

Excerpt From Conversation #2

Keep Your Mind On The Money!

This conversation took place at a cafe in Yokohama with a potential student. This was a trial lesson. The student was attractive, tanned, long black hair with dyed tan streaks, heavily made-up and sparkly with glitter. She was wearing leopard skin patterned tights, a low-cut blouse with a *whole lot of* cleavage showing...

Me: Hi, my name is Loco...you must be Emi?

Emi: Yes!

Me: It's nice to meet you!

Emi: Oh Yes!

(Takes a seat...)

Me: Ok...so, a little about me...I'm from America, from New York. and I've—

Emi: Eeeee! New York? Sou desuka... Kakkooii!! (Is that right? Very cool)

Me: (Smile) Yeah...so, yeah, I've lived in Japan for—

Emi: You like Hip Hop?

Me: Ummm (**Geezus. OK Loco, stay focused...keep your mind on the money**) Yes, I do!

Emi: Eeeee...(nodding, grinning and giggling)

Me: So...and, um, I teach English at a Junior High School in Yokohama. My hobbies are reading, watching movies and playing basketball. And I like to—

Emi: KaaakkoooIII!!! (Cooooool)

Me: Listen, Emi, why don't you introduce yourself, in English.

Emi: Eeeee? dekinai yo! (I can't) Please ask question to me, ok?

Me: Ok, fine...So, what is your job, Emi?

Emi: I am part time office worker...and dancer.

Me: Oh really? Wow! Like a Hula dancer, or—

Emi: You know Pole dancing?

Me: Ummm, yeah. You mean like *Flashdance*?

Emi: Sou sou sou sou sou! I am pole dancer!

(Keep your mind on the money)

Me: That's, um, very interesting!

Emi: I dance at Roppongi and Shibuya and Ginza...

Me: Wow! So, why do you want to study English?

Emi: I want to meet cool American black guy...but I can't speak.

(Keep your mind on the money)

Me: Ummm, right, I see. Well, I hope I can help you.

(I pull my English text-book out of my bag)

Emi: Eeeee! Iyada! (Frowns at book) I want to study English, but I want to study slang...

Me: Slang?

Emi: Yes! Like Hip Hop slang, and New York slang,...

Me: Well, I don't think you're quite ready for... **(Keep your mind on the money)** ...actually I don't think that's gonna be problem. When do you wanna start?

Emi: Anytime!