

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) ¹	# 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。
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.
I² 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 me² 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.
I² 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.
Please put the hand (i.e., your hand) down. |
| 10. 紙に名前を書きます。 | Kami ni namae wo kakimasu.
I ² 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.
Won't you ² show the book and give? |
| 12. はい、分かりました。 | Hai. Wakarimashita.
Yes, I ² understood. (this also = "I understand," in the exclamatory tense) |
| 13. いいえ、だめです。 | Iie, dame desu.
No, it's bad. |
| 14. ちょっと見せて。 | Chotto misete.
Show me ² for a second. |
| 15. 手紙を書いてください。 | Tegami wo kaite kudasai.
Please write the letter. |
| 16. サマンサさんのそばに何かありますか。 | Samansa-san no soba ni, nani ga arimasu ka.
At Samantha's proximity, what exists? |
| 17. 名前が書けます。 | Namae ga kakemasu.
It's possible to write the name. |
| 18. 10分もかかりません。 | Juppun mo kakarimasen.
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.
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.
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 = 1st 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 **tsuitachi** (the 1st 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 2nd of the month, two days; 二十日 hatsuka = the 20th 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 2nd of the month) and the other on my **Hats** on 二十日 **hatsuka** (the 20th 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 3rd 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 **shinamono** (goods) for **Hindus**

0006. 四 PRONUNCIATIONS: **yon**, **yo**, **shi** MEANING: four **EXAMPLES:** 四 yon = four; 四つ yottsu = four items; 四日 yokka = 4th 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 **Ritzzy** 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, bito¹, 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

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

A 当 - 31	Ara 洗 - 423	Bai 壳 - 425
A 明 - 154	Arawa 表 - 582	Bako 箱 - 142
A 上 - 171	Ari 有 - 460	Ban 晚 - 35
A 空 - 248	Aru 步 - 408	Ban 万 - 113
A 小 - 253	Asa 朝 - 291	Ban 番 - 328
A 浴 - 256	Ashi 明 - 154	Bana 花 - 211
A 会 - 293	Ashi 足 - 449	Banashi 話 - 433
A 合 - 294	Aso 遊 - 360	Bara 払 - 591
A 惡 - 313	Ata 当 - 31	Bashi 橋 - 139
A 海 - 337	Ata 辺 - 362	Baya 早 - 34
A 開 - 413	Atai 価 - 484	Bayashi 林 - 125
A 足 - 449	Atai 値 - 571	Be 部 - 267
A 有 - 460	Atama 頭 - 93	Be 辺 - 362
Abu 危 - 547	Atara 新 - 389	Be 別 - 561
Ai 合 - 294	Atata 暖 - 38	Bei 米 - 326
Ai 愛 - 523	Atata 温 - 257	Ben 勉 - 474
Aida 間 - 411	Ato 後 - 335	Ben 便 - 481
Aji 味 - 245	Atsu 熱 - 65	Beni 紅 - 247
Aka 明 - 154	Atsu 厚 - 185	Betsu 別 - 561
Aka 赤 - 447	Atsu 集 - 202	Bi 日 - 32
Aki 明 - 154	Atsu 暑 - 278	Bi 備 - 367
Aki 秋 - 445	Aya 危 - 547	Bi 火 - 443
Aku 惡 - 313	Ayama 過 - 361	Bi 袋 - 581
Ama 天 - 189	Ayu 步 - 408	Biki 引 - 476
Ama 雨 - 261	Ba 晴 - 37	Bin 便 - 481
Ama 甘 - 541	Ba 母 - 50	Biro 広 - 494
Ame 雨 - 261	Ba 場 - 403	Bito 人 - 13
An 案 - 120	Ba 張 - 477	Bo 母 - 50
An 安 - 236	Ba 化 - 487	Boku 目 - 51
An 暗 - 268	Ba 齒 - 533	Boku 木 - 118
Ane 姉 - 241	Ba 葉 - 543	Boku 僕 - 333
Ani 兄 - 420	Baa 祖母 - 272	Boku 北 - 373
Ao 青 - 155	Bai 買 - 89	Bon 本 - 123
Ara 新 - 389	Bai 倍 - 269	Boso 細 - 220



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 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 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 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 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 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 full of 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 oil</u></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 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 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 money</u></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 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

- | | |
|-------------------------|---|
| 1. 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. |
| 2. 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。
Shikyuu 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 ㇿ ri, which includes a prominent toe, on the right; it retains the 一 (one) 厶 (cow) resting on 土 (soil)

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

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 be 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; <i>Saruman believes in education <u>as long as</u> it supports his regime</i>
どれだけ	doredake = how much, to what extent; from dore = which + dake = only
ホコリ	hokori = dust; <i>my home in Korea is full of dust</i> ; cf. 誇り hokori = pride, # 1635
払う	harau = to brush away, to pay (money or attention); <i>the hackers and Raul Castro brushed away all complaints and paid for anti-virus software</i>
すっきりする	sukkiri suru = to feel refreshed; <i>after Superman washed the kitty, it felt refreshed</i> ; cf. すっかり sukkari = thoroughly
粉々	konagona = in very small pieces; from kona = flour + gona = kona = flour

Practice Sentences

- 彼は首吊り自殺をした。
Kare wa kubitsuri jisatsu wo shita.
He did a hanging suicide.
- それは細菌感染に有効だ。
Sore wa saikin kansen ni yuukou da.
That is effective for bacterial infections.
- 彼女は自信過剰だ。
Kanojo wa jishin kajou da.
She is over-confident.
- 彼は負けても潔い。
Kare wa makete mo isagiyoi.
Although he loses, he is sportsmanlike.
- 舌を出してください。
Shita wo dashite kudasai.
Please stick out your tongue.
- 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.
- 彼女は変な癖がある。
Kanojo wa hen na kuse ga aru.
She has strange habits.
- 保険をかけて下さい。
Hoken wo kakete kudasai.
Please insure it.
- 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.
- 妻は潔癖症だ。
Tsuma wa keppeki shou da.
The wife is obsessed with cleanliness.
- 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 ㇿ ri **CUE:** whenever

Joan of Arc and this ㇿ 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, guse¹ MEANINGS: mannerism, trait

EXAMPLES: 悪癖 akuheki = bad habit; 清潔癖

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: tamo,

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

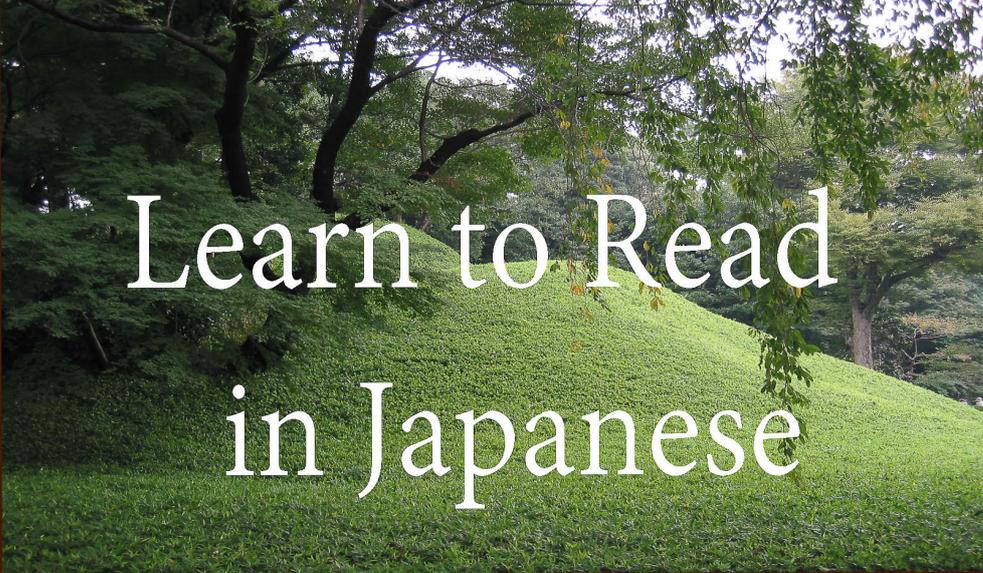
(astonished) when he sees this big 口 (mouth)

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



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Volume IV

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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; <i>my <u> aunt </u> went to <u> Thailand </u> to work for <u> peace </u> and <u> security </u></i>
藤	fuji = wisteria, usually spelled ふじ; <i>the <u> foolish </u> <u> genius </u> cut down the <u> wisteria </u> <u> vine </u></i>
葛藤	kattou = conflict, friction; <i>the <u> cat </u> scratched my <u> toe </u> when there was <u> conflict </u> <u> between </u> <u> us </u></i>
葛餅	kuzumochi = a Japanese jelly-like dessert made with kuzu (known as kudzu in English, or arrowroot) and resembling mochi; from kuzu = arrowroot; <i><u> arrowroot </u> <u> grows </u> <u> inside </u> <u> the </u> <u> Kuwaiti </u> <u> zoo </u>; + mochi = Japanese rice cake</i>
腕	ude = arm; <i>the <u> Uruguayan </u> <u> dentist </u> has strong <u> arms </u></i>
腕白な	wanpaku na = naughty; <i>you were <u> naughty </u> when you only bought <u> one </u> <u> pack </u> of <u> beer </u> for the party</i>
人柄	hitogara = personality or character; <i>when I learned that the <u> hero </u> stored <u> torpedoes </u> in his <u> garage </u>, I understood more about his <u> personality </u></i>
横柄な	ouhei na = arrogant; <i>sending the <u> orchestra </u> <u> hate </u> mail is <u> arrogant </u></i>
取り柄	torie = merit or good point; <i>he helped the <u> Tories </u> <u> escape </u>, so that was his <u> good </u> <u> point </u></i>
踏む	fumu = to step on; <i>the <u> foolish </u> <u> mover </u> <u> stepped </u> <u> on </u> our cat</i>
雑踏	zattou = a crowd, congestion; <i>a <u> crowd </u> of people examined <u> Zach </u>'s swollen <u> toe </u></i>
柳	yanagi = willow; <i>the <u> yak </u> was <u> nagging </u> me under the <u> willow </u> tree</i>
川柳	senryuu = a satiric poem; <i>the <u> senator </u> <u> reused </u> some old jokes in his <u> satiric </u> <u> poem </u></i>
奉仕	houshi = service, ministry; <i>the <u> hotel </u> provides <u> sheets </u> as part of its <u> service </u></i>

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 fumanaide.
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