intervention in Europe during World War I.

This book seeks to unravel the many cultural and historical contradictions that pervade modern Japanese society today and keep Japan an isolated nation of global influence and soft-power. The book project can be accessed directly at www.imaginejapan.net or from the [moogoonghwa homepage](#).

