

Making your Mark:

What your new workplace will feel like

Experiences of various ALT's, compiled by Silas W

Common Questions:

What does an average day look like?

What is Team Teaching?

How is working in a Japanese school?

What is the workload?

“You can and should
say no to unreasonable
— requests.”

“There’s a big
difference between
being humble, and
— being subservient.”

“Be willing to
communicate, but also
learn to read the room.”

“Mentally prepare for
extremes.”

—

A Daily Schedule

What will your day
look like?

- Commute to work.
- Start classes roughly 8:30.
- Many schools have a break after 2nd period.
- Lunch around 12:00-13:00.
- After lunch break.
- School out at 15:00ish, students leave or attend clubs.
- Leave work roughly 16:00.
- You will have downtime to prepare classes, or take a break when you need*.

Team Teaching

What is it, how to do it, things to know, etc.

- Team teaching is flexible; sometimes 50/50, other times 75/ 25, sometimes 100/0.
 - Try and keep a balance with your teachers.
 - Support where you can, and ask for support when you need.
 - Communication is key.
 - Class can consist of structured lessons, games, or a mix.
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More Advice

- Re-use lessons for different schools - perfect them.
 - Have small games for little moments of downtime.
 - Letting go of your pride/ego is important, but so is knowing your boundaries.
 - Water bottle.
 - Try and join students for games at breaks.
 - Sprinkling some Japanese in your lessons can go a long way, but feel it out with JTE.
 - Establish needs early on: printer, materials, etc.
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“Do your best; that’s all you can do. Allow yourself time to breathe and take in your new surroundings.”

Resources:

- **Websites:** ALTopedia.net , mext.go.jp , local JET chapter website, jeopardylabs.com.
- **Applications:** Google Slides, PowerPoint, etc, LoiLo Note (ロイロノート), google translate.
- **People & Places:** PA or BOE liaison, various JTE's, local community center.

Thank you!
Questions?