

Benchmarks

About Our Contributors

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[Kieran Stewart](#) is a PhD student in the department of Humanities and Communication Arts at the University of Western Sydney. In 2012, he was awarded a first-class honours from the University of Western Sydney for his work on Nietzsche and archaic religions. He is currently writing his dissertation on Eric Gans's hypothesis on the origin of the human and Friedrich Nietzsche's central notion of the eternal recurrence of the same.

[Matthew Taylor](#) is Professor of English at Kinjo Gakuin University in Nagoya, Japan. He teaches courses in English as a Foreign Language (EFL), academic writing, teacher training, and culture. He has written and presented on EFL pedagogy, literature, and mimetic theory. He has co-authored textbooks for EFL students, including two for academic writing (Cengage Learning) and one for oral communication skills (Macmillan Languagehouse). His previous articles for *Anthropoetics* explored mimetic elements in Jane Austen's *Mansfield Park* and the phenomenon of social isolation in Japan. The article for the present issue extends the focus on Japanese society.