

Video Creation Suggestions

If you're starting video now

Have a loose game plan.

This can include

- 1—some idea of your entrance and exit;
- 2—how you want to convey your message;
- 3—props like a cell phone or a bento box;
- 4—rough sequence.

Keep it simple.

Talk about the benefits of your experience but don't try to cram everything in. A few well-made points are much better than an exhaustive list.

Allow for spontaneity.

If you plan too much, it won't be fun. If you see something unexpected, capture it! If you make a language blooper, leave it in! Those authentic moments can add both realism and interest.

Share the screen.

One talking head for even one single minute is hard to focus on. Add footage of things that can break up the video: the craziness of Shinjuku Station; everybody's food at a restaurant. These can be inserted at meaningful points.

Talk to each other.

Rather than one person talking, have someone join in and try for some dialogue. Ask each other questions. It doesn't all have to be about KCP—let some of your personality in.

Break it up.

Instead of one long video covering lots of topics, consider breaking each topic into separate, shorter videos. KCP will do its best in the editing process to blend them together.

Topic ideas:

- 1— Biggest challenge
- 2— Most surprising thing I encountered
- 3— Biggest reward
- 4— Favorite Japanese saying, and what it means
- 5— New friends I made
- 6— What's next
- 7— Dealing with culture shock
- 8— Advice for future participants
- 9— Must see or do activities or sites to visit
- 10— Study tips

Shooting tips:

- 1—use a tripod or place your videocam on a steady surface to avoid camera shake;
- 2—if using a smartphone, shoot using the landscape (horizontal) orientation;
- 3—choose a background that's not distracting;
- 4—shoot in a spot that's nicely lit.

Accepted video file formats:

MP4, AVCHD, AVI, MOV

If you've already got video

If you're a habitual videographer, you've got it made! Have fun selecting the clips you think are most useful. Then add stills of whatever items you've got around you to fill out the story. Photos you have taken from Japan and an oral narrative of your video as it progresses would also help make this video really special.