

## Rendaku

Rendaku is a phenomenon that can affect the pronunciations of kanji in compound words, when kanji appear in the middle or at the end of a word. Kanji pronunciations that contain the consonants shown in the following table can change as shown here.

ch → j (e.g., chi → ji)	k → g (e.g. koto → goto)
f → b (e.g., fun → bun)	s → z (e.g., sushi → zushi)
f → p (e.g., fuku → puku)	sh → j (e.g., sha → ja)
h → b (e.g., hito → bito)	t → d (e.g., toki → doki)
h → p (e.g., hai → pai)	ts → z (e.g., tsukai → zukai)

If you cannot find a kanji pronunciation that you are seeking in the Pronunciation Index starting on the next page, it may have been affected by rendaku. If so, you may be able to use the table above to help you find it.

In this book we provide retrieval cues for most, but not all, of the alternative pronunciations associated with the rendaku phenomenon. For this reason, you will sometimes see a kanji pronunciation without an accompanying cue in the Kanji Catalogue starting on page 401. For example, 人 hito, reference # 13, can also be pronounced “bito,” but only one retrieval cue is provided. The cue is “Hiro**Hito** was a 人 **hito** (person)...” In reference # 13, and in some other kanji references, we use a superscripted “1” to identify pronunciations for which no retrieval cues are provided, such as bito<sup>1</sup>. The footnote to which this superscript refers appears only on page 403.

In some words, two Japanese kanji are repeated, one after the other, and the second kanji is replaced by the repetition symbol 々. If this repetition occurs with kanji pronunciations that are affected by rendaku, the second kanji may be pronounced differently from the first one, in accordance with the rules of rendaku. For example, 木々 kigi = many trees, 人々 hitobito = people, 口々 kuchiguchi = every mouth, 久々 hisabisa = a long time ago, 日々 hibi = every day, 国々 kuniguni = countries, 時々 tokidoki = sometimes, 様々 samazama = various and 花々 hanabana = flowers.

For some words containing the repetition symbol 々, like 少々 shoushou (a little) and 次々 tsugitsugi (one after the other), the rules of rendaku are not applied, and both kanji are pronounced in the same way. Words like 色々 iroiro (various), which don't contain any of the consonants listed in the table above, are obviously not affected by rendaku.

## Kanji Pronunciation Index

The following Index of kanji pronunciations has been alphabetized by a computer. Most of the pronunciations appear alone, but some are combined into words, with the pronunciations separated by asterisks. Notice that the computer places blank spaces first, then asterisks, and then the letter "a," followed by the other letters in alphabetical order.

Some kanji pronunciations are non-standard, i.e., they are neither on'yomi (Chinese readings) nor kun'yomi (Japanese readings), and they only appear in a single word. We call these pronunciations **exceptional** because they are unique exceptions to the standard ways in which the kanji are pronounced, and we mark them with **italics** in this book.

For example, the word 海女 *a\*ma* (female pearl diver) is listed in the Index with an asterisk in the middle. It is also italicized. The **asterisk** tells us that, when the kanji 海 is pronounced "a," it is always part of the word 海女 *ama*. The **italics** tell us that the "a" pronunciation is exceptional, meaning that "a," when used as a pronunciation for 海, is neither on'yomi nor kun'yomi, and it is used only in one word.

When exceptional pronunciations occur at the middle or the end of a word, they are listed alone in this Index, without asterisks. For example, the pronunciation 袋 *bi* is the second syllable in the word 足袋 *ta\*bi* (Japanese socks), and it is listed by itself.

Japanese people use kanji combinations for some words without breaking the words into separate pronunciations for each kanji. In spite of that, we have chosen arbitrarily to break such words into separate pronunciations for each kanji whenever it seemed practical to do so, so that it would be possible for students to look them up easily.

For example, 足袋 *ta\*bi* (Japanese socks) is recognized as a single word by Japanese people, not as a combination of two kanji with different pronunciations that can be combined. The same thing is true for 今日 *k\*you* (today), 一日 *tsui\*tachi* (the first of the month), 昨日 *ki\*nou* (yesterday), 大人 *oto\*na* (adult), and so forth. The asterisks that we use to divide these words are only intended to help people who are looking up kanji pronunciations in this book, and they have no other significance.

There are two words used in this book that contain kanji with exceptional pronunciations which cannot be practically divided using asterisks: *obaasan* お祖母さん (grandmother) and *ojiisan* お祖父さん (grandfather). Although we list "jii 祖父" and "baa 祖母" in this Index for convenience, we suggest that students learn to read these words as units, rather than as combinations of separate kanji pronunciations.

Finally, note that sometimes **stem forms** of verbs, i.e., pre-masu forms, are used as pronunciations for kanji. For example, *hanashi*, derived from 話します *hanashimasu* (to speak), is a possible pronunciation of 話. Also, *yomi*, derived from 読みます *yomimasu* (to read), is a possible pronunciation of 読. In this Index, we include a number of pronunciations based on stem forms, but there may be others that we omit.

- A 当- 31  
 A 明- 154  
 A 上- 171  
 A 空- 248  
 A 浴- 256  
 A 会- 293  
 A 合- 294  
 A 惡- 313  
 A 開- 413  
 A 有- 460  
*A\*dachi* 足- 449  
*A\*ma* 海- 337  
*A\*zuki* 小- 253  
 Abu 危- 547  
 Ai 合- 294  
 Ai 愛- 523  
 Aida 間- 411  
 Aji 味- 245  
 Aka 明- 154  
 Aka 赤- 447  
 Aki 明- 154  
 Aki 秋- 445  
 Aku 惡- 313  
 Ama 天- 189  
 Ama 雨- 261  
 Ama 甘- 541  
 Ame 雨- 261  
 An 案- 120  
 An 安- 236  
 An 暗- 268  
 Ane 姉- 241  
 Ani 兄- 420  
 Ao 青- 155  
 Ara 新- 389  
 Ara 洗- 423  
 Arawa 表- 582  
 Ari 有- 460  
 Aru 步- 408  
 Asa 朝- 291  
 Ashi 足- 449  
*Ashi\*ta* 明- 154  
 Aso 遊- 360  
 Ata 辺- 362  
 Atai 価- 484  
 Atai 値- 571  
 Atama 頭- 93  
 Atara 新- 389  
 Atata 暖- 38  
 Atata 温- 257  
 Ato 後- 335  
 Atsu 熱- 65  
 Atsu 厚- 185  
 Atsu 集- 202  
 Atsu 暑- 278  
 Aya 危- 547  
 Ayama 過- 361  
 Ayu 步- 408  
 Ba 晴- 37  
 Ba 母- 50  
 Ba 場- 403  
 Ba 張- 477  
 Ba 化- 487  
 Ba 齒- 533  
 Ba 葉- 543  
*Baa* 祖母- 272  
 Bai 買- 89  
 Bai 倍- 269  
 Bai 売- 425  
 Bako 箱- 142  
 Ban 晚- 35  
 Ban 万- 113  
 Ban 番- 328  
 Bana 花- 211  
 Banashi 話- 433  
 Bara 払- 591  
 Bashi 橋- 139  
 Baya 早- 34  
 Bayashi 林- 125  
 Be 部- 267  
 Be 辺- 362  
 Be 別- 561  
 Bei 米- 326  
 Ben 勉- 474  
 Ben 便- 481  
 Beni 紅- 247  
 Betsu 別- 561  
 Bi 日- 32  
 Bi 備- 367  
 Bi 火- 443  
*Bi* 袋- 581  
 Biki 引- 476  
 Bin 便- 481  
 Biro 広- 494  
 Bito 人- 13  
 Bo 母- 50  
 Boku 目- 51  
 Boku 木- 118  
 Boku 僕- 333  
 Boku 北- 373  
 Bon 本- 123  
 Boso 細- 220  
 Bou 質- 85  
 Bou 帽- 243  
 Bou 忘- 310  
 Bou 亡- 585  
 Bou 忙- 586  
 Bu 不- 176  
 Bu 降- 178  
 Bu 部- 267  
 Bu 物- 401  
 Bu 無- 583  
 Bu 舞- 584  
*Buki* 雪- 262  
 Bukuro 袋- 581

- Bumi 文- 25  
 Bun 文- 25  
 Bun 分- 105  
 Bun 聞- 412  
 Bune 船- 602  
 Buto 太- 191  
 Butsu 物- 401  
 Byaku 百- 47  
 Byou 病- 369  
 Byou 表- 582  
 Cha 茶- 212  
 Chaku 着- 52  
 Chi 千- 22  
 Chi 刀- 102  
 Chi 散- 159  
 Chi 乳- 186  
 Chi 歲- 322  
 Chi 知- 323  
 Chi 遲- 350  
 Chi 地- 503  
 Chi 池- 504  
 Chi 治- 539  
 Chi 置- 569  
 Chi 值- 571  
 Chichi 父- 143  
 Chichi 乳- 186  
 Chiga 違- 355  
 Chii 小- 253  
 Chika 近- 390  
 Chikara 力- 107  
 Chiku 竹- 134  
 Chin 珍- 407  
 Cho 緒- 232  
 Cho 直- 570  
 Choku 直- 570  
 Chou 町- 70  
 Chou 重- 284  
 Chou 朝- 291  
 Chou 調- 441  
 Chou 張- 477  
 Chou 長- 502  
 Chou 鳥- 555  
 Chuu 中- 8  
 Chuu 虫- 9  
 Chuu 昼- 49  
 Chuu 注- 168  
 Chuu 駐- 381  
 Da 立- 11  
 Da 田- 68  
 Da 出- 147  
 Da 打- 590  
 Dachi 達- 347  
 Dai 大- 188  
 Dai 内- 396  
 Dai 題- 454  
 Dai 弟- 529  
 Dai 第- 530  
 Dai 台- 538  
 Dai 代- 552  
 Daka 高- 19  
 Dama 玉- 169  
 Dan 暖- 38  
 Dan 男- 109  
 Dan 段- 559  
 Dare 誰- 440  
 De 手- 23  
 De 出- 147  
 De 弟- 529  
 Den 田- 68  
 Den 電- 263  
 Den 伝- 345  
 Dera 寺- 213  
 Do 土- 59  
 Do 止- 173  
 Do 怒- 319  
 Do 度- 498  
 Do 努- 519  
 Do\*kyou 讀- 432  
 Dokoro 所- 391  
 Doku 讀- 432  
 Domo 供- 486  
 Doo 遠- 351  
 Doo 通- 365  
 Dou 堂- 64  
 Dou 動- 286  
 Dou 働- 287  
 Dou 同- 339  
 Dou 道- 349  
 Dou 倒- 563  
 E 笑- 199  
 E 絵- 223  
 E 重- 284  
 E 会- 293  
 E 越- 453  
 Eda 枝- 128  
 Ei 映- 36  
 Ei 英- 43  
 Ei 泳- 255  
 Eki 駅- 380  
 Eki 易- 402  
 Eki 役- 557  
 En 円- 39  
 En 塩- 60  
 En 園- 279  
 En 遠- 351  
 Era 選- 352  
 Etsu 越- 453  
 Fu 増- 61  
 Fu 負- 87  
 Fu 付- 132  
 Fu 符- 133  
 Fu 父- 143  
 Fu 不- 176  
 Fu 降- 178  
 Fu 生- 208  
 Fu 怖- 463  
 Fu 触- 475

- Fu 風- 479  
 Fu 沸- 531  
 Fu 吹- 537  
 Fu 普- 576  
 Fuku 服- 150  
 Fuku 復- 527  
 Fukuro 袋- 581  
 Fun 分- 105  
 Funa 船- 602  
 Fune 船- 602  
 Furu 震- 265  
 Furu 古- 392  
 Futa 二- 2  
 Futo 太- 191  
*Futsu\*ka* 二- 2  
 Fuu 風- 479  
 Fuyu 冬- 234  
 Ga 画- 77  
 Ga 学- 184  
 Ga 合- 294  
 Ga 髮- 501  
 Ga 替- 551  
 Ga 菓- 589  
 Gae 返- 356  
 Gae 替- 551  
 Gai 外- 163  
 Gai 会- 293  
 Gaku 学- 184  
 Gaku 楽- 520  
 Gama 構- 141  
 Gami 紙- 221  
 Gan 願- 94  
 Gan 顔- 95  
 Gan 元- 421  
 Gan 岸- 500  
 Gao 顔- 95  
 Garu 輕- 289  
 Gata 方- 114  
 Gata 難- 198  
 Gato 難- 198  
 Gatsu 月- 148  
 Gawa 川- 250  
 Gawa 側- 490  
 Ge 外- 163  
 Ge 下- 172  
 Ge 氣- 321  
 Ge 夏- 522  
 Gei 迎- 358  
 Gen 間- 411  
 Gen 元- 421  
 Gen 言- 430  
 Getsu 月- 148  
 Gi 着- 52  
 Gi 切- 103  
 Gi 木- 118  
 Gi 氣- 321  
 Gi 議- 438  
 Gin 金- 301  
 Gin 銀- 302  
 Giwa 際- 379  
 Go 五- 179  
 Go 子- 182  
 Go 午- 207  
 Go 後- 335  
 Go 古- 392  
 Go 語- 435  
*Goko\*chi* 心- 306  
 Goku 国- 170  
 Gon 金- 301  
 Gon 言- 430  
 Gori 殘- 605  
 Goro 頃- 96  
 Goto 每- 336  
 Goto 事- 416  
 Gou 合- 294  
 Gou 業- 332  
 Gou 号- 470  
 Gou 強- 478  
 Gu 具- 100  
*Gura* 楽- 520  
 Guchi 口- 426  
 Gumo 雲- 264  
 Gurai 位- 270  
 Guro 黒- 76  
 Gusuri 薬- 521  
 Gyo 魚- 80  
 Gyoku 玉- 169  
 Gyou 業- 332  
 Gyou 行- 334  
 Gyou 形- 573  
 Gyuu 牛- 205  
 Ha 二- 2  
 Ha 八- 15  
 Ha 映- 36  
 Ha 晴- 37  
 Ha 生- 208  
 Ha 癸- 298  
 Ha 恥- 309  
 Ha 張- 477  
 Ha 齒- 533  
 Ha 葉- 543  
 Ha 果- 587  
 Hachi 八- 15  
 Haguku 育- 151  
 Haha 母- 50  
 Hai 入- 14  
 Hai 背- 152  
 Hai 灰- 444  
 Hai 配- 466  
 Hai 拝- 593  
 Haji 初- 104  
 Haji 恥- 309  
 Haji 始- 540  
 Haka 凶- 281  
 Haka 計- 434  
 Hako 箱- 142  
 Hako 運- 354

- Haku 白- 44  
 Haku 泊- 46  
 Haku 薄- 258  
 Han 半- 331  
 Han 飯- 400  
 Hana 放- 117  
 Hana 花- 211  
 Hana 話- 433  
 Hanashi 話- 433  
*Har\*umi* 晴- 37  
 Hara 払- 591  
 Haru 春- 506  
 Hashi 橋- 139  
 Hashi 走- 450  
 Hata 機- 137  
 Hatara 働- 287  
 Hatsu 初- 104  
 Hatsu 癸- 298  
 Hatsu 髮- 501  
 Haya 早- 34  
 Haya 速- 359  
 Hayashi 林- 125  
 Hazu 外- 163  
 He 經- 224  
 He 部- 267  
*He\*ta* 下- 172  
 Hei 閉- 414  
 Hei 並- 575  
 Hen 片- 181  
 Hen 返- 356  
 Hen 辺- 362  
 Hen 變- 553  
 Hi 日- 32  
 Hi 冷- 299  
 Hi 必- 307  
 Hi 疲- 370  
 Hi 火- 443  
 Hi 引- 476  
 Hi 飛- 574  
 Hidari 左- 456  
 Higashi 東- 508  
 Hika 光- 448  
 Hikari 光- 448  
 Hiki 引- 476  
 Hiku 低- 222  
 Hin 品- 5  
 Hira 開- 413  
 Hiro 広- 494  
 Hiro 拾- 595  
 Hiru 昼- 49  
 Hisa 久- 30  
 Hito 一- 1  
 Hito 人- 13  
 Hitsu 必- 307  
 Ho 癸- 298  
 Ho 北- 373  
 Ho 步- 408  
 Ho 欲- 535  
 Hoka 外- 163  
 Hoka 他- 505  
 Hoku 北- 373  
 Hon 本- 123  
 Hoshi 星- 48  
 Hosoi 細- 220  
 Hou 方- 114  
 Hou 放- 117  
 Hou 法- 344  
 Hou 報- 386  
 Hou 包- 548  
 Hyaku 百- 47  
 Hyou 表- 582  
 I 入- 14  
 I 胃- 153  
 I 生- 208  
 I 要- 238  
 I 位- 270  
 I 良- 303  
 I 息- 315  
 I 意- 317  
 I 医- 325  
 I 行- 334  
 I 違- 355  
 I 易- 402  
 I 言- 430  
 I 以- 601  
 Ichi 一- 1  
 Ichi 市- 242  
 Ie 家- 405  
 Ika 怒- 319  
 Ike 池- 504  
 Iki 息- 315  
 Ikio 勢- 110  
 Iku 育- 151  
 Ima 今- 292  
 Imouto 妹- 244  
 In 員- 88  
 In 音- 266  
 In 飲- 399  
 In 院- 424  
 In 引- 476  
*Ina\*ka* 田- 68  
 Inu 犬- 190  
 Iro 色- 473  
 Ishi 石- 458  
 Iso 急- 312  
 Isoga 忙- 586  
 Ita 痛- 368  
 Ito 糸- 219  
 Ito 愛- 523  
 Itsu 一- 1  
 Itsu 五- 179  
 Iwa 祝- 274  
 Izumi 泉- 252  
 Ja 社- 271  
 Ja 者- 276  
 Ja 写- 468  
 Jaku 昔- 33