

### Samples from the Books in the *Learn to Read in Japanese* Series:

1. *Learn to Read in Japanese, Volume I*. Published in 2016, it teaches 608 target kanji and includes a Core Kanji catalogue, plus 4,200 reading practice sentences.
2. *Learn to Read in Japanese, Volume II*. Published in 2018, it teaches 600 additional target kanji, with an expanded Core Kanji catalogue. It includes 2,900 vocabulary terms and 1,660 sentences for reading practice. It also suggests extensive supplemental reading material.
3. *Learn to Read in Japanese, Volume III*. Published in 2020, it teaches 320 more target kanji, with an expanded Core Kanji catalogue. It includes 2,100 vocabulary terms and 912 sentences for reading practice. It also suggests extensive supplemental reading material.
4. *Learn to Read in Japanese, Volume IV*. Published in 2022, it teaches 560 more target kanji. Due to space limitations, it does not include a Core Kanji catalogue, which is published separately (see Item # 5, below). It includes 3,800 vocabulary terms and 1,623 sentences for reading practice.
5. *Core Kanji, a Catalogue of 2,088 Essential Kanji*. Published in 2022, it includes memorable kanji descriptions, retrieval cues for kanji readings and extensive comparisons among similar characters, as well as an index to 4,200 kanji pronunciations.
6. *Learn to Read in Japanese, a Glossary*. Published in 2020 and expanded in 2022, it lists more than 9,300 Japanese vocabulary terms, with definitions, mnemonics and comparisons among terms.



# Learn to Read in Japanese

A Japanese Reader

including

a Catalogue of 608 Target Kanji,  
an Index to 1300 Kanji Pronunciations,  
and 4,200 Practice Sentences

by

Roger Lake and Noriko Ura

## Chapter 1

## New Kanji

# 53 見 (1) <sup>1</sup>	# 23 手 (1)	# 221 紙 (2)	# 415 書 (1)	# 338 何 (2)
# 123 本 (1)	# 105 分 (2)	# 172 下 (3)	# 162 名 (1)	# 157 前 (1)

1. The numbers printed in parentheses after each kanji in the table above indicate the number of different pronunciations that are employed for that kanji in the current chapter. The actual pronunciations can be found in a second table at the bottom of this page.

Before starting to read a chapter, we suggest that you look up all of the new kanji in the Core Kanji catalogue, paying particular attention to the **DESCRIPTION** and **CUES** sections of the entries. You may then return to the chapter and use these two tables to review your knowledge of the kanji pronunciations before starting to read.

Note that you will often encounter additional pronunciations for the kanji in subsequent chapters. For example, although 見 is pronounced “mi” in this chapter, it can also be pronounced “ken,” and you will first encounter that pronunciation in Chapter 21.

1. パスポートを見せてください。

Pasupooto wo misete kudasai.  
Please show the passport.

2. はい、どうぞ。

Hai, douzo.  
Yes, go ahead.

3. 手紙をすぐ書きます。

Tegami wo sugu kakimasu.  
I<sup>2</sup> will write the letter soon.

4. これは何ですか。

Kore wa nan desu ka.  
As for this, what is it?

5. ハチミツです。

Hachimitsu desu.  
It's honey.

6. 本を見せてください。

Hon wo misete kudasai.  
Show me<sup>2</sup> the book please.

7. あれは何ですか。

Are wa, nan desu ka.  
As for that over there, what is it?

8. 分かりません。

Wakarimasen.  
I<sup>2</sup> don't know/understand.

## Kanji Pronunciations

# 53 – mi	# 23 – te	# 221 – kami, gami	# 415 – ka	# 338 – nan, nani
# 123 – hon	# 105 – wa, pun	# 172 – shita, kuda, sa	# 162 – na	# 157 – mae

- |                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| 9. 手を下げてください。          | Te wo sagete kudasai.<br>Please put the hand (i.e., your hand) down.  |
| 10. 紙に名前を書きます。         | Kami ni namae wo kakimasu.<br>I <sup>2</sup> will write the name (i.e., my name) to the paper (i.e., on the paper). |
| 11. 本を見せて下さいませんか。      | Hon wo misete kudasaimasen ka.<br>Won't you <sup>2</sup> show the book and give?                                    |
| 12. はい、分かりました。         | Hai. Wakarimashita.<br>Yes, I <sup>2</sup> understood. (this also = "I understand," in the exclamatory tense)       |
| 13. いいえ、だめです。          | Iie, dame desu.<br>No, it's bad.  |
| 14. ちょっと見せて。           | Chotto misete.<br>Show me <sup>2</sup> for a second.  |
| 15. 手紙を書いてください。        | Tegami wo kaite kudasai.<br>Please write the letter.  |
| 16. サマンサさんのそばに何がありますか。 | Samansa-san no soba ni, nani ga arimasu ka.<br>At Samantha's proximity, what exists?                                |
| 17. 名前が書けます。           | Namae ga kakemasu.<br>It's possible to write the name.  |
| 18. 10分もかかりません。        | Juppun mo kakarimasen.<br>It doesn't even take 10 minutes.  |
| 19. 本の下に手紙がありますよ。      | Hon no shita ni tegami ga arimasu yo.<br>Under the book there is a letter, for sure.                                |
| 20. あなたの名前は何ですか。       | Anata no namae wa nan desu ka.<br>As for your name, what is it?   |

2. Personal pronouns (such as I, me, you, he, him, she and her) are often omitted in Japanese sentences when they can be understood from the context. We have added personal pronouns to many of the English translations in this book in order to keep our sentences grammatically correct. In some cases, different pronouns might have served just as well as the ones that we have used.



# Core Kanji Catalogue

## Simple Shapes

**0001. 一** **PRONUNCIATIONS:** *ichi*, *hito*, *itsu*, *o*, *tsui* **MEANING:** one  
**EXAMPLES:** 一 *ichi* = one; 一日 *ichinichi* = one day; 一つ *hitotsu* = one item; 一人 *hitori* = one person;  
 唯一の *yuiitsu no* = only, exclusive; 一昨日 *ototoi* = the day before yesterday; 一日 *tsuitachi* = 1<sup>st</sup> of the month **CUES:** I wrote the number 一 **ichi** (one) on my arm, and my skin became **Itchy**; Hiro**Hito** is 一人 **hitori** (one person), and he **Eats** 一つの **hitotsu** no (one) Ordinary **Tsuite** (sweet) apple on 一日 **tsui**tachi (the 1<sup>st</sup> of the month)

**0002. 二** **PRONUNCIATIONS:** *ni*, *futa*, *futsu*, *ha* **MEANING:** two **EXAMPLES:** 二 *ni* = two; 二つ *futatsu* = two items; 二人 *futari* = two people; 二日 *futsuka* = the 2<sup>nd</sup> of the month, two days; 二十日 *hatsuka* = the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month; 二十歳 *hatachi* = 20 years old  
**CUES:** my Niece is 第二位 *dai ni* i (number two rank) in her class; I bought 二つの **futatsu** no (two) **Full Tanks** of helium and dropped one on my **Foots** (feet) on 二日 **futsu**ka (the 2<sup>nd</sup> of the month) and the other on my **Hats** on 二十日 **hatsuka** (the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month)

**0003. 三** **PRONUNCIATIONS:** *san*, *mitsu*, *mi*, *sha* **MEANING:** three **EXAMPLES:** 三 *san* = three; 三つ *mittsu* = three items; 三越 *Mitsukoshi* = name of a department store; 三日 *mikka* = the 3<sup>rd</sup> of the month; 三味線 *shamisen* = three-stringed Japanese lute  
**CUES:** **Santa**'s hat cost 三ドル **san**dorū (three dollars); when my family **Meets** him, we feed him a **Meal**, and he gives us 三つ **mittsu** no (three) presents to **Share**

**0004. 回** **PRONUNCIATIONS:** *kai*, *mawa* **MEANINGS:** times, to rotate  
**EXAMPLES:** 三回 *sankai* = three times; 回る *mawaru* = to turn, intransitive; 回す *mawasu* = to turn, transitive **DESCRIPTION:** this looks like a square kite **CUES:** I wash this **Kite** in **Madonna's Washing machine** and watch it 回る **mawaru** (rotate) many 回 **kai** (times)

**0005. 品** **PRONUNCIATIONS:** *pin*, *shina*, *hin* **MEANINGS:** goods, grade, class  
**EXAMPLES:** 返品 *henpin* = returned goods; 品物 *shinamono* = merchandise; 品質 *hinshitsu* = quality **DESCRIPTION:** three boxes **CUES:** these three **Pink** boxes contain **Shiny** Artistic 品物 **shina**mono (goods) for **Hindus**

**0006. 四** **PRONUNCIATIONS:** *yon*, *yo*, *shi* **MEANING:** four **EXAMPLES:** 四 *yon* = four; 四つ *yottsu* = four items; 四日 *yokka* = 4<sup>th</sup> of the month; 四季 *shiki* = four seasons  
**DESCRIPTION:** this looks like the floor diagram of a house; it has four sides but is divided into three spaces **CUES:** over **Yonder**, there are 四件の **yonken** no (four) houses with four sides like this, occupied by **Yodelers** who perform 四つの **yottsu** no (four) songs and take care of **Sheep** during all 四季 **shiki** (four seasons)  
**COMPARE:** 西 *nishi* = west, # 464

**0007. 呂** **PRONUNCIATION:** *ro* **MEANINGS:** spine, backbone  
**EXAMPLE:** 風呂 *furo* = bath, bathhouse, bathtub **DESCRIPTION:** this resembles two stacked vertebrae **CUES:** when I **Row**, these vertebrae stick out; afterwards I put on my **Robe** and walk to the 風呂 **furo** (bath)

**0008. 中** **PRONUNCIATIONS:** chuu, naka, juu **MEANINGS:** inside, middle  
**EXAMPLES:** 散歩中 sanpo chuu = in the middle of a walk; 真ん中 mannaka = middle; 中村 Nakamura = a family name; 一日中 ichinichijuu = all day long **DESCRIPTION:** this resembles a piece of chicken on a skewer, i.e., yakitori (chicken on a skewer)  
**CUES:** 中村さん Nakamura-san (Mr. Nakamura) **Chews** on this yakitori 中 naka (inside) his car parked outside the National Cathedral and drinks Juice **COMPARE:** 申 (す) mousu = to humbly say, # 10

**0009. 虫** **PRONUNCIATIONS:** mushi, chuu **MEANING:** insect **EXAMPLES:** 虫 mushi = worm, insect, bug; 害虫 gaichuu = harmful insects **DESCRIPTION:** compared to 中 naka (inside, # 8), this adds an insect on the ground below **CUES:** I heard a Mushy story about this 虫 mushi (insect), which lies on the ground and tries to go 中 (inside) a house to Chew up the furniture

**0010. 申** **PRONUNCIATIONS:** mou, moushi, shin **MEANING:** to humbly say  
**EXAMPLES:** 申す mousu = to humbly speak; 申込書 moushikomisho = application form; 申請する shinsei suru = to apply or request **DESCRIPTION:** two lips stitched together  
**CUES:** Moses 申す mousu (speaks humbly) after these lips are stitched together with thread on a Mormon Ship by a Shinto priest  
**COMPARE:** 中 naka = inside, middle, # 8; other similar kanji at # 273

**0011. 立** **PRONUNCIATIONS:** ta, ri, ritsu, da, dachi, date **MEANING:** to stand  
**EXAMPLES:** 立つ tatsu = to stand; 立派 rippa = splendid; 起立する kiritsu suru = to stand up; 目立つ medatsu = to stand out; 夕立 yuudachi = evening rain shower; (天橋)立

amanohashidate = a sandbar in Kyoto Prefecture **DESCRIPTION:** at the top, a tire stop, as seen in 対(する) tai suru (to confront, # 674); at the bottom, two shaky legs standing on a platform; taken together, these resemble a tattletale on shaky legs **CUES:** this Tattletale 立つ tatsu (stands) on these shaky legs and faces his critics, who Ridicule him for wearing Ritzy clothes, driving an old Datsun, eating Damp Cheese and carrying a Damp Teddy bear  
**COMPARE:** 位 kurai = rank, # 270; other similar kanji at # 266

**0012. 泣** **PRONUNCIATIONS:** na, kyuu **MEANING:** to cry **EXAMPLES:** 泣く naku = to cry; 号泣 goukyuu = lamentations, wailing **DESCRIPTION:** on the left, a water radical, which reminds us of tears; on the right, 立(つ) tatsu (to stand, # 11) **CUES:** when Nancy is Cooped up in the house, she 立 (stands) and 泣く naku (cries) tears like this, and she looks Cute  
**ALSO COMPARE:** 位 kurai = rank, # 270

**0013. 人** **PRONUNCIATIONS:** hito, bito<sup>1</sup>, to, nin, jin, ri, na **MEANING:** person  
**EXAMPLES:** 人 hito = person; 恋人 koibito = lover; 玄人 kurouto = expert, professional; 素人 shirouto = amateur; 人間 ningen = human being; 日本人 nihonjin = Japanese person;  
 一人 hitori = 1 person; 大人 otona = adult **DESCRIPTION:** a symmetrical person with two long legs **CUES:** HiroHito was a 人 hito (person) with long legs and Toes like these who admired Ninjas and who wore Jeans when he wanted to look Really Natural **COMPARE:** 入 (る) hairu = to enter, # 14; 八 hachi = eight, # 15; 大(きい) ookii = big, # 188

**0014. 入** **PRONUNCIATIONS:** hai, nyuu, i, iri **MEANINGS:** to enter, to put into

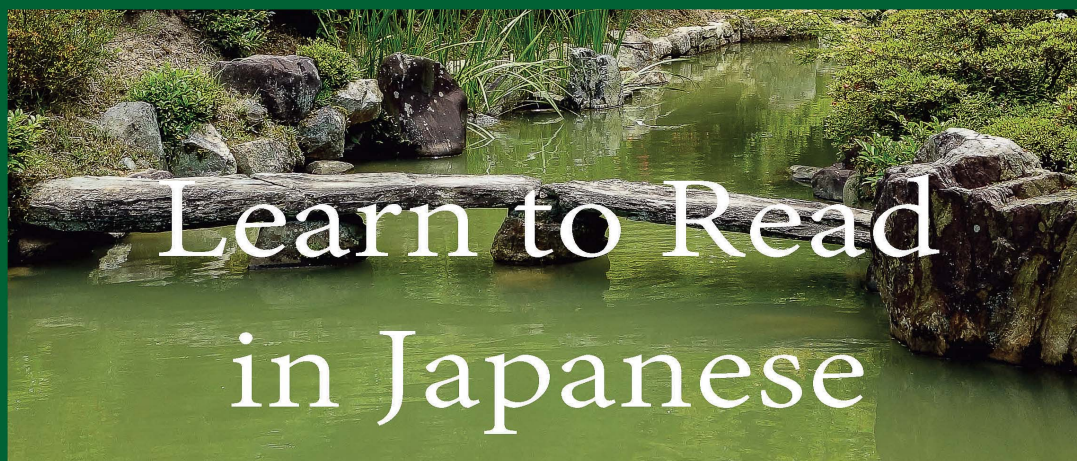
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<sup>1</sup> “Bito” follows the rules of rendaku (see p. 512). The superscript <sup>1</sup> indicates that we don’t provide a separate retrieval cue for it.

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Ba 葉 – 543  
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Bai 倍 – 269

Bai 壳 – 425  
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Ban 晚 – 35  
Ban 万 – 113  
Ban 番 – 328  
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# Learn to Read in Japanese

## A Japanese Reader Volume II

A Catalogue of 1,208 Target Kanji  
An Index to 2,800 Kanji Pronunciations  
1,660 Japanese Sentences  
2,900 Vocabulary Words and Phrases  
and more than 2,000 Mnemonics  
to Assist in Learning Vocabulary

by  
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## Chapter 1

## New Kanji in this Chapter

# 609 至 (2)	# 610 極 (3)	# 611 然 (2)	# 612 到 (1)
# 613 丈 (2)	# 614 夫 (4)	# 615 可 (1)	# 616 能 (1)

## Vocabulary List with Mnemonics

## from the Kanji Catalogue

至る	itaru = to lead to, to reach, to result in; <i>this road <u>leads to</u> some <u>Italian</u> <u>ruins</u></i>
至急	shikyuu = immediately, urgently; <i>the <u>sheep</u> were <u>cute</u>, but I had to go to the bathroom <u>urgently</u></i>
至難の	shinan no = extremely difficult; <i>the <u>sheets</u> that the <u>nanny</u> had torn were <u>extremely difficult</u> to repair</i>
南極	nankyoku = the Antarctic or South Pole; <i>my <u>nanny</u> drank <u>Kyoto</u> <u>Kool-Aid</u> when she went to the <u>Antarctic</u></i>
極力	kyokuryoku = as much as possible, to the best of one's ability; <i>after drinking <u>Kyoto</u> <u>Kool-Aid</u>, Pope <u>Leo</u> bakes <u>cookies to the best of his ability</u></i>
至極	shigoku = extremely; <i>the <u>sheep</u> and the <u>goats</u> like <u>Kool-Aid</u>, but it makes them <u>extremely fat</u></i>
極める	kiwameru = to attain or master; <i>the <u>key</u> to <u>war</u> is to have a <u>merciless ruler</u> who can <u>master</u> his soldiers</i>
極めて	kiwamete = extremely; <i>the <u>quiche</u> and <u>waffels</u> that I ate in a <u>Mexican</u> <u>tent</u> were <u>extremely good</u></i>
全然	zenzen = not at all in negative sentences, completely in positive sentences; <i>to sit in one <u>Zen</u> session followed by another <u>Zen</u> session is <u>not at all</u> what I want to do</i>
自然	shizen = nature; <i>both <u>Shinto</u> and <u>Zen</u> favor the preservation of <u>Nature</u></i>
当然	touzen = justly, natural; <i>if you only dip a <u>toe</u> into <u>Zen</u>, you will <u>justly</u> not achieve enlightenment</i>
天然	tennen = natural; <i><u>ten nen</u> [years] ago, this was all a <u>natural</u> forest</i>
到着する	touchaku suru = to arrive; <i><u>Tony Blair</u> drank <u>champagne</u> in <u>Kuwait</u> while he waited for the emir <u>to arrive</u></i>

## Kanji Pronunciations

# 609 – ita, shi	# 610 – kyoku, goku, kiwa	# 611 – zen, nen	# 612 – tou
# 613 – jou, take	# 614 – otto, fuu, fu, bu	# 615 – ka	# 616 – nou

到来する	tourai suru = to arrive; <i>I will eat <u>toast</u> and <u>rice</u> after I <u>arrive</u></i>
丈夫	joubu = healthy, hearty, strong; <i>Joan of Arc was a <u>boon</u> to the French cause, since she was <u>healthy</u>, <u>hearty</u>, and <u>strong</u></i>
大丈夫	daijoubu = all right; <i>the <u>diet</u> that <u>Job</u> recommended was <u>all right</u></i>
丈	take = size, height; <i>this guy drinks a <u>tall</u> <u>keg</u> every day, which might explain his <u>size</u></i>
夫	otto = husband; <i>Otto Preminger was a good <u>husband</u></i>
工夫	kufuu = ingenuity; <i>it was a <u>cooler</u> full of <u>food</u>, packed with considerable <u>ingenuity</u></i>
水夫	suifu = a sailor; <i>sailors like <u>sweet food</u></i>
可愛い	kawaii = cute; <i>some of the <u>cars</u> in <u>Hawaii</u> are <u>cute</u>; (the “w” is inserted as a bridge to make the pronunciation smoother, compared to saying “ka aii”)</i>
可能	kanou = possible; <i>it's <u>possible</u> to cook it with <u>Canola</u> oil</i>
不可能	fukanou = impossible; from fu = negation + kanou = possible
能力	nouryoku = ability, competence, skill; <i>in <u>Norway</u>, Pope <u>Leo</u> made <u>Kool-Aid</u>, demonstrating his <u>ability</u>, <u>competence</u> and <u>skill</u></i>
有能	yuunou = able, competent; <i>you <u>know</u> I'm <u>competent</u></i>
性能	seinou = performance, efficiency; <i><u>sane</u> <u>old</u> people demonstrate good <u>performance</u> and <u>efficiency</u> on our tests</i>
能	nou = Noh, old-style Japanese theater

### from the Practice Sentences

服用する	fukuyou suru = to take medicine; <i>eating <u>Fukuoka</u> <u>yogurt</u> is like <u>taking medicine</u></i>
可能性	kanousei = a possibility; <i>it's a <u>possibility</u> to cook with <u>Canola</u> and <u>save</u> money</i>
からかう	karakau = to ridicule or jeer; <i>in <u>Caracas</u> the <u>cows</u> are <u>ridiculed</u></i>
北極星	hokkyokusei = North Star; <i>at the <u>hotel</u>, we drank <u>Kyoto</u> <u>Kool-Aid</u>, and then we set <u>sail</u> using the <u>North Star</u> as a reference</i>
時間内	jikannai = on time; from jikan = time + nai = inside or within

### Practice Sentences

- 一日でもこの薬を服用しなければ死に至る。  
Ichinichi demo kono kusuri wo fukuyou shinakereba shi ni itaru.  
Even one day, if he doesn't take this medicine, it will lead to death.
- これは極めて珍しい。  
Kore wa kiwamete mezurashii.  
As for this, it's extremely rare.

3. 彼女が怒るのも当然だ。  
Kanojo ga okoru no mo touzen da.  
For her to get mad even is natural.
4. 到着は何時ですか。  
Touchaku wa nanji desu ka.  
What time is the arrival?
5. 彼はとても丈夫だ。  
Kare wa totemo joubu da.  
He is very strong.
6. 可能性あるかな？  
Kanousei aru kana?  
Is there a possibility, I wonder?
7. 至極当然のことだ。  
Shigoku touzen no koto da.  
It's an extremely natural thing.
8. 彼は最後に到着した。  
Kare wa saigo ni touchaku shita.  
He arrived last.
9. 彼女は夫をからかった。  
Kanojo wa otto wo karakatta.  
She ridiculed her husband.
10. 見て、あれは北極星だよ。  
Mite, are wa hokkyokusei da yo.  
Look, that is the North Star, for sure.
11. あなたは有能な方ですね。  
Anata wa yuunou na kata desu ne.  
You are a competent person, huh.
12. これ、可愛いな。  
Kore, kawaii na.  
This is cute.
13. 至急お願いします。  
Shikyu onegai shimasu.  
Immediately, I beg you.
14. 全然大丈夫だよ。  
Zenzen daijoubu da yo.  
Everything is OK, for sure.
15. 彼は時間内に到着した。  
Kare wa jikan nai ni touchaku shita.  
He arrived in time.
16. それはほとんど不可能だ。  
Sore wa hotondo fukanou da.  
As for that, it's almost impossible.
17. すごく顔色が悪いよ！大丈夫？  
Sugoku kao iro ga warui yo! Daijoubu?  
Terribly the face color is bad, for sure.  
Are you OK?
18. 全然痛くないよ。  
Zenzen itakunai yo.  
It doesn't hurt at all, for sure.
19. 天然ガスは空気より軽い。  
Tennen gasu wa kuuki yori karui.  
As for natural gas, compared to air, it's light.

**0606. 球** **PRONUNCIATIONS:** **kyuu,**  
**tama** **MEANINGS:** ball, sphere  
**EXAMPLES:** 野球 yakyuu = baseball; 地球  
chikyuu = the Earth; 電気の球 denki no tama  
= lightbulb **DESCRIPTION:** on the left, 王 ou  
(king, # 1077); at the upper right, the upper portion  
of 犬 inu (dog, # 190); at the lower right, 水 mizu  
(water, # 251); together these two radicals on the  
right may represent a water dog from Cuba  
**CUES:** this 王 (king) and this 水 (water) 犬  
(dog) from Cuba are watching a 野球 yakyuu  
(baseball) game while eating Tamales  
**ALSO COMPARE:** (要)求 youkyuu = demand,  
# 810, which helps us to pronounce this; (健)康  
kenkou = health, # 831; 救(済) kyuusai = help,  
# 977, which also helps us to pronounce this

**0607. 寿** **PRONUNCIATIONS:** **su, ju,**  
**kotobuki** **MEANINGS:** life, longevity  
**EXAMPLES:** 寿司 sushi = raw fish slices on  
rice; 寿命 jumyou = lifespan, longevity; 寿  
kotobuki = congratulations, felicitations (given at  
weddings, New Year's, etc.) **DESCRIPTION:** at  
the lower right, 寺 tera (temple, # 213), but the  
cross at the top of 寺 is partially hidden beneath a  
very long slanting t, which is superimposed on 寺  
and may represent time **CUES:** Superman sees this  
long "t" shadow falling across this 寺 (temple) and  
says that it's time to eat 寿司 sushi with some  
Juice, but I'm practicing for my Koto (Japanese  
harp) recital at Buckingham Palace

**0608. 司** **PRONUNCIATIONS:** **shi,**  
**tsukasado** **MEANINGS:** official, to administer  
**EXAMPLES:** 寿司 sushi = raw fish slices on  
rice; 司会 shikai = master of ceremonies; 上司  
joushi = one's superior (in a company); 司る  
tsukasadoru = to rule, administer  
**DESCRIPTION:** compared to 伺(う) ukagau (to  
visit or ask, # 341), this omits the uber California  
gambler on the left; it retains the old nasty doughnut  
above the box inside a lean-to, as seen in 伺(じ)

onaji (the same, # 339) **CUES:** after my 上司  
joushi (superior) removed this old nasty doughnut  
from the top of this box, we found that the box  
contained Sheep food, in addition to some Tsoup  
(soup) that Casanova left by the Door

**ALSO COMPARE:** 可(愛い) kawaii = cute,  
# 615; other similar kanji at # 341

## Kanji for Volume Two

### Chapter 1

**0609. 至** **PRONUNCIATIONS:** **ita, shi**  
**MEANING:** to reach an end  
**EXAMPLES:** 至る itaru = to lead to, to reach, to  
result in; 至急 shikyuu = immediately, urgently;  
至難の shinan no = extremely difficult  
**DESCRIPTION:** compared to 室 shitsu (room,  
# 62), this omits the bad haircut at the top; it retains  
一 (one) 厶 (cow) resting on 土 tsuchi (soil)  
**CUES:** on the road that 至る itaru (leads) to some  
Italian Ruins, I saw a 至難の shinan no  
(extremely difficult) situation: this 一 (one) 厶  
(cow) had collided with a Sheep and was stuck in  
this 土 (soil)  
**COMPARE:** similar kanji at # 63

**0610. 極** **PRONUNCIATIONS:** **kyoku,**  
**goku, kiwa** **MEANINGS:** extreme, to culminate  
**EXAMPLES:** 南極 nankyoku = the antarctic,  
South Pole; 極力 kyokuryoku = as much as  
possible, to the best of one's ability; 至極 shigoku  
= extremely; 極める kiwameru = to attain or  
master; 極めて kiwamete = extremely  
**DESCRIPTION:** on the left, 木 ki (tree, # 118);  
on the right, a kangaroo leg, as seen in 考(える)  
kangaeru (to think, # 469); to the left of the leg, 口  
kuchi (mouth, # 426), which resembles a chair; to  
the right of the leg, 又 mata (again, # 24), which  
resembles a folding table; at the bottom, a carpet  
**CUES:** at the Kyoto Kool-Aid club, on a cold night,



this kangaroo sits on this 口 (chair) on this carpet  
near this 又 (table) next to this 木 (tree) and  
drinks Gold Kool-Aid through his 口 (mouth) while  
pondering 極力 kyokuryoku (as much as possible)  
how to **Keep Warm**, which is 極めて kiwamete  
(extremely) difficult to do

### 0611. 然 **PRONUNCIATIONS: zen, nen**

**MEANINGS:** naturally, yes **EXAMPLES:**  
全然 zenzen = not at all; 自然 shizen = nature;

当然 touzen = justly; 天然 tennen = natural  
**DESCRIPTION:** at the upper left, a three-legged  
bench with a rocker bottom, as seen in 祭(り)

matsuri (festival, # 377); at the upper right, 犬 inu  
(dog, # 190); at the bottom, four vertical lines  
suggesting a hot fire **CUES:** as a **Zen** monk sits on  
this three-legged bench with a rocker bottom,

watching his **Negative Nephew** play with this 犬  
(dog) near a fire, he looks out at 自然 shizen

(Nature) and sees it as 天然 tennen (natural)

**ALSO COMPARE:** 点く tsuku = to ignite, # 29;  
熱(い) atsui = hot, # 65; 黒(い) kuroi = black,  
# 76; 照(る) teru = to shine, # 822; 黙(る)  
damaru = to keep silent, # 836

### 0612. 到 **PRONUNCIATION: tou**

**MEANING:** to arrive **EXAMPLES:** 到着す  
る touchaku suru = to arrive; 到来する tourai  
suru = to arrive; 到底 toutei (with negative) = not  
by any means, not at all

**DESCRIPTION:** compared to 至(急) shikyuu  
(immediately, # 609), this adds the katakana リ ri,  
which includes a prominent toe, on the right; it  
retains the 一 (one) 厶 (cow) resting on 土 (soil)

**CUE:** リ Ri 到着する touchaku suru  
(arrives) riding on this 一 (one) 厶 (cow) and 至  
(immediately) uses this long **Toe** to clean this 土  
(soil) from its hooves

**ALSO COMPARE:** other similar kanji at # 63

### 0613. 丈 **PRONUNCIATIONS: jou, take** **MEANING:** length

**EXAMPLES:** 丈夫 joubu = healthy, hearty,  
strong; 大丈夫 daijoubu = all right; 丈 take =  
size, height **DESCRIPTION:** compared to 大  
(きい) ookii (big, # 188), this guy's right hip has  
slipped out of its socket **CUES:** as a **Joke**, this 大  
(big) right-wing guy likes to **Take** his right femur  
out of its socket; it looks dangerous, but he is 大  
丈夫 daijoubu (all right)

**ALSO COMPARE:** 才(能) sainou = talent,  
# 617; other similar kanji at # 1000

### 0614. 夫 **PRONUNCIATIONS: otto, fuu,** **fu, bu** **MEANINGS:** husband, man

**EXAMPLES:** 夫 otto = husband; 夫婦 fuufu =  
married couple; 工夫 kufuu = ingenuity; 水夫  
suifu = sailor; 大丈夫 daijoubu = all right

**DESCRIPTION:** 大(きい) ookii (big,  
# 188), with an extra pair of arms at the top  
**CUES:** during the **Ottoman** empire, an 夫 otto

(husband) was often a 大 (big) guy with an extra  
pair of arms like these who wasted **Food** and  
**Foolishly** ran around the house with his **Boots** on

**COMPARE:** 失(礼) shitsurei = discourtesy,  
# 306; 天 ten (or ama) = sky, # 189

### 0615. 可 **PRONUNCIATION: ka**

**MEANINGS:** possible, able

**EXAMPLES:** 許可 kyoka = permission; 可愛  
い kawaii = cute (the "w" in kawaii is added for the  
sake of easy pronunciation); 不可能 fukanou =  
impossible; 可能 kanou = possible

**DESCRIPTION:** compared to 何 nani (what,  
# 338), this omits the man with the slanted hat; it  
retains the box inside a lean-to, which contains a cat

**CUE:** I have 許可 kyoka (permission) to keep  
my **Cat** in this box in this lean-to

**ALSO COMPARE:** (上)司 joushi = one's  
superior, # 608; other similar kanji at # 1176



## A Japanese Reader Volume III

A Catalogue of 1,528 Target Kanji

An Index to 3,400 Kanji Pronunciations

912 Japanese Sentences

2,100 Vocabulary Words and Phrases

and more than 2,000 Mnemonics  
to Assist in Learning Vocabulary

by  
Roger Lake and Noriko Ura

# Chapter 1

## New Kanji in this Chapter

# 1209 吊(1)	# 1210 菌(1)	# 1211 剩(1)	# 1212 潔(3)
# 1213 舌(2)	# 1214 辟(1)	# 1215 癖(4)	# 1216 保(2)

## Vocabulary List with Mnemonics

### from the Kanji Catalogue

吊るす	tsurusu = to suspend or hang up; my <u>tsuitcase</u> (suitcase) was <u>ruined</u> by a <u>supervisor</u> who <u>hung it up</u> in the shower
細菌	saikin = bacterium, germ; <u>scientists</u> visited the <u>kindergarten</u> to investigate the <u>bacteria</u> living there
過剩	kajou (na) = excess, surplus; you should <u>call Joan</u> if you have any <u>excess</u> money
潔い	isagiyoi = unhesitating, manly, wholehearted, sportsmanlike; <u>Queen Isabella</u> served <u>geese</u> with <u>yogurt</u> sauce at <u>Easter</u> for her most <u>wholehearted</u> supporters
清潔	seiketsu = clean; the <u>sailor</u> cleaned the <u>ketchup</u> from his <u>suit</u> , and now it's <u>clean</u>
潔白	keppaku = innocence; a woman was accused of bringing a <u>keg</u> to a <u>party</u> in <u>Kuwait</u> , but her <u>innocence</u> was established in court
弁舌	benzetsu = eloquence, persuasiveness; <u>Benjamin Franklin</u> wore a <u>Zen tsuit</u> (suit) and was praised for his <u>eloquence</u>
舌	shita = a tongue; the <u>sheep</u> licked the <u>taffy</u> with their <u>tongues</u>
辟易する	hekieki suru = to feel overwhelmed, to get tired of, to get irritated by; I lost my <u>helicopter keys</u> at the <u>eki</u> (station), and I <u>feel overwhelmed</u>
悪癖	akuheki = a bad habit; from aku = bad + heki = habit; he has a <u>habit</u> of losing <u>helicopter keys</u> ; <b>Note:</b> this can also be pronounced “waruguse,” with the same meaning
潔癖	keppeki = fastidious, particular, loving cleanliness; I bought a <u>kettle</u> in <u>Peking</u> from a seller who was very <u>fastidious</u>
癖	kuse = a habit or characteristic; this is sometimes spelled クセ; the <u>Kool-Aid</u> seller has a <u>habit</u> of drinking Kool-Aid
保証	hoshou = a guarantee or assurance; I will give you a <u>guarantee</u> that you will love the <u>horror show</u>

## Kanji Pronunciations

# 1209 – tsu	# 1210 – kin	# 1211 – jou	# 1212 – isagiyo, ketsu, ke
# 1213 – shita, zetsu	# 1214 – heki	# 1215 – heki, peki, kuse, guse	# 1216 – tamo, ho

保つ

tamotsu = to keep or maintain; *the tavern outside the moats of the castle is maintained by a tavern keeper*

**from the Practice Sentences**

首吊り

kubitsuri = hanging by the neck; from kubi = neck + tsurusu = to hang up

人づき合い

hitozukiai = social disposition, socializing; from hito = people + tsukiau = to associate with

保険

hoken = insurance; *the home that Ken and Barbie live in is covered by insurance*

かご

kago = a basket or cage; *we use baskets to carry cargo*

鳥かご

torikago = a bird cage; from tori = a bird + kago = a cage

潔癖症

keppekishou = an obsession with cleanliness or fastidiousness; from keppeki = fastidious, loving cleanliness; + shoujou = symptom

供給

kyoukyuu = a supply or provision; *in Kyoto they store cucumbers as a provision for the winter*

保守

hoshu = maintenance, conservation; *he has a hole in his shoe, but he will repair it, since he believes in conservation*

保守的

hoshuteki = conservative; from hoshu = conservation + teki = related to

吊り下げる

tsurisageru = to suspend from; from tsurusu = to hang up + sageru = to hang down

殺菌

sakkin = sterilization, pasteurization; *in Sapporo kindergartens, they serve milk that has been treated with pasteurization*

口舌

kouzetsu = a way of speaking, words, lip service; *when the corporal put on a Zen tsuit (suit), his way of speaking seemed to change*

ひとたび

hitotabi = once, for a moment; from hitotsu = one + tabi = occasion

体調

taichou = a body condition; from tai = body + choushi = condition

**from News In Slow Japanese**

宙づり

chuuzuri = suspended in midair; from chuu = space + tsurusu = to hang up

絶景

zekkei = a superb view; *there is a superb view from that Zen cave*

絶壁

zeppeki = a precipice; *a Zen monk visited Peking to see a precipice*

ガラス張り

garasu bari = glass-sided; from garasu = glass; + baru = haru = to stretch, spread or put up; *Hawaiian roosters spread their wings*

地上

chijou = above ground; *the chief joked that he wanted to buried above ground*

力

riki = power (this can also be pronounced chikara); *Ricky has a lot of power*

自力

jiriki = by oneself; from jibun = one's self + riki = power

洗面

senmen = washing the face; *the Senator's men washed their faces*

洗面所

senmenjo = a bathroom; from senmen = washing the face + jo = place

さえ

sae = as long as, even, if only; *Saruman believes in education as long as it supports his regime*

どれだけ

doredake = how much, to what extent; from dore = which + dake = only

ホコリ

hokori = dust; my home in Korea is full of dust; cf. 誇り hokori = pride, # 1635

払う

harau = to brush away, to pay (money or attention); the hackers and Raul Castro brushed away all complaints and paid for anti-virus software

すっきりする

sukkiri suru = to feel refreshed; after Superman washed the kitty, it felt refreshed; cf. すっかり sukkari = thoroughly

粉々

konagona = in very small pieces; from kona = flour + gona = kona = flour

### Practice Sentences

1. 彼は首吊り自殺をした。

Kare wa kubitsuri jisatsu wo shita.  
He did a hanging suicide.

2. それは細菌感染に有効だ。

Sore wa saikin kansen ni yuukou da.  
That is effective for bacterial infections.

3. 彼女は自信過剰だ。

Kanojo wa jishin kajou da.  
She is over-confident.

4. 彼は負けても潔い。

Kare wa makete mo isagiyoi.  
Although he loses, he is sportsmanlike.

5. 舌を出してください。

Shita wo dashite kudasai.  
Please stick out your tongue.

6. 彼は人づき合いに辟易して  
いる。

Kare wa hitozukiai ni hekieki shite iru.  
He is fed up with socializing.

7. 彼女は変な癖がある。

Kanojo wa hen na kuse ga aru.  
She has strange habits.

8. 保険をかけて下さい。

Hoken wo kakete kudasai.  
Please insure it.

9. 彼女は鳥かごを軒から吊るし  
た。

Kanojo wa torikago wo noki kara  
tsurushita.  
She hung the bird cage from the eaves.

10. 妻は潔癖症だ。

Tsuma wa keppeki shou da.  
The wife is obsessed with cleanliness.

11. 細菌が病気を引き起こすこと  
を知っていた。

Saikin ga byouki wo hikiokosu koto  
wo shitte ita.  
They knew that germs caused illness.

## 1207. 互 **PRONUNCIATIONS:** go, taga

**MEANINGS:** mutually, reciprocally, together

**EXAMPLES:** 相互 sougo = each other, one

another, mutuality; 互い tagai = each other, one

another; 互いに tagai ni = with each other,

mutually, reciprocally **DESCRIPTION:** this

resembles two katakana ユ yu characters, one upside down and the other right side up, touching in the center, which remind us of youths **CUES:**

these two ユ (youths) have discovered a **Gold** mine in the Philippines, and they speak **Tagalog**

互いに tagai ni (with each other)

**COMPARE:** 五 go = five, # 179, which helps us to pronounce this

## 1208. 尊 **PRONUNCIATIONS:** son,

touto **MEANINGS:** to revere or respect

**EXAMPLES:** 尊重する sonchou suru = to

respect or value; 尊敬する sonkei suru = to

respect; 尊い toutoi = sacred, important, valuable

**DESCRIPTION:** at the top, 酒 sake (# 465), without its water radical on the left and with two rabbit ears added at the top; at the bottom, 寸(前) sunzen (on the verge, # 1369), which depicts a kneeling guy who has dropped his gum, as also seen in 付(く) tsuku (to adhere, # 132)

**CUES:** this 寸 (kneeling guy who has dropped his gum) is carrying a container of this 酒 (sake), to which he's added these rabbit ears, and he sings **Songs** about **Toasted Tortillas** and claims that he 尊敬する sonkei suru (respects) everyone **ALSO COMPARE:** other similar kanji at # 132

# Kanji for Volume Three

## Chapter 1

## 1209. 吊 **PRONUNCIATION:** tsu

**MEANINGS:** suspend, hang, wear (sword)

**EXAMPLE:** 吊るす tsurusu = to suspend or

hang up **DESCRIPTION:** compared to (非)常 hijou (emergency, # 683), this omits the hat with three antennae; it retains Joan of Arc, a spinning

person with a big 口 (mouth) **CUE:** this person,

who has this big 口 (mouth), spins around looking for her **Tsuitcase** (suitcase) which someone has

吊るした tsurushita (hung) from a tree

**ALSO COMPARE:** 呆れる akireru = to be astonished, # 828; other similar kanji at # 242

## 1210. 菌 **PRONUNCIATION:** kin

**MEANINGS:** germ, fungus, bacteria

**EXAMPLE:** 細菌 saikin = bacterium, germ

**DESCRIPTION:** at the top, a plant radical; at the bottom, 禾 (a grain plant with a ripe head) in a box

**CUE:** some **Kindergarten** students left this 禾 (ripe grain plant) in this closed box and covered it with this plant material, but it was soon consumed by

細菌 saikin (bacteria)

**COMPARE:** other similar kanji at # 1360

## 1211. 剩 **PRONUNCIATION:** jou

**MEANINGS:** surplus, besides **EXAMPLE:**

過剩 kajou = excess, surplus **DESCRIPTION:**

on the left, 乗(車する) jousha suru (to board a train, # 509), which helps us to pronounce this; on the right, the katakana リ ri **CUE:** whenever

Joan of Arc and this リ Ri have 過剩 kajou (a surplus) of time, they like to 乗 (board trains)

**ALSO COMPARE:** other similar kanji at # 799

**1212. 潔** **PRONUNCIATIONS:** isagiyo, ketsu, ke **MEANINGS:** undefiled, pure, clean

**EXAMPLES:** 潔い isagiyo = unhesitating, manly, wholehearted, sportsmanlike; 清潔

seiketsu = clean; 潔白 keppaku = innocence

**DESCRIPTION:** on the left, a water radical; at the upper middle, an owl's perch, as seen in 青(い)

aoi (blue, # 155); at the upper right, 刀 katana

(sword, # 102); at the lower right, 糸 (skeet

shooter, # 219) **CUES:** when she was watching

this 糸 (skeet shooter) juggle this owl's perch and this sword, Queen **Isabella** liked to eat **Geese** with **Yogurt** sauce, and she would put **Ketchup** in her

**Soup** and drink this 清潔な seiketsu na (clean) water from a **Kettle**

**COMPARE:** other similar kanji at # 1266

**1213. 舌** **PRONUNCIATIONS:** shita,

zetsu **MEANINGS:** tongue, reed **EXAMPLES:**

舌 shita = tongue; 弁舌 benzetsu = eloquence,

persuasiveness **DESCRIPTION:** a 口 (mouth)

with a forked tongue emerging from it

**CUES:** when I eat **Shiite Taffy**, I have to stick out

this 舌 shita (tongue) because the taffy sticks to it, and sometimes it gets onto my **Zen Tsuit** (suit)

**COMPARE:** (生)活 seikatsu = livelihood, #

260; 辞(書) jisho = dictionary, # 387; 話(す)

hanasu = to speak, # 433; 乱(暴) ranbou =

violent, # 1020; (休)憩 kyuukei = a rest, # 1477

**1214. 辟** **PRONUNCIATION:** heki

**MEANINGS:** false, punish, crime, law

**EXAMPLE:** 辟易する hekieki suru = to feel overwhelmed, to get tired of **DESCRIPTION:**

compared to 壁(画) hekiga (mural painting,

# 1051), which helps us to pronounce this, this kanji removes 土 (soil) from the bottom; it retains the P,

which reminds us of **Poison**, 口 (mouth), and 辛

(い) karai (spicy) **CUE:** a **Healthy King** ate

some 辛 (spicy) **Poison** with this 口 (mouth) and 辟易した hekieki shita (was overwhelmed)

**ALSO COMPARE:** 避(ける) sakeru = to

avoid, # 802; (悪)癖 akuheki = bad habit, # 1215, which also helps us to pronounce this

**1215. 癖** **PRONUNCIATIONS:** heki,

peki, kuse, guse<sup>1</sup> **MEANINGS:** mannerism, trait

**EXAMPLES:** 悪癖 akuheki = bad habit; 潔癖

な keppeki na = fastidious, particular, loving

cleanliness; 癖 kuse = habit, e.g., 癖がつく

kuse ga tsuku = to acquire a habit; 悪癖

waruguse = a bad habit **DESCRIPTION:** on the

upper left, a sick bed, as seen in 病(気) byouki

(illness, # 369); inside the bed, 辟(易する)

hekieki suru (to feel overwhelmed, # 1214), which helps us to pronounce this **CUES:** a **Healthy King**

picked up some 悪癖 akuheki (bad habits), such as **Pecking** trees, from a **Kool-Aid Seller**, and then

he began to feel 辟 (overwhelmed) before ending up in this sick bed

**ALSO COMPARE:** other similar kanji at # 369 and # 1214

**1216. 保** **PRONUNCIATIONS:** tamō,

ho **MEANINGS:** protect, guarantee, preserve

**EXAMPLES:** 保つ tamotsu = to keep or

maintain; 保証 hoshou = guarantee, assurance

**DESCRIPTION:** compared to 呆(れる)

akireru (to get astonished, # 828), this adds a man

with a slanted hat on the left; it retains the big 口

(mouth) which **Achilles** saw boasting from a 木

(tree) **CUES:** this man with a slanted hat gets 呆

(astonished) when he sees this big 口 (mouth)

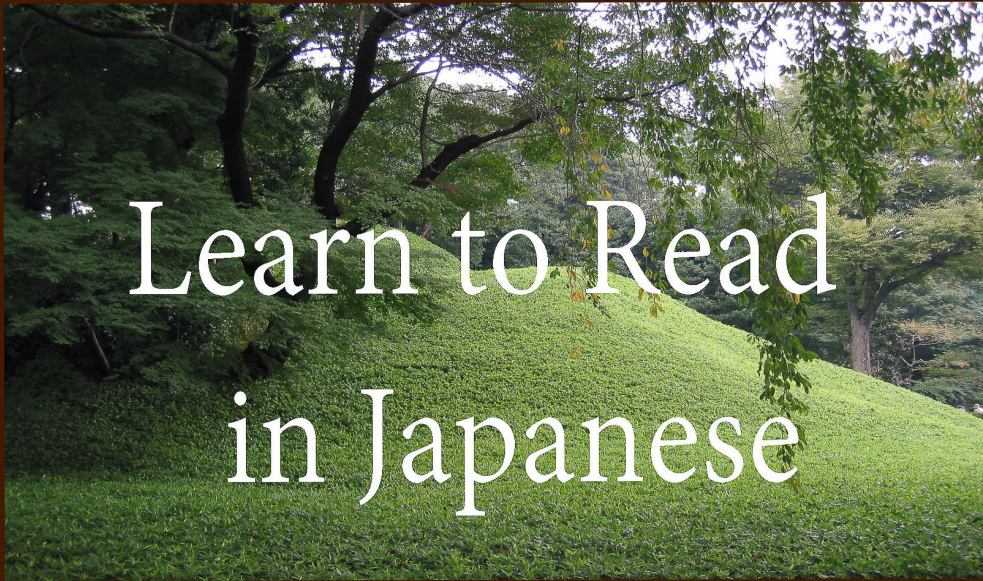
boasting from the top of this 木 (tree), and he

jumps onto his **Tacky Motorcycle** to ride **Home**,

but the bike doesn't work because he doesn't 保

つ tamotsu (maintain) it





# Learn to Read in Japanese

A Japanese Reader

Volume IV

1,623 Japanese Sentences

Introducing 560 New Kanji

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3,800 Vocabulary Terms

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Roger Lake and Noriko Ura



## Chapter 1

## New Kanji in this Chapter

# 1529 泰(1)	# 1530 藤(3)	# 1531 葛(2)	# 1532 腕(2)
# 1533 柄(3)	# 1534 踏(2)	# 1535 柳(2)	# 1536 奉(2)

## Vocabulary List with Mnemonics

## from the Kanji Catalogue

安泰

antai = peace, security; my aunt went to Thailand to work for peace and security

藤

fuji = wisteria, usually spelled ふじ; the foolish genius cut down the wisteria vine

葛藤

kattou = conflict, friction; the cat scratched my toe when there was conflict between us

葛餅

kuzumochi = a Japanese jelly-like dessert made with kuzu (known as kudzu in English, or arrowroot) and resembling mochi; from kuzu = arrowroot; arrowroot grows inside the Kuwaiti zoo; + mochi = Japanese rice cake

腕

ude = arm; the Uruguayan dentist has strong arms

腕白な

wanpaku na = naughty; you were naughty when you only bought one pack of beer for the party

人柄

hitogara = personality or character; when I learned that the hero stored torpedoes in his garage, I understood more about his personality

横柄な

ouhei na = arrogant; sending the orchestra hate mail is arrogant

取り柄

torie = merit or good point; he helped the Tories escape, so that was his good point

踏む

fumu = to step on; the foolish mover stepped on our cat

雑踏

zattou = a crowd, congestion; a crowd of people examined Zach's swollen toe

柳

yanagi = willow; the yak was nagging me under the willow tree

川柳

senryuu = a satiric poem; the senator reused some old jokes in his satiric poem

奉仕

houshi = service, ministry; the hotel provides sheets as part of its service

## Kanji Pronunciations

# 1529 – tai	# 1530 – tou, dou, fuji	# 1531 – kuzu, ka	# 1532 – ude, wan
# 1533 – gara, hei, e	# 1534 – fu, tou	# 1535 – yanagi, ryuu	# 1536 – hou, bu

## 奉行

bugyou = a Samurai magistrate; *that Sumurai magistrate is drinking booze and eating gyoza*

## from the Practice Sentences

## 疲れ切る

tsukarekiru = to be exhausted; from tsukareru = to get tired + kiru = to complete an action

## 折れ

ore = breakage; from oreru = to be broken

## 地位

chi'i = rank, status, position; from chi = ground + i = rank or place

## 定型

teikei = a fixed form; *the tailor made the cape according to a fixed form*

## 音

on = a sound or noise (this can also be read as oto, with the same meaning); *my only complaint about my apartment is the noise*

## 定型詩

teikeishi = poetry with a fixed form; from teiki = a fixed form + shi = a poem

## 地域社会

chi'iki shakai = a regional community; from chi'iki = a region + shakai = society

## 志願する

shigan suru = to volunteer, to apply for; *the Shiite asked Gandalf to volunteer for the Fellowship of the Ring*

## 小僧

kozou = a boy or a novice priest; from ko = small + zou = sou = priest

## いたずら

itazura = mischief, prank, trick; *at the Italian zoo, a rabbi played a trick on me*

## 閉口する

heikou suru = to be annoyed; *when hail strikes the corn, I get annoyed*

## たたずむ

tatazumu = to stand a while, to loiter; *as the tall talented zookeeper watched the moon, he loitered on the sidewalk*

## 青々

aoao = fresh and green; from aoi = blue (or green)

## 新芽

shinme = a bud or sprout; from shin = new + mebae = budding

## 科学技術

kagaku gijutsu = science and technology, or scientific technique; from kagaku = science + gijutsu = technique

## 自体

jitai = oneself, itself; *the genius was tired of doing everything himself*

## 無意味

muimi = meaningless; from mu = negation + imi = meaning

## Practice Sentences

1. 国民にとっては国の安泰が  
なによりも大切だ。

Kokumin ni totte wa kuni no antai ga  
naniyori mo taisetsu da.  
For the citizens, the security of the country  
is more important than anything (else).

2. 佐藤さんは疲れ切って倒れ  
た。

Satou-san wa tsukarekitte taoreta.  
Satou was exhausted and collapsed.

3. 父と私の葛藤に、彼は気付いていないようです。

Chichi to watashi no kattou ni, kare wa kizuite inai you desu.  
Apparently he isn't aware of the conflict between my father and me.

4. 太郎は木から落ちて腕の骨を折った。

Tarou wa ki kara ochite ude no hone wo otta.  
Tarou fell from a tree and broke a bone in his arm.

5. 人間の価値は財産よりむしろ人柄にある。

Ningen no kachi wa zaisan yori mushiro hitogara ni aru.  
The value of a person is in character rather than property.

6. 隣の女の人に足を踏まれたんです。

Tonari no onna no hito ni ashi wo fumaretan desu.  
I had my foot stepped on by the neighboring woman.

7. 柳の枝に雪折れなし。

Yanagi no eda ni yuki ore nashi.  
To willow branches, there is no snow breakage (i.e., they don't break after heavy snowfalls).

8. 政治家は国民のために奉仕すべきだ。

Seijika wa kokumin no tame ni houshi subeki da.  
Politicians should serve the citizens.

9. 彼の地位は安泰だ。

Kare no chii wa antai da.  
His position is secure.

10. 彼女は加藤先生に笑顔であいさつした。

Kanojo wa katou sensei ni egao de aisatsu shita.  
She greeted teacher Katou with a smiling face.

11. 葛西さんはいつも、おかしいことばかり言う。

Kasai-san wa itsumo, okashina koto bakari iu.  
Kasai always says only funny things.  
(okashina = okashii = funny, just as chiisana = chiisai = small)

12. 部長はさっきから腕を組んで何か考えているようだ。

Buchou wa sakki kara ude wo kunde nanika kangaete iru you da.  
The division manager, since previously, is crossing his arms and thinking about something, apparently.

13. 彼女は横柄に私に代わって返事した。

Kanojo wa ouhei ni watashi ni kawatte henji shita.  
She arrogantly replied in my place.

14. 今ガラスを割ってしまったから踏まないで。

Ima garasu wo watte shimatta kara fumaide.  
Since now I broke the glass completely, don't step (on it).



# Core Kanji

A Catalogue of  
2,088 Essential Kanji

With Memory Aids  
to Help Students  
Learn Kanji Rapidly

by

Roger Lake and Noriko Ura

## 1526. 悟 **PRONUNCIATIONS:** go, sato

**MEANINGS:** perceive, discern, realize

**EXAMPLES:** 覚悟 kakugo = preparedness,

readiness; 悟る satoru = to realize, fathom, become enlightened **DESCRIPTION:** compared

to (英)語 eigo (English, # 435), which helps us to pronounce this, this kanji substitutes an erect man for 言 (to say) on the left; it retains 五 go (five, # 179), which also helps us to pronounce this and resembles a golfer staring down a fairway, and 口 (mouth), which resembles a box **CUES:** this erect man on the left accompanies this **Golfer** on the right, who gets up on this 口 (box), stares down the

fairway at a **Satellite Tower** and 悟る satoru (realizes) how technology is changing the world

**ALSO COMPARE:** other similar kanji at # 2063

## 1527. 嫁 **PRONUNCIATIONS:** totsu,

yome **MEANINGS:** marry into, bride

**EXAMPLES:** 嫁ぐ totsugu = to get married

(used for women); 嫁 yome = a bride, or one's daughter-in-law; 花嫁 hanayome = a bride;

嫁入り yome'iri = marriage

**DESCRIPTION:** on the left, 女 onna (female, # 235); on the right, 家 ie (house, # 405)

**CUES:** this 女 (female) just became a 嫁 yome

(bride), and she **Totes** her **Suitcases** into this 家 (house) hurriedly, since her frozen **Yogurt** is **Melting**

**ALSO COMPARE:** other similar kanji at # 1504

## 1528. 岡 **PRONUNCIATION:** oka

**MEANINGS:** mount, hill, knoll

**EXAMPLES:** 岡 oka = a hill; 福岡 Fukuoka = a city on Kyushu Island **DESCRIPTION:** compared

to 綱 tsuna (rope, # 1200), this omits 糸 (skeet shooter) on the left; it retains the chairlift with seats that are slipping down **CUE:** we **Occasionally** ride this chairlift with slipping seats up an 岡 oka (hill)

near our town **ALSO COMPARE:** 丘 oka = hill, # 1473; other similar kanji at # 1200

# Kanji for Volume Four

## Chapter 1

## 1529. 泰 **PRONUNCIATION:** tai

**MEANINGS:** peaceful, calm **EXAMPLE:** 安泰 antai = peace **DESCRIPTION:** compared to

春 haru (spring, # 506), this substitutes 水 mizu (water, # 251) for the 日 (sun) at the bottom; it retains 人 hito with the number 三 san inscribed across it **CUE:** 三 (three) 人 (people) like this swam in this **Thai** 水 (water) and enjoyed 安泰 antai (peace)

**ALSO COMPARE:** 様(子) yousu = condition, # 136; 緑 midori = green, # 227; 線 sen = line, # 228; 泉 izumi = fountain, # 252; 膝 hiza = knee, # 861; (記)録 kiroku = a record, # 999; 尿 nyou = urine, # 1298; (葛)藤 kattou = conflict, # 1530; 踏(む) fumu = to step on, # 1534; 漆 urushi = lacquer, # 1957; (甲状)腺 koujousen = the thyroid gland, # 2020, other kanji containing 水 at # 606, # 999, and # 1021; other similar kanji at # 506

## 1530. 藤 **PRONUNCIATIONS:** tou, dou,

fuji **MEANING:** wisteria **EXAMPLES:** 葛藤 kattou = conflict, friction; 工藤 kudou = a family

name; 藤 fuji = wisteria, usually spelled ふじ

**DESCRIPTION:** at the top, a plant radical; at the lower left, 月 tsuki (moon, # 148); at the middle

right, this resembles a bonfire, as seen in 勝(つ)

katsu (to win, # 149); at the lower right, 水 (water, # 251) **CUES:** the people who attended this bonfire under this 月 (moon) made **Toast**, fried **Doughnuts**,

filled bottles with this 水 (water), gathered these edible plants, and then loaded all the **Food** into a **Jeep** to take to needy people in order to try to reduce 葛藤 kattou (conflict) **ALSO COMPARE:** other similar kanji at # 1305 and # 1529

### 1531. 葛 PRONUNCIATIONS: kuzu, ka

**MEANING:** arrowroot **EXAMPLES:** 葛 kuzu (known as kudzu in English) = arrowroot, used to make a starchy food additive; 葛藤 kattou = conflict, friction **DESCRIPTION:** at the top, a plant radical above 日 hi (sun, # 32); at the lower left, a man with a slanted hat; at the lower right, a lean-to containing a 人 (person) sitting on a rug

**CUES:** at the Kuwaiti Zoo, this 日 (sun) shines brightly on these plants, but this 人 (person) sitting on this rug in this lean-to is shaded while he talks to this man with a slanted hat, who is a zookeeper, about how to control a Camel that is causing 葛藤

kattou (conflict) among the animals

**ALSO COMPARE:** other similar kanji at # 1926

### 1532. 腕 PRONUNCIATIONS: ude, wan

**MEANINGS:** arm, ability **EXAMPLES:**

腕 ude = arm; 腕白 wanpaku = naughty

**DESCRIPTION:** on the left, 月 tsuki (moon, # 148); at the upper right, a bad haircut; at the lower middle, 夕 yuu (evening, # 160); at the lower right, an uncoiling snake, as seen in 危(ない) abunai (dangerous, # 901) **CUES:** my Uruguayan Dentist

has this bad haircut, and he Wanders under this 月 (moon) during the 夕 (evenings) and wraps snakes

like this around his 腕 ude (arms) **ALSO**

**COMPARE:** other similar kanji at # 547 and # 801

### 1533. 柄 PRONUNCIATIONS: gara, hei,

e **MEANINGS:** design, pattern, handle

**EXAMPLES:** 人柄 hitogara = personality;

横柄 ouhei = arrogant; 取り柄 torie = merit

**DESCRIPTION:** on the left, 木 ki (tree, # 118);

on the right, 内 uchi (inside, # 396), wearing a flat

hat **CUES:** my 人柄 hitogara (personality)

makes me sit 内 (inside) my Garage in the shade

of this 木 (tree), wearing this flat hat and Hazing people that walk by, which I find Exciting

**ALSO COMPARE:** other similar kanji at # 397

### 1534. 踏 PRONUNCIATIONS: fu, tou

**MEANINGS:** step, trample, carry through, appraise,

evade payment **EXAMPLES:** 踏む fumu = to

step on; 雑踏 zattou = crowd, congestion

**DESCRIPTION:** on the left, a square top on 正

(しい) tadashii (correct, # 174), as seen in 踊

(る) odoru (to dance, # 366), suggesting a correct

gentleman; at the upper right, 水 mizu (water,

# 251); at the lower right, 日 hi (sun, # 32)

**CUES:** when this 正 (correct) gentleman with this

square top 踊 (dances) in this 日 (sun), he sweats

a lot of this 水 (water) and sometimes Foolishly

踏む fumu (steps) on his partner's Toes

**ALSO COMPARE:** (道)路 douro = road, # 525;

距(離) kyori = distance, # 717; 蹴(る) keru =

to kick, # 975; (活)躍(する) katsuyaku suru =

to be active, # 992; 跳(ぶ) tobu = to jump,

# 1084; 跡 ato = trace, # 1111; (暴)露 bakuro =

exposure, # 1390; (実)践 jissen = implementation,

# 1907; other similar kanji at # 1150 and # 1529

### 1535. 柳 PRONUNCIATIONS: yanagi,

ryuu **MEANINGS:** willow **EXAMPLES:**

柳 yanagi = willow; 川柳 senryuu = a satiric

poem **DESCRIPTION:** on the left, 木 ki (tree,

# 118); on the right, a modified version of the two

Moonies who call out to donors in 迎(える)

mukaeru (to greet/welcome, # 358)

**CUES:** when we stopped to rest under a 柳 yanagi

(willow) 木 (tree) like this, my Yaks were

Nagging me for water, and these two Moonies

offered us some from their Reusable bottles

**ALSO COMPARE:** 卵 tamago = egg, # 28;

(信)仰 shinkou = belief, # 1549; 抑(える)

osaeru = to suppress, # 1584





# Learn to Read in Japanese

## A Glossary of Japanese Vocabulary

by  
Roger Lake and Noriko Ura

# Glossary of Vocabulary Terms from the *Learn to Read in Japanese Books*

Aachisuto アーチスト = an artist; cf.  
related terms listed at geijutsuka

Abaremawaru 暴れまわる = to rampage,  
run riot; from abareru = to become violent +  
mawaru = to turn

Abareru 暴れる = to become violent; *she*  
*abandoned her red rooster after it became*  
*violent*

Abiru 浴びる = to bathe, to receive (praise or  
attention) abundantly; *after I bathe, I drink*  
*a biiru (beer);* cf. nyuuyoku suru = to take a  
bath

Abunai 危ない = dangerous, risky, doubtful,  
life-threatening; *in Abu Dhabi the nights*  
*can be dangerous;* cf. related terms listed at  
ayashii and at kiken na

Abura 油 = oil; *they poured sacred oil on a*  
*Buddha statue*

Abura 脂 = fat; *that Abu Dhabi ram has a lot*  
*of fat on its bones;* cf. shibou = fat

Aburagiru 脂ぎる = to become greasy or  
oily; *the abura (fat) got into the gears, and*  
*now they are greasy*

Aburakkoi 脂っこい = greasy, fatty; *the*  
*abura (fat) on the coin made it greasy;* cf.  
aburappoi = greasy, fatty, oily

Aburami 脂身 = fatty meat; *the abura (fat) in*  
*this meat makes it fatty meat*

Aburappoi 脂っぽい = greasy, fatty, oily;  
*the abura (fat) on the table points to the*  
*conclusion that some greasy food was eaten*  
*here;* cf. aburakkoi = greasy, fatty

Acchi あっち – see achira

Achira あちら = that person, place or way  
over there; *a cheerful rabbit is over there*

Aen 亜鉛 = zinc; *the artist entertained us by*  
*using zinc to create fire;* cf. related terms

listed at tanso

Aete ieba あえて言えば = if I had to say;  
from aete = venturing + ieba = if I say

Aete あえて = daring to do something,  
venturing; this can also be spelled  
敢えて; *the attitude of entertainers on*  
*that television show is one of venturing into*  
*risky territory*

Agameru 崇める = to worship or adore;  
*again my meditation session was ruined*  
*because you were loudly worshipping your*  
*idol;* cf. related terms listed at ai suru

Agaru 上がる = to become shy or nervous;  
*when I become nervous, my heart rate*  
*agaru (goes up)*

Agaru 上がる = to climb, to go up, to rise  
(prices), to increase, to enter a house; *if you*  
*are against the rules, please climb onto this*  
*platform;* cf. noboru = to rise; cf. takamaru  
= to rise; cf. other related terms listed at  
hairu and at noboru = to climb

Agaru 上がる = to finish, used after an  
intransitive verb stem; *Agatha Christie went*  
*to her room, and the novel was finished;* cf.  
-ageru = to finish, used after a transitive  
verb stem; cf. other related terms listed at  
owaru

Agaru 揚がる = to be deep fried; the  
intransitive form of ageru = to fry

Ageku 挙句 = a negative outcome, e.g., ageku  
ni, or ageku no hate ni, both of which =  
even worse, in the end; *the argumentative*  
*guest drank Kool-Aid with my niece and,*  
*even worse, they got into the vodka, leading*  
*to a negative outcome, in the end*

Agemono 揚げ物 = deep-fried food; from  
ageru = to deep fry + mono = thing; cf.  
related terms listed at tabemono

Ageru 上げる = to finish (used after a  
transitive verb stem); *if you ageru (raise)*  
*your voice, I will finish our conversation;* cf.  
-agaru = to finish, used after an intransitive  
verb stem; cf. other related terms listed at



owaraseru

Ageru 上げる = to give, to raise or lift, to fly (a kite), to hold (a ceremony), to turn up (volume); *I will give you the art the guest ruined if you can lift it*; cf. mochiageru = to elevate, raise up, flatter; cf. okosu = to raise, to cause, to wake someone; cf. oshiageru = to boost or push up; cf. takameru = to raise; cf. other related terms listed at ataeru

Ageru 揚げる = to hoist, to fry in deep fat; *after I fry food in deep fat, I ageru (lift) it with tongs and put it on a plate*

Ago 顎 = a chin or jaw, usually written

あご; *I hurt my chin, and I'm in agony*;  
cf. gaku = a chin or jaw, used as a word component

Ahiru アヒル = a duck; *the African heat ruined the nest where the ducks were living*;  
cf. related terms listed at tori

Ai 愛 = love; *we feel love for ice cream*; cf. related terms listed at aijou

Ai 藍 = indigo; *her eyes are dark blue, almost indigo*; cf. related terms listed at ao

Ai suru 愛する = to love; from ai = love + suru = to do; cf. agameru = to worship or adore; cf. aikou suru = to love; cf. itsukushimu = to love or be affectionate, to cherish, to pity; cf. natsuku = to become emotionally attached

Aibou 相棒 = a buddy or partner; *Ike is boring, but he's my buddy*; cf. related terms listed at nakama

Aibu 愛撫 = a caress; *I put ice in her booze, and she gave me a caress*

Aida 間 = interval, time, distance, gap, between, among, relationship; *Ida waited for a long time*; cf. related terms listed at jikan

Aida ni 間に = during, between, while; from

aida = interval, time, distance + -ni = a suffix that forms an adverb; cf. saichuu = in the midst of, during

Aidoru アイドル = idol, young star, TV personality

Aijou 愛情 = love, affection; *in Iceland, Joan of Arc fell in love*; cf. ai = love; cf. aikou = love, adoration; cf. jou = emotion, affection; cf. koi = love; cf. konomi = liking, taste; cf. renai = romantic love; cf. shitsuren = unrequited love, lost love; cf. suuhai = adoration, worship

Aikou 愛好 = love, adoration; *we feel love for ice cold milk*; cf. related terms listed at aijou

Aikou suru 愛好する = to love; from aikou = love; cf. related terms listed at ai suru

Aikousha 愛好者 = fan, enthusiast; from aikou = adoration + sha = person

Aimai na 曖昧な = ambiguous, vague, unsure; *I might go to the party, but I'm unsure*; cf. related terms listed at fumei

Ainori 相乗り = riding together; from aite = partner + noru = to board a vehicle

Airon wo kakeru アイロンをかける = to iron; from airon = iron + kakeru = to expend

Aisatsu あいさつ = greetings, salutation, a polite set phrase used when meeting or parting from someone; this is sometimes spelled 挨拶; *when Eisenhower met his satisfied supervisor, he used a polite set phrase of meeting ("good morning") to express greetings*; cf. eshaku = a bow, salute, greeting, nod

Aishou 愛称 = a pet name; *at the ice show, some of the skaters had pet names*; cf. related terms listed at namae

Aishou 相性 = affinity, compatibility; *she has an affinity for ice shows*