

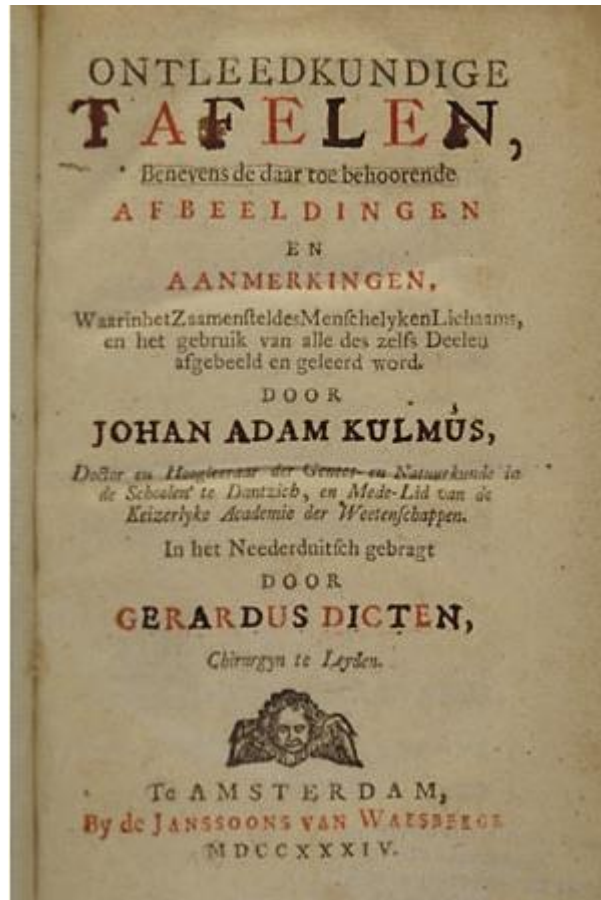
# Vision rehabilitation in Japan



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Welfare Center for the Blind  
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In connection with this presentation, there is no conflict of interest to be disclosed with any companies.

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Dr. Sugita Genpaku in 18<sup>th</sup> Century

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# Profile of Japan

- Population (2016) : 126,918,000
- Handicapped people (2013) : 3,937,000
- Certified Visually Impaired people : 310,000
- Visually impaired student (segregated special education)(2015)
  - Total : 5,716
  - Kindergarten section : 215
  - Elementary section : 1,767
  - Junior high section : 1,229
  - Senior high section : 2,505
- Administrative districts are composed of 47 prefectures.

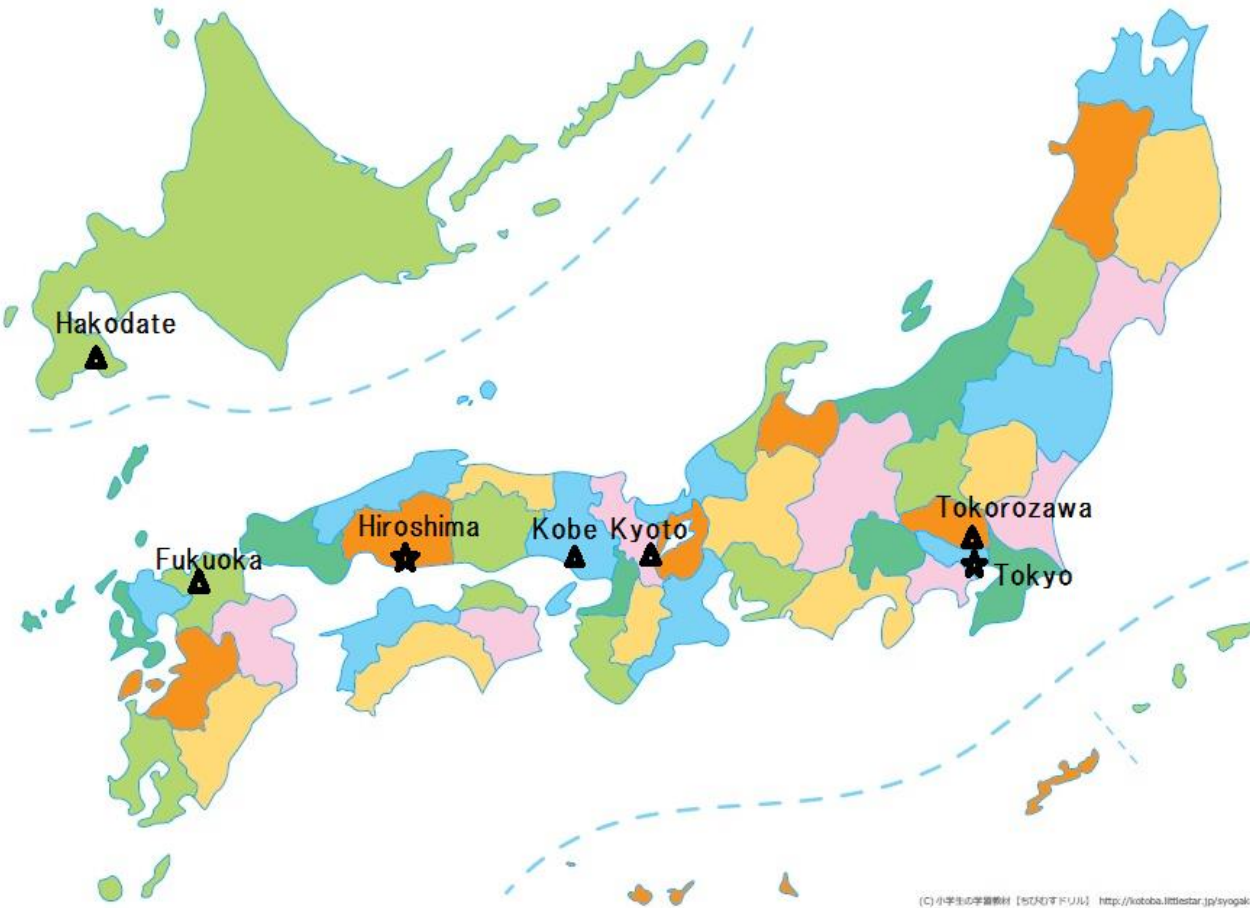
# Vision Rehabilitation

- Vision rehabilitation is not a commonly used word in Japan yet.
- Visually impaired Japanese people can be rehabilitated in four different areas of need;
  - Vocational
  - Educational
  - General Welfare
  - And clinical.

# Vocational Training

- The vocational training available for the vision impaired is composed of acupuncture, massage, computer training and telephone operators in national rehabilitation centers and other facilities owned by private sector.
- Massage has long been a source of employment for the visually impaired, which has also been protected by the government. However many massage shops owned by the regular sighted people, both certified and uncertified are increasing in numbers due to recent deregulation within the massage industry.

# Vocational training center for the visually impaired -Acupuncture, massage-



The training program is a three year course which upon graduation, the student in certificate of massage and acupuncture.

- 5 national or public rehabilitation centers : ▲
- 2 rehabilitation centers owned by private sector : ★

# Massage shop for visually impaired

## Facility to practice massage, acupuncture

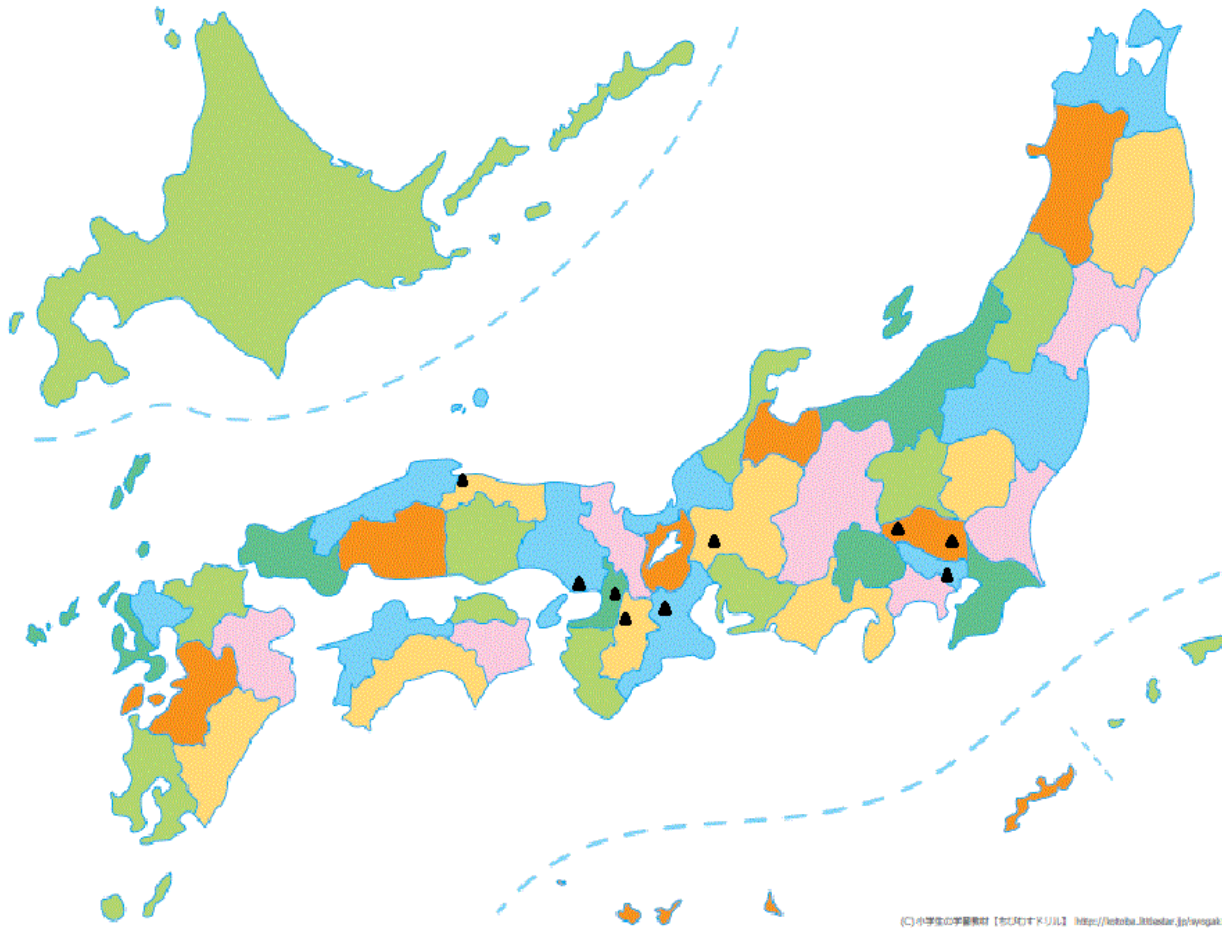
Those visually impaired persons who have the certificate of masseur and acupuncturist practice here and get higher techniques under the guidance of the expert instructor, and prepare to become independence in the days to come.





# Massage shop for visually impaired

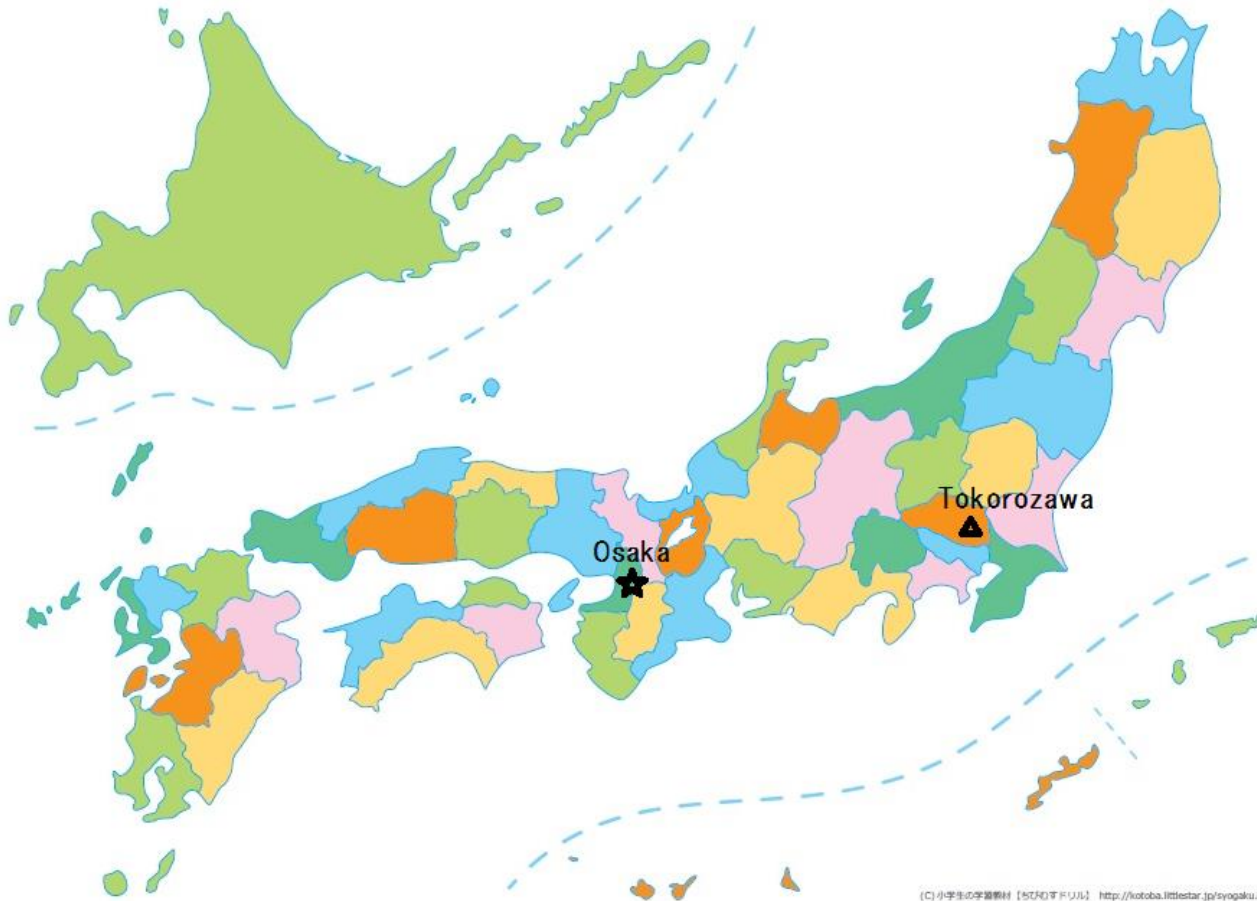
There are currently 9 massage shops across Japan that employ low vision / vision impaired employees.



# Vocational Training Center

-Computer training, telephone operator-

- National vocational rehabilitation center for person with disability : ▲
- Nippon Lighthouse rehabilitation center for the visually impaired : ★



# Computer Training



Making excel sheet with voice

A year course

- Business accountant
- Financial planner program



# Telephone operator



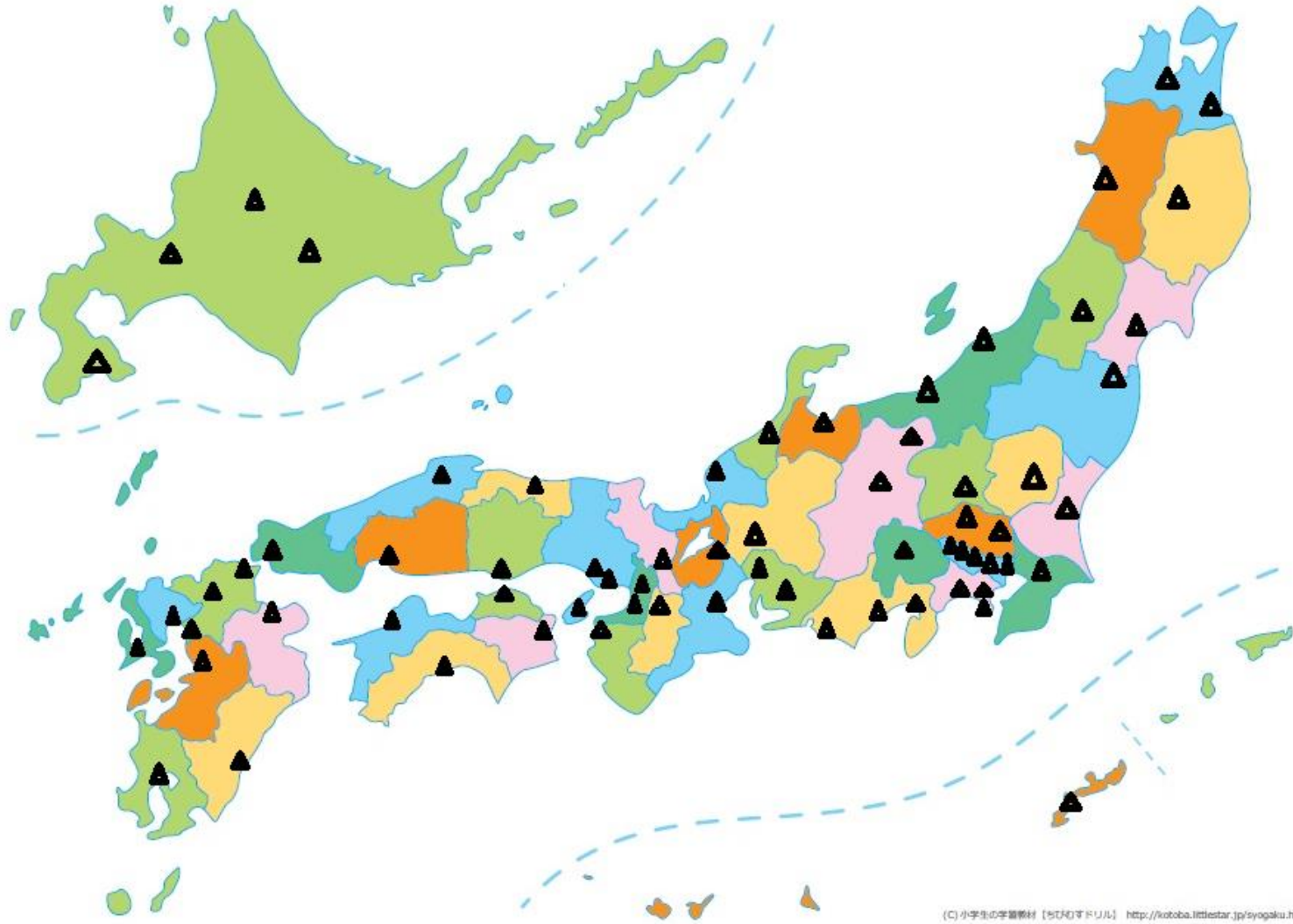
Using braille pin display to memorize telephone number

# Education

- Compulsory and vocational special education are offered to the visually impaired students permitted by the school with free of charge.
- Compulsory educations are served as segregated or inclusive elementary and junior high school.
- Vocational education serves acupuncture and massage trainings as same as vocational training which is also served in national rehabilitation centers.
- Since schools for special education are located in every prefectural capital city all over Japan, most people living in Japan can have a chance to access it.

# Special education schools for visually impaired

- Small prefecture has one school in capital city.
- Large prefecture or city have several schools depending upon population.



# Welfare

- Service in welfare area is offered to the only certified visually impaired people. It contains social adjustment trainings such as orientation and mobility, braille and ADL training.
- Trainings are supplied by facilities managed by the government or private sectors which are subsidized by the government.

# Orientation and Mobility

Walking with long  
cane on the street

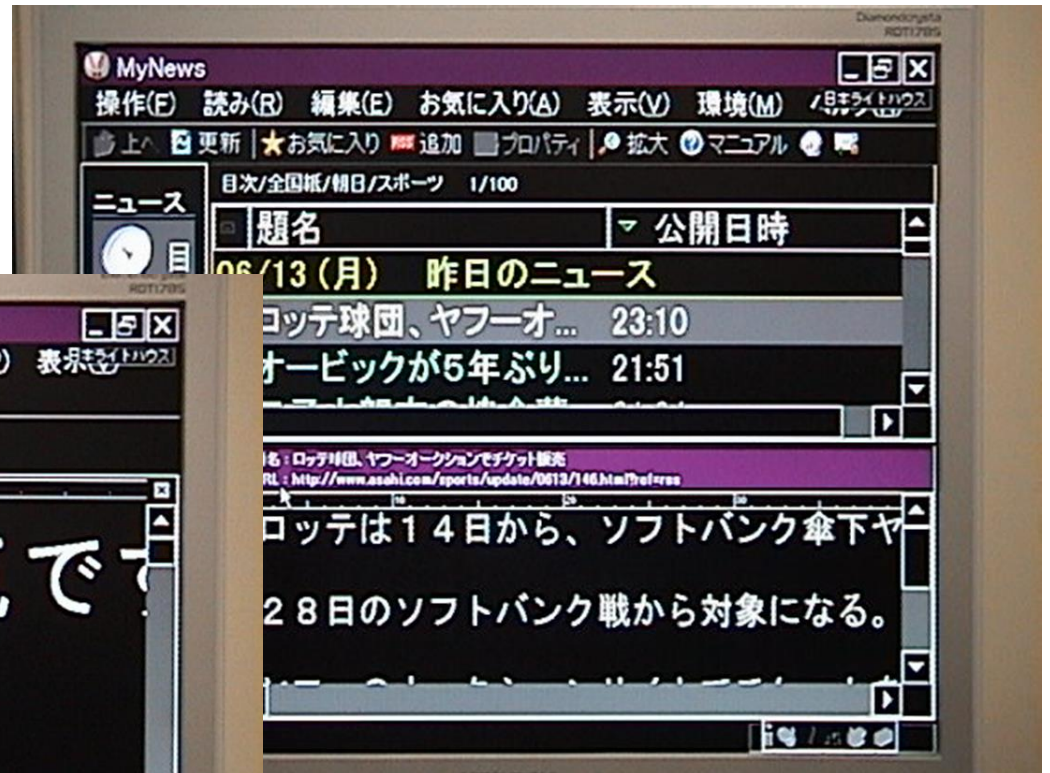


Along with guide line of safety  
equipment for the blind in  
underground shopping area

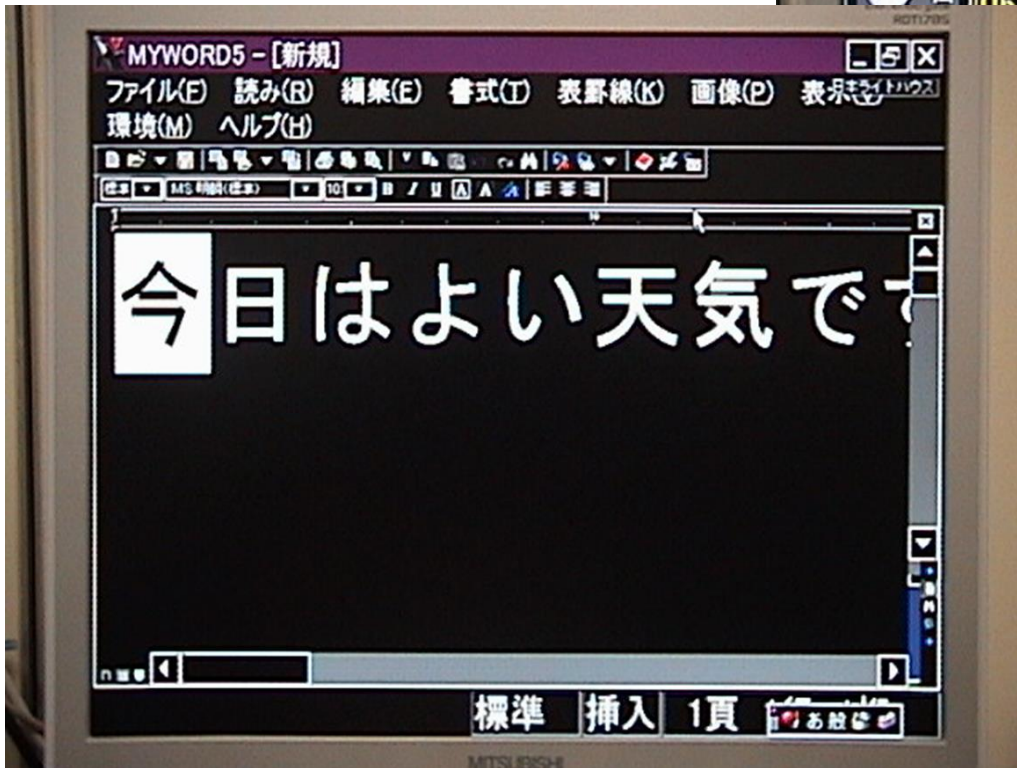


# Communication tool

Reading vocal news  
paper online

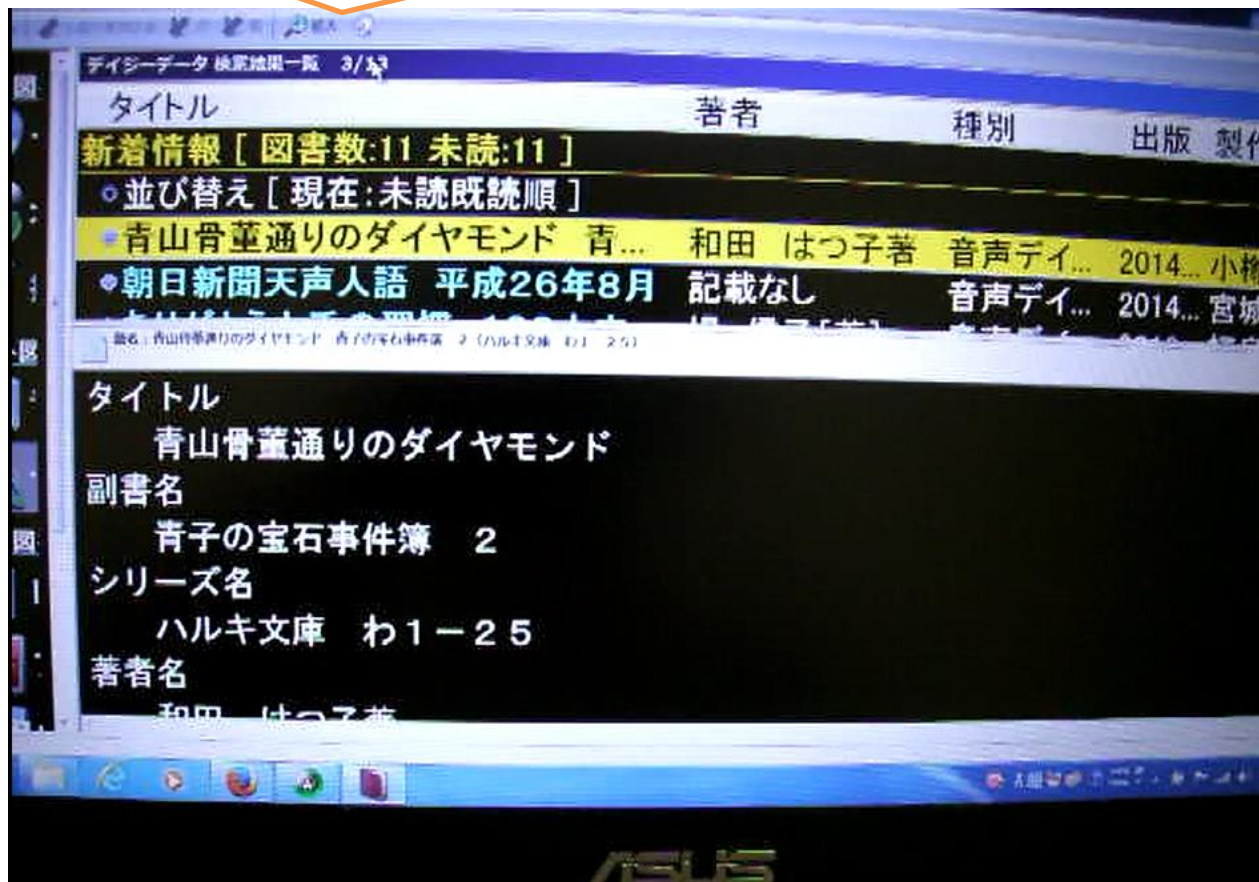


Japanese vocal word  
processor



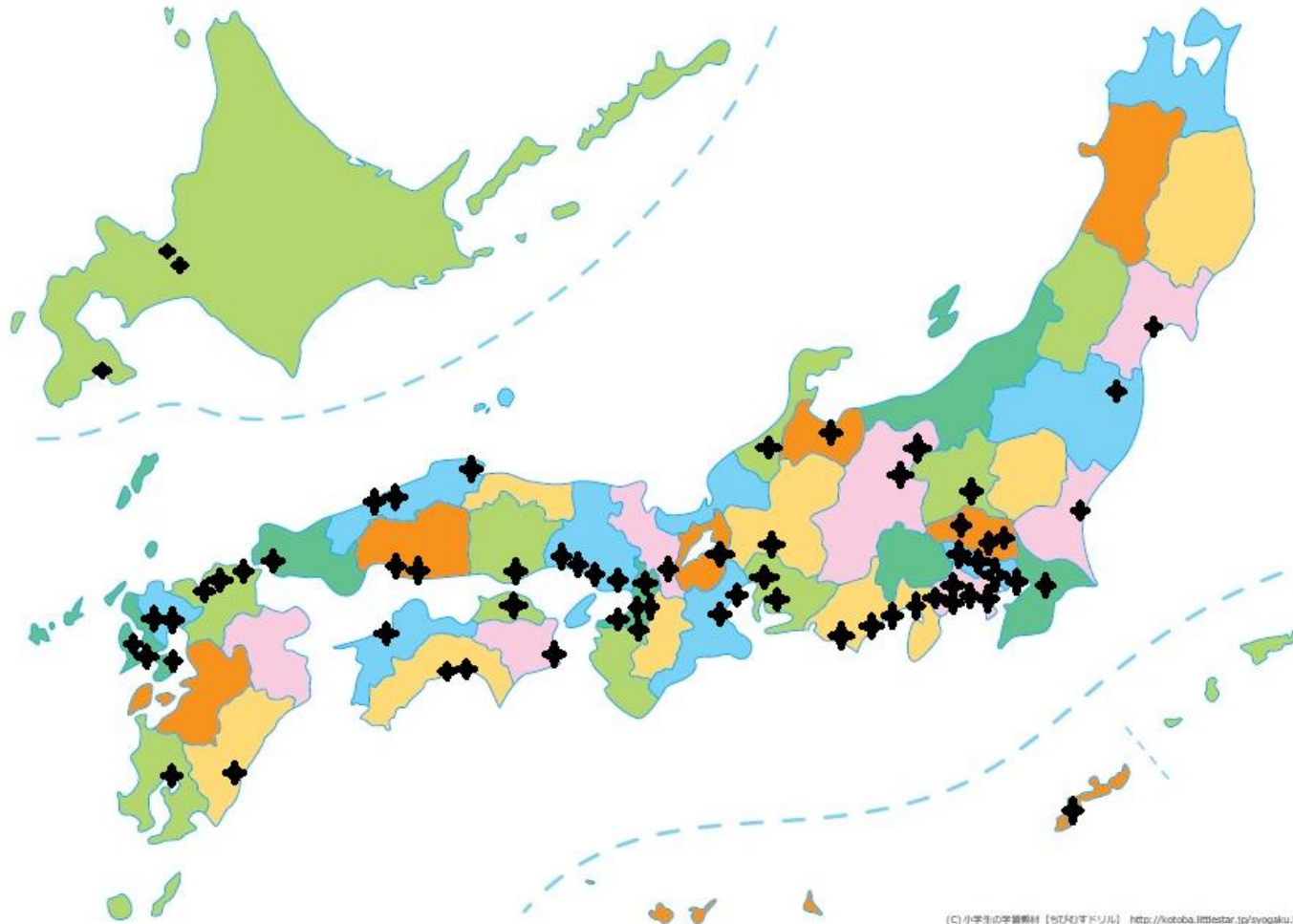
# Daisy (Digital Accessible Information System)

Visually impaired people who registered online library can listen to the weekly magazines, many books which were recorded by reading volunteers.



# Welfare Service Facilities for Vision Rehabilitation

There are 70 facilities all over Japan, which is mainly located in the big cities.



# Case report

Age: 70 (Female)

Eye disease : retinitis pigmentosa

Visual acuity : R: Hand movement L: Finger Counting

Vision rehabilitation

Vocational training : when age 52-54

Massage, acupuncture

studied and certificated at special education school

Welfare service : when age 55

Social adjustment training: O&M, Braille, Voice computer

Practice program of massage

Outreach program (Advice about computer): when age 59-70

# After practicing she runs her own acupuncture clinic

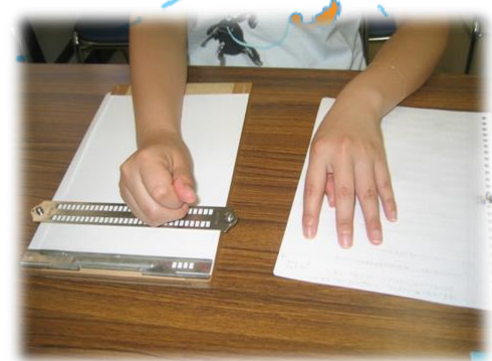
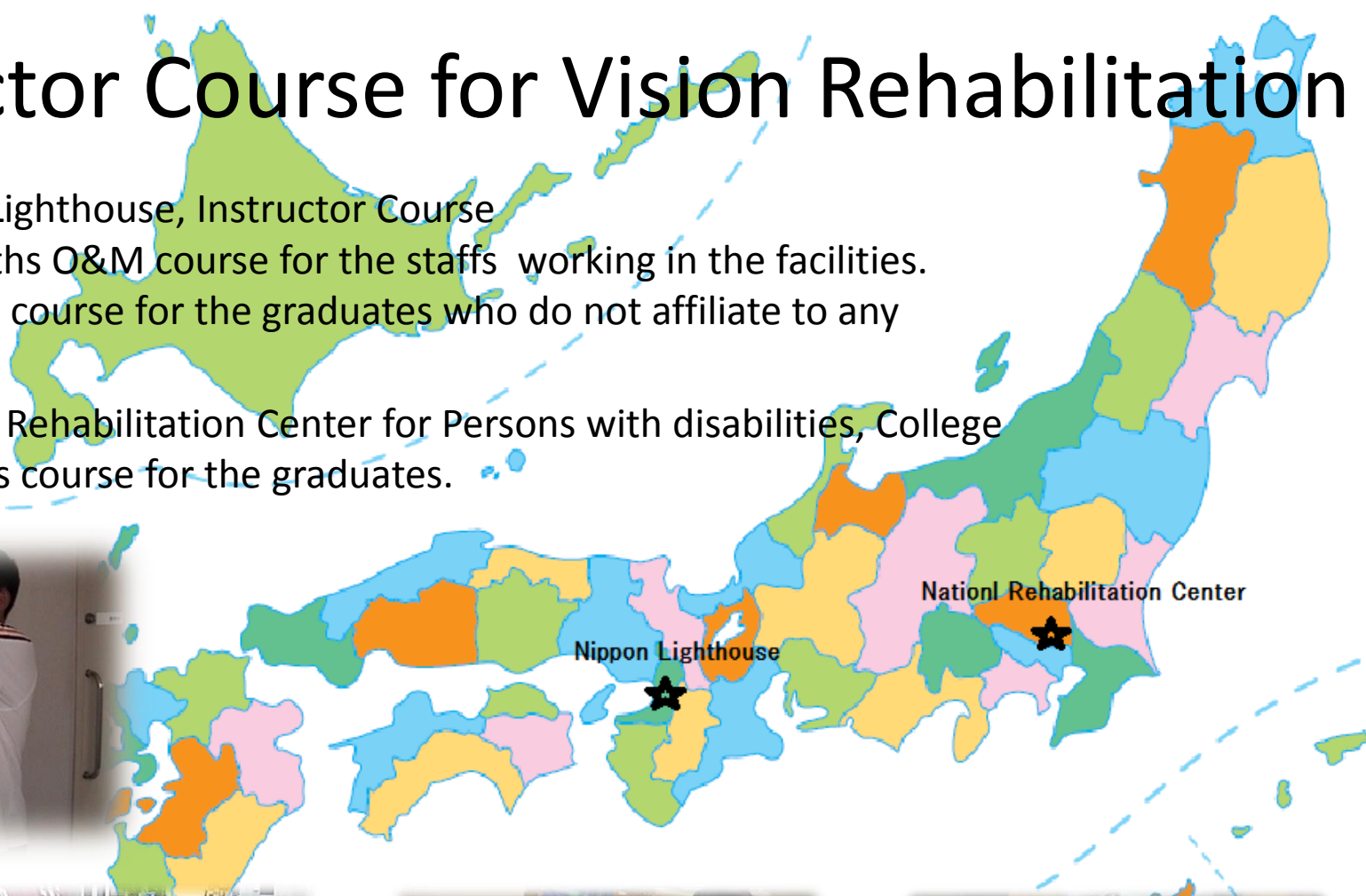


She can write clinical record with  
voice computer



# Instructor Course for Vision Rehabilitation

- Nippon Lighthouse, Instructor Course
  - 6 months O&M course for the staffs working in the facilities.
  - 2 years course for the graduates who do not affiliate to any facilities.
- National Rehabilitation Center for Persons with disabilities, College
  - 2 years course for the graduates.



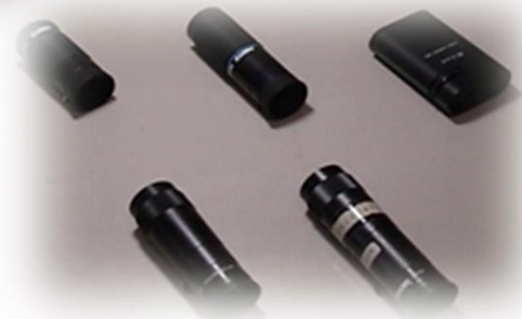
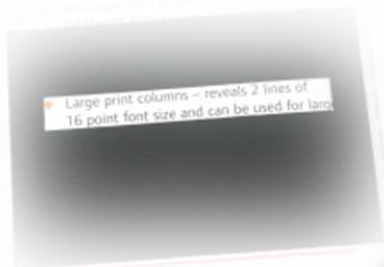
# Low vision care in hospital

## -Low vision clinic-

- Low vision care is conducted in low vision clinic by ophthalmologist and orthoptist.
- Low vision clinic can supply low vision care which does not include orientation and mobility training, supported by health care insurance.

# Common services in low vision clinic

- Optical low vision aids  
Magnifier, Telescope, Absorptive glasses
- Non-optical low vision aids  
Typoscope, CCTV.





# Low vision clinics

There are 166 low vision clinics all over Japan. Service providers concentrate in urban area.

