

Part II Lesson 3 なんじですか

Expressive Adjectives 3

おいしいですねえ。

It tastes good, doesn't it?

まずいですねえ。

It tastes bad, doesn't it?

Classroom Expressions 3

わかりましたか。

Have you understood?

はい、わかりました。

Yes, I have (understood).

いいえ、わかりません。

No, I don't understand.

はなしてみしょう 1

Dialogue 1

A: すみません、いまなんじですか。

B: 7じです。

A: そうですか。どうもありがとうございます。

B: いいえ。

ごい

いま

now

Suffix for the "O'clock": じ

0じ	れいじ	0 o'clock (= 12/24 o'clock)
1じ	いちじ	1 o'clock
2じ	にじ	2 o'clock
3じ	さんじ	3 o'clock
4じ	よじ	4 o'clock
5じ	ごじ	5 o'clock
6じ	ろくじ	6 o'clock
7じ	しちじ	7 o'clock
8じ	はちじ	8 o'clock
9じ	くじ	9 o'clock
10じ	じゅうじ	10 o'clock
11じ	じゅういちじ	11 o'clock
12じ	じゅうにじ	12 o'clock
なんじ		what o'clock?

おうよう 1

A: You and your practice partner are strangers. Ask what time it is now and say "thank you" upon getting his/her answer.

すみません、いまなんじですか。

B: Make up a time on the hour, using numbers from 1 to 12, and answer.
Do not specify a.m. or p.m. Respond appropriately to your practice partner's "thank you."

How to Tell the Time

12 hour system			24 hour system
えいご	にほんご		
(midnight) 12 a.m.	ごぜん0じ	12 じ	0 じ
2 a.m.	ごぜん2じ	2 じ	2 じ
4 a.m.	ごぜん4じ	4 じ	4 じ
6 a.m.	ごぜん6じ	6 じ	6 じ
8 a.m.	ごぜん8じ	8 じ	8 じ
10 a.m.	ごぜん10じ	10 じ	10 じ
(noon) 12 p.m.	(しょうご) ごご0じ	12 じ	12 じ
2 p.m.	ごご2じ	2 じ	14 じ
4 p.m.	ごご4じ	4 じ	16 じ
6 p.m.	ごご6じ	6 じ	18 じ
8 p.m.	ごご8じ	8 じ	20 じ
10 p.m.	ごご10じ	10 じ	22 じ



Most commonly used

ごい

ごぜん	a.m.
ごご	p.m.
しょうご	noon

How to Tell the Time (spoken)

Time	Word	Translation	Range	Combination
12じ 1じ 2じ	よなか	“middle night”	midnight / around 2 a.m.	よなかの 12じ よなかの 1じ よなかの 2じ
3じ 4じ 5じ 6じ 7じ 8じ 9じ 10じ 11じ	あさ	“morning”	around 3 a.m. / / / / / / / right before noon	あさの 3じ あさの 4じ あさの 5じ あさの 6じ あさの 7じ あさの 8じ あさの 9じ あさの 10じ あさの 11じ
12じ 1じ 2じ 3じ	ひる	“early afternoon”	noon / / around 4 p.m.	ひるの 12じ ひるの 1じ ひるの 2じ ひるの 3じ
4じ 5じ 6じ	ゆうがた	“late afternoon/ early evening”	around 4 p.m. / 6 p.m. or sunset, whichever comes first	ゆうがたの 4じ ゆうがたの 5じ ゆうがたの 6じ
7じ 8じ 9じ 10じ 11じ	よる*	“night”	around 7 p.m. / / / right before midnight	よるの 7じ よるの 8じ よるの 9じ よるの 10じ よるの 11じ
12じ	よなか	“middle night”		よなかの 12じ

* ばん may be used for “evening” from around 6 p.m. or sunset, whichever comes first, till around 10 p.m.

はなしてみましよう 2

Dialogue 2

A: いまなんじですか。

B: 4じです。

A: とうきょうは いまなんじですか。

B: 9じです。

A: あさの9じですか、よるの9じですか。

B: あさの9じです。

Time Difference Between Vancouver & the Cities of Japan

バンクーバー ふゆじかん	バンクーバー なつじかん	にほんじかん	
ごぜん0じ	ごぜん1じ	ごご5じ	ゆうがたの 5じ
ごぜん3じ	ごぜん4じ	ごご8じ	よるの 8じ
ごぜん6じ	ごぜん7じ	ごご11じ	よるの 11じ
ごぜん9じ	ごぜん10じ	ごぜん2じ	よなかの 2じ
ごご0じ	ごご1じ	ごぜん5じ	あさの 5じ
ごご3じ	ごご4じ	ごぜん8じ	あさの 8じ
ごご6じ	ごご7じ	ごぜん11じ	あさの 11じ
ごご9じ	ごご10じ	ごご2じ	ひるの 2じ

ごい

ふゆじかん

standard time, "winter time"

なつじかん

daylight saving time, "summer time"

おうよう 2

A: Ask your practice partner: いまなんじですか。

B: Make up a time on the hour, using numbers from 1 to 12, and answer.
Do not specify a.m. or p.m.

A: Ask what time it is in Tokyo: どうきょうは いまなんじですか。

B: Refer to the time difference table provided on the last page and answer.
Do not specify a.m. or p.m.

A: Ask if the time your practice partner has given you is either
 in the “morning” (あさ),
 in the “early afternoon” (ひる),
 in the “late afternoon/early evening” (ゆうがた),
 at “night” (よる), or
 in the “middle of the night”(よなか).

よなかの	1じ	ですか、	ひるの	1じ	ですか。
よなかの	2じ	ですか、	ひるの	2じ	ですか。
あさの	3じ	ですか、	ひるの	3じ	ですか。
あさの	4じ	ですか、	ゆうがたの	4じ	ですか。
あさの	5じ	ですか、	ゆうがたの	5じ	ですか。
あさの	6じ	ですか、	ゆうがたの	6じ	ですか。
あさの	7じ	ですか、	よるの	7じ	ですか。
あさの	8じ	ですか、	よるの	8じ	ですか。
あさの	9じ	ですか、	よるの	9じ	ですか。
あさの	10じ	ですか、	よるの	10じ	ですか。
あさの	11じ	ですか、	よるの	11じ	ですか。
ひるの	12じ	ですか、	よなかの	12じ	ですか。

B: Answer by selecting one of the choices given.

はなしてみましよう 3

Dialogue 3

A: ちょっと、Bさん、いまなんじですか。

B: 12じ5ふんです。

A: そうですか。わたしのとけいは 12じちょうどです。

ごい

ちょっと	[casual way of catching someone's attention]
とけい	watch, clock
ちょうど	exactly

Counter for the “Minutes”: ふん

1ふん	いっぶん	1 minute
2ふん	にぶん	2 minutes
3ふん	さんぶん	3 minutes
4ふん	よんぶん	4 minutes
5ふん	ごぶん	5 minutes
6ふん	ろっぶん	6 minutes
7ふん	ななぶん	7 minutes
8ふん	はっぶん	8 minutes
9ふん	きゅうぶん	9 minutes
10ふん	じゅっぶん/ じっぶん	10 minutes
30ふん	さんじゅっぶん/ さんじっぶん	30 minutes
はん		a half past the hour
なんぶん		how many minutes?

れんしゅう 1

- A:
- Write down various combinations of the hour (1-12) and the minutes (0-59).
 - Write one combination at a time, using any piece of paper.
 - Use the Arabic numerals (アラビアすうじ), writing them in the Japanese style.
 - Place a colon (コロン) between the hour and the minutes.

e.g., 4:56

- B: Read aloud in Japanese what your practice partner has written, choosing ふん or ぶん appropriately.

おうよう 3

- A:
- You are walking on campus wondering if you have the correct time.
 - You see a friend (ともだち), played by your practice partner, passing near by.
 - Catch his/her attention by saying: ちょっと _____さん

Ask your "friend" what time it is now.

- B: Check your watch and answer to the minute with a made-up time. Use ふん and ぶん appropriately:

- A: Respond as follows with the time different from but close to the time your practice partner has given you:

そうですか。わたしのとけいは ____じ____ふん / ぶん です。

or そうですか。わたしのとけいは ____じちょうど です。

ごい

ともだち

friend

はなしてみしょう 4

Dialogue 4 [バスでい]

A: すみません、つぎのバスは なんじですか。

B: [とけいをみながら]

えーと、いま2じ40ふんですね。

[バスのじこくひょうをみながら]

つぎのバスは 14じ46ふんです。

A: そうですか。ありがとうございます。

ごい

つぎの _____

バス

バスでい

じこくひょう

the next _____

bus

bus stop

timetable (of transportation systems)

れんしゅう 2

Practice converting the hours in the 24 hour system to the 12 hour system.

Q: じは ごごなんじですか。
13 - 23

A: ごご じです。
1 - 11

れんしゅう 3

The table below is an example of a bus timetable (バスの じこくひょう) posted at a bus stop (バスてい). The times shown in the table indicate what time the bus leaves the bus stop.

- A:
- Chose any one time in the table.
 - Do not reveal this time of your choice to your practice partner.
 - Do not point at the time on the timetable.

Ask your practice partner

what time “the next bus after the bus of your choice” leaves,
by saying: じ ふん / ふん のつぎのバスは？

B: Refer to the timetable and answer: じ ふん / ふん です。

バスのじこくひょう

6:10	6:32	6:51	7:14	7:28	7:42	7:56	8:00
8:10	8:23	8:37	8:51	9:03	9:22	9:50	10:21
10:45	11:09	11:38	12:09	12:28	13:20	13:36	13:57
14:18	14:46	15:04	15:31	16:05	16:22	16:43	16:54
17:02	17:11	17:23	17:35	17:49	18:00	18:16	18:41
19:08	19:34	20:15	20:58	21:20	22:12	23:30	00:06

 ごい

つぎ

つぎの

 のつぎ

the next one

the next

the one next to / the one after

はなしてみしょう 5

Dialogue 5

- A: バンクーバーと ソウルの あいだの じさは？
 B: 17じかんです。
 A: じゃあ、タイペイと マニラの あいだの じさは？
 B: じさはありません。
 A: じゃあ、エルサレムと テヘランの あいだの じさは？
 B: 2じかんはんです。
 A: じゃあ、バグダッドと カブールの あいだの じさは？
 B: しりません。

ごい

じさ

time difference

AとBのあいだ

between A and B

あります

there is/are

ありません

there is/are not

バグダッド

Bagudaddo

Baghdad

カブール

Kabuuru

Kabul

しゅと

capital (of a nation)

しゅうと

capital (of a province/state)

Counter for the “Hours”: じかん

1 じかん	いちじかん	1 hour
2 じかん	にじかん	2 hours
3 じかん	さんじかん	3 hours
4 じかん	よじかん	4 hours
5 じかん	ごじかん	5 hours
6 じかん	ろくじかん	6 hours
7 じかん	しちじかん/ ななじかん	7 hours
8 じかん	はちじかん	8 hours
9 じかん	くじかん	9 hours
10 じかん	じゅうじかん	10 hours
24 じかん	にじゅうよじかん	24 hours
はんじかん		half an hour
___ じかんはん		___ and a half hours
なんじかん		(for) how many hours?

おうよう 5

Discuss with your practice partner the time difference between any two cities in the world, referring to the table on the next page. Use the expressions in Dialogue 5.

Time Difference from Vancouver (Standard Time)

しゅとのなまえ			じさ	
アンカラ	Ankara	Ankara	+ 11 hours	11じかん
ウィーン	Wiin	Vienna	+ 9 hours	9じかん
ウェリントン	Werinton	Wellington	+ 21 hours	21じかん
エルサレム	Erusaremu	Jerusalem	+ 10 hours	10じかん
カラカス	Karakasu	Caracas	+ 4 hours	4じかん
カラチ	Karachi	Karachi	+ 13 hours	13じかん
サンティアゴ	Santiago	Santiago	+ 4 hours	4じかん
ジャカルタ	Jakaruta	Jakarta	+ 15 hours	15じかん
ジュネーブ	Juneebu	Geneva	+ 9 hours	9じかん
シンガポール	Shingapooru	Singapore	+ 16 hours	16じかん
ソウル	Souru/Sooru	Seoul	+ 17 hours	17じかん
タイペイ	Taipei/Taipee	Taipei	+ 16 hours	16じかん
テヘラン	Teheran	Tehran	+ 12.5 hours	12じかんはん
ニューデリー	Nyuuderii	New Deli	+ 13.5 hours	13じかんはん
パリ	Pari	Paris	+ 9 hours	9じかん
バンコック	Bankokku	Bangkok	+ 15 hours	15じかん
ベキン	Pekin	Beijin	+ 15 hours	15じかん
マニラ	Manira	Manila	+ 16 hours	16じかん
ヨハネスブルク	Yohanesuburuku	Johannesburg	+ 10 hours	10じかん
リヤド	Riyado	Liad	+ 11 hours	11じかん
ローマ	Rooma	Rome	+ 9 hours	9じかん
ワルシャワ	Warushawan	Warsaw	+ 9 hours	9じかん

Counters

When counting in Japanese, numbers are in many cases accompanied by a counter. Counters in Japanese can be interpreted as equivalent to the “measurement units” such as metres, litres, grams, etc., and slices, sheets, loaves, cups, glasses, bottles, etc.

When you learn counters:

1. Types of Counters

Learn the types of counters.

Counters fall into several types. Knowledge of these types will help you learn counters more easily and accurately.

2. Minimum to Learn

Learn at least up to the number three.

By knowing the forms for one, two, and three, you will know which type the counter is. The counter form for the interrogative expression is the same as the one for the number three.

3. Variant Forms

Learn the most commonly used forms.

There are quite often variant forms for the number and counter combinations. In this textbook, variant forms are presented either with a slash or a pair of parentheses. The slash indicates that the both forms are commonly used. The variant given in parentheses are, however, not as commonly used as the one without. In either case, learn the form given first.

4. Use of Arabic Numerals

Write numbers in the Arabic numerals.

In the counter lists, the readings of the combinations of a number and a counter are shown in Hiragana. The use of Hiragana is strictly for indicating the readings. Numbers are normally written in the Arabic numerals, especially in left to right writing.

Types of Counters

Counters and related suffixes can be divided into several groups according to the following:

- Which kind of numerals, Japanese-origin ones or Chinese-origin ones, are used with the counter for numbers 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, and 10 (Refer to the table on p. 107)
- Which kind of numerals, Japanese-origin ones or Chinese-origin ones, are used with the counter for numbers 4, 7, and 9 (Refer to the table on p. 107)
- Whether any sound changes occur at the end of the numerals
- Whether any sound changes occur in the counter itself

Numeral				Counter			
Origin			S/C		Example	Type	
4	7	9					
C	し	しち	く			がつ (name of month)	Type 0-1
	よ					じ (o'clock)	Type 0-2
			しち/ なな			ねん (year), にん (person)	Type 0-3
	よん	なな	きゅう			まい (sheet), だい (machine)	Type 0-4
				√		さい (age), しゅうかん (week), こ (piece), か (lesson), かい (time)	Type 1
				√	√	かい (floor), せん (thousand)	Type 2-1
				√	√	ふん (minute), はく (stay at night)	Type 2-2
				√	√	ひき (animal), ほん (stick)	Type 2-3
J	よっ		ここの			つ (piece, age)	Type J-1
	よっ	なの	ここの			か (day)	Type J-2
	N/A	N/A	N/A			り (person)	Type J-3

C = Chinese-origin

J = Japanese-origin

S/C = Sound change

ふくしゅうもんだい

Fill in the blanks with one of the interrogative words given below.

どこ	どれ	だれ	なに	なん	いつ	いくつ
----	----	----	----	----	----	-----

- ① A : ここは _____ ですか。
B : ビクトリアのまちのちゅうしんです。
- ② A : ここは _____ ですか。
B : ぎんこうです。
- ③ A : このホテルは _____ というホテルですか。
B : エンペラス・ホテルです。
- ④ A : これは _____ ですか。
B : さしみです。
- ⑤ A : いま _____ じですか。
B : 8 じです。
- ⑥ A : ビクトリアとオタワのあいだのじさは _____ じかんですか。
B : 3 じかんです。
- ⑦ A : おてあらいは _____ ですか。
B : あちらです。

- ⑧ A : Bさんのごりょうしんは _____でけっこんしましたか。
B : ホンコンでけっこんしました。
- ⑨ A : Bさんのごりょうしんは _____けっこんしましたか。
B : 1987ねんにけっこんしました。
- ⑩ A : Bさんは _____でうまれましたか。
B : カルガリーでうまれました。
- ⑪ A : Bさんは _____でがっこうへいきましたか。
B : エドモントンでいきました。
- ⑫ A : Bさんは おとしは _____ですか。
B : はたちです。
- ⑬ A : Bさんは ごきょうだいは _____にんいますか。
B : ひとりいます。
- ⑭ A : Bさんは いぬを _____びきかっていますか。
B : 2ひきかっています。
- ⑮ A : あのひとは _____ですか。
B : わたしの日本語のせんせいです。

Grammar & Usage Notes II-3

1. Telling the Time

Telling the time in Japanese is very straightforward: the hour first with the suffix じ (o'clock) followed by the minutes with the counter ふん or ぶん. Expressions "past" and "to/before" exist but are used only when the meanings "past" and "to/before" need to be emphasized.

The word for "half of an hour" is はん. It is used as in 2じはん (a half past two), はんじかん (half an hour), 5じかんはん (five and a half hours), etc. There is no word for "quarter of an hour" in Japanese. For that reason, Japanese speakers normally do not make appointments at fifteen minute intervals.

2. The 24 Hour System & the 12 Hour System

In Japan, both the 24 hour and 12 hour systems are used. The 24 hour system is used mainly for timetables (じこくひょう) of transportation systems, school timetables (じかんわり), notices of events, weather reports, and other scientific reports. The 12 hour system is used otherwise.

Telling time normally follows the 12 hour clock. When necessary, such words as あさ (morning), ひる (early afternoon), ゆうがた (late afternoon and early evening), よる (night), and よなか (middle of the night) are added for greater specificity.

The words ごぜん (a.m.) and ごご (p.m.) are more formal than あさ, ひる, ゆうがた, よる, and よなか but, like them, are added to the time only when necessary. Midnight, or 12 a.m., is called ごぜん 0 じ (れいじ) (0 a.m.) in Japanese. Accordingly, noon, or 12 p.m., is called ごご 0 じ (れいじ) (0 p.m.). Noon can also be called しょうご (noon).

3. Verb あります

The verb あります expresses not only the meaning "have {question, opinion, concept, notion, object, etc.}" but also existence of objects. It can be translated as "there is/are" or "(something) exists." The verb います can also express existence, but of living creatures (including humans) only. This will be studied later.

E.g., (1) じさは ありません。
(There is no time difference.)

4. Numerals

There are two kinds of numerals used in Japanese: those that are borrowed from Chinese and those that are indigenous to the Japanese language. In modern Japanese, the Chinese-origin numerals are used most often, whereas the Japanese-origin numerals are perceived to be somewhat irregular. The Japanese-origin numerals that are still in wide use are one to ten only. Numerals of which origin to use is determined by what they are used for or with.

Origin	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
C	いち	に	さん	し	ご	ろく	しち	はち	きゅう / く	じゅう
J	ひ	ふ	み	よ / よん	いつ	む	なな	や	ここの	とお

The Japanese-origin numerals that have survived other than the above are:

は (twenty), みそ (thirty), もも (one hundred), やお (eight hundred),
ち (thousand), よろず (ten thousand), etc.

E.g.,	はつか (二十日)	(the twentieth day)
	はたち (二十才)	(twenty years old)
	みそじ (三十路)	(in one's thirties)
	ももとせ (百歳)	(one hundred years)
	ちとせ (千歳)	(one thousand years)
	ちよ (千代)	(one thousand generations = for ever)
	やちよ (八千代)	(eight thousand generations = for ever)
	やおろず (八百万)	(“eight million” = numerous, many)
	やおや (八百屋)	(green grocer's [which sells “eight hundred kinds of vegetables and other groceries”])

Culture Notes II-3

1. Japan Standard Time

Japan enjoys a single time zone thanks to the narrow north-south shape of the country. Japan Standard Time is based on East 135 degree Longitude, which runs through the City of Akashi, which happens to be one of the most affected areas in the 1995 major earthquake near Kobe that killed over five thousand people in total.

Japan does not switch to daylight saving time. It was experimentally introduced right after the Second World War but its use was discontinued because of its unpopularity. A half century later, the Japanese government is considering reintroducing it. Daylight saving time is called なつじかん ("summer time") whereas standard time is called ふゆじかん ("winter time").

2. Good Numbers & Unlucky Numbers

In Japanese, four and nine are considered to be unlucky numbers. This is because they are homonyms with the words "death" (し) and "suffering" (く), respectively. In many hospitals and some hotels, these two numbers are skipped in the numbering of the floors and rooms.

In general, odd numbers are considered to be good numbers in Japanese culture. When gifts are given, three or five pieces in a set is favoured over four or six. Tableware comes in sets of five, not half a dozen.

Number eight, though it is an even number, is sometimes considered to be a good number. This is an influence of Chinese culture, where the shape of the Chinese character "eight" (八) is interpreted as suggesting prosperity.

Sound System II-3

1. Vowels

There are five vowels **A**, **I**, **U**, **E**, and **O** in Japanese. These vowels are fairly easy to learn by mimicking although there are some things learners should be careful about in pronunciation.

- Vowel A
- Do not use the English vowel “a” as in the word “hat”.
 - Do not flatten your lips sideways.
 - Distinguish the vowels **A** and **E**.

- Vowel I
- Do not use the English vowel “i” as in the word “sit”.
 - The English vowel often spelled “ee” as in the word “see” may be used if shortened.
 - Distinguish the vowels **I** and **E**.

- Vowel U
- No similar sound found in English.
 - Do not stick out your lips forward.
 - Do not round your lips.
 - Relax your lips, jaw, and tongue, and open your mouth only a little bit.

- Vowel E
- Do not open your mouth vertically too wide.
 - Do not change the vowel quality in the middle of the vowel like the English vowel “ei” in the word “eight”.
 - Distinguish the vowel **E** from the vowels **A** and **I**.

- Vowel O
- Do not open your mouth vertically too wide.
 - Do not change the vowel quality in the middle of the vowel like the English vowel “o” in the word “most”.

2. Vowels to Be Distinguished

The Japanese vowels **A** and **E** are sometimes not clearly distinguished by Japanese language learners. The vowels **E** and **I** should also be clearly distinguished.

E.g., (1) さん (three) - せん (thousand)

(2) さんがつき (the third semester/term) - せんがつき (last semester/term)

(3) まえ (front, previous) - まい ([counter for sheet-like object])

(4) こえ (voice) - こい (romantic love)

3. Doubled Vowels and Sound Quality

In some languages, such as English, when vowels are pronounced “longer,” some of them change their sound quality in the middle or at the end of the vowel. The diphthong “ai” in the word “ice,” the diphthong “ei” in the word “aim”, etc., are such examples.

In Japanese, however, when vowels are pronounced longer, i.e., when the vowels are doubled, the sound quality stays the same from the beginning to the end. Avoid pronouncing the Japanese **EE** as **EI** or the Japanese **OO** as **OU**, although they are in most words actually spelled えい and おう, respectively.

4. Devoiced Vowels

In normal Japanese speech, the vowels **I** and **U** are often devoiced or almost dropped when they are next to voiceless consonants such as the **K**, **T**, **S**, and **SH** sounds. When devoicing or dropping these vowels, do not alter the sound quality of the surrounding consonants. In the examples below, the devoiced vowels are scratched out.

E.g., (1) です	DES <u>U</u>	(2) でした	DESH+TA
(3) つき	TS <u>U</u> KI	(4) ふつか	HUTS <u>U</u> KA
(5) すし	S <u>U</u> SHI	(6) しつもん	SH+TS <u>U</u> MON

Note that in some dialects, especially in the Osaka Dialect Group, devoicing of vowels does not occur as frequently as in the Tokyo Dialect Group.

Writing System II-3

1. Katakana Spellings for Japanized Foreign Sounds

Katakana, the set of Kana that is mainly used to transcribe foreign names and loan words (がいらいご), has developed a number of spellings not used in Hiragana.

There are two ways to Japanize foreign sounds. One is to utilize only the sound units originally available in Japanese. The other is to create new sound units that did not exist in traditional Japanese but are acceptable in the Japanese sound system. For example, the English word “west” can be Japanized as **UESUTO** (ウエスト) using only the original sound units or as **WESUTO** (ウエスト) using the newly created sound unit **WE** (ウエ).

The newly created sound units call for special spellings. The majority of them are combinations of a full size and a small size Katakana as in ウエ (**WE**). For more examples, refer to Writing and Reading Practices II-6 and II-7.

2. Loan Words and Foreign Names: How They are Written and Pronounced

Many loan words (がいらいご) and foreign names can be written and pronounced in more than one way. This is mainly because not every Japanese speaker hears or recognizes the foreign sounds in the same way and partly because not everyone can pronounce all the newly created sound units with ease.

For example, the word “spaghetti” used to be pronounced and written **SUPAGECHII** (スパゲチー) when the sound unit **TI** (ティ) was not a stable part of the Japanese sound system. Now that the sound unit **TI** (ティ) is pronounceable by many Japanese speakers, the forms **SUPAGETII** (スパゲティー) and **SUPAGETTI** (スパゲッティ) are normally used.

In certain cases, the older forms are more commonly used than the newer forms. For example, for the words “whiskey” and “film,” the older forms **UISUKII** (ウイスキー) and **HUIRUMU** (フィルム) are in wider use than the newer forms **WISUKII** (ウィスキー) and **FIRUMU** (フィルム). In fact, the newer forms may be employed in writing while readers pronounce them as the older forms.

Some Japanese speakers are quite conscious about “properly” transcribing foreign sounds into Japanese. They may write ヴァンクーヴァー (**VANKUUVAA**) for “Vancouver” using the newly created sound unit ヴァ (**VA**) instead of writing バンクーバー (**BANKUUBAA**). The irony is, however, that most Japanese speakers who opt for ヴァ in writing pronounce it as バ (**BA**) because the **V** sound is not a stable part of the Japanese sound system.

Katakana Introduction I-3

1. Practice writing the five Katakana **TA**, **CHI**, **TSU**, **TE**, and **TO** in the **T Line** on grid paper, following the stroke orders shown below.



2nd stroke - the same as the 2nd stroke of Katakana KU

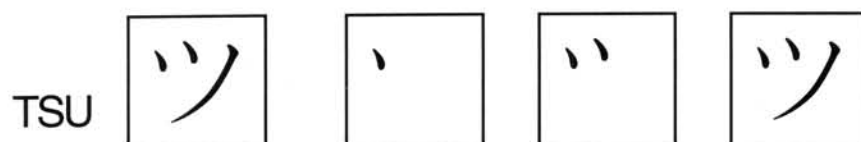
3rd stroke - perpendicular to the 1st stroke and the second part of the 2nd stroke



1st stroke - right to left / ends with a fade

2nd stroke - quite long

3rd stroke - upright / curved only at the end / ends with a fade



overall - the three lines are basically equally spaced

1st stroke - placed very high in the box /
almost pointing to the middle of the bottom of the box

2nd stroke - basically parallel with the 1st stroke

3rd stroke - starts basically at the same "height" of the box as the 2nd stroke /
does not extend too long beyond the middle of the bottom of the box



1st & 2nd strokes - both placed above the middle "height" of the box / parallel

2nd stroke - curved / ends with a fade



2. Practice writing the five Katakana **NA**, **NI**, **NU**, **NE**, and **NO** in the **N Line** on grid paper, following the stroke orders shown below.

NA



1st stroke - positioned above the middle "height" of the box / quite long
 2nd stroke - upright / curved only at the end / ends with a fade

NI



overall - more "fat" than "tall"

NU



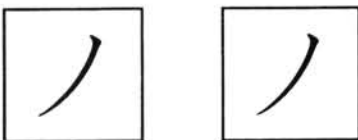
1st stroke - a sharp and angular bend
 2nd stroke - ends with a stop

NE



1st stroke - angled
 2nd stroke - a sharp and angular bend
 3rd stroke - upright / ends with a stop
 4th stroke - angled / ends with a stop

NO



1st stroke - angled / quite long / ends with a fade

3. Practice writing the five Katakana **HA**, **HI**, **HU**, **HE**, and **HO** in **the H Line** on grid paper, following the stroke orders shown below.



1st stroke - not very long / ends with a fade

2nd stroke - starts basically at the same "height" of the box as the 1st stroke

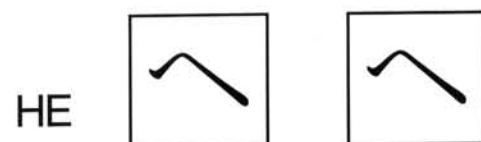


1st stroke - left to right / almost horizontal / ends with a stop

2nd stroke - rounded "corner" / ends with a stop



1st stroke - quite long / a sharp and angular bend /
a long diagonal line / ends with a fade



overall - more "fat" than "tall"

1st stroke - the bend more angular than that of Hiragana HE



1st stroke - quite long

2nd stroke - ends with a hook

3rd stroke - does not touch any other strokes / ends with a fade

4th stroke - does not touch any other strokes / ends with a stop

4. Practice writing the five Katakana each in the **D Line**, the **B Line**, and the **P Line**, using grid paper.

T → D	ダ	ヂ	ヅ	デ	ド
H → B	バ	ビ	ブ	ベ	ボ
H → P	パ	ピ	プ	ペ	ポ

5. Practice writing the full-sized **SHI** and **TSU**, and the small-sized **TSU**, distinguishing them clearly.

Full SHI	シ				
Full TSU	ツ				
Small TSU					

6. Do this practice only if you know how to write Chinese characters.

Write the following Katakana and the Kanji that look similar to them, distinguishing the shapes clearly. Use grid paper.

	Hook ending	1st stroke	Stop ending	
	Shorter Stop ending	2nd stroke 2nd stroke	Starts higher Fade ending	
	Upright but curves Fade ending	2nd stroke 2nd stroke	Straight Stop ending	
	Upright but curves Fade ending	3rd stroke 3rd stroke	Straight Stop ending	
	Starts at the crossing of the 1st & the 2nd stroke	3rd stroke	The beginning slightly crosses the 2nd stroke	
	Hook ending Do not touch any other strokes Stop ending	2nd stroke 3rd/4th strokes 4th stroke	Stop ending Start at the crossing Fade ending	
	Left to right Rounded "corner" Stop ending	1st stroke 2nd stroke 2nd stroke	<u>LEFT ELEMENT</u> Right to left Sharp "corner" Hook ending	
	Left to right Horizontal Stop ending	1st stroke 1st stroke 2nd stroke	<u>RIGHT ELEMENT</u> Right to left Angled Hook ending	

Katakana Looking Similar to Kanji

一 (bar)	一 (one)	ニ (NI)	二 (two)
ミ (MI)	三 (three)	セ (SE)	七 (seven)
ハ (HA)	八 (eight)	チ (CHI)	千 (thousand)
ロ (RO)	口 (mouth)	エ (E)	工 (craft)
タ (TA)	夕 (early evening)	カ (KA)	力 (power)
オ (O)	才 (talent)	イ (I)	人 (person)
ホ (HO)	木 (tree)	ヒ (HI)	比 (compare)
モ (MO)	毛 (hair)		

Note: In normal Japanese writing, as can be observed above, **Kanji** is written slightly larger than **Kana**.

Katakana Writing Practice I-3

1. Write the following words in Katakana.

setto (set)

netto (net)

kappu (cup)

hoppu (hop)

kikku (kick)

baggu (bag)

beddo (bed)

petto (pet)

2. Write the following food-related words in Katakana.

deeto (date)

kaado (net)

nooto (note)

essee (hop)

depaato (department store)

suupaa (supermarket)

hiitaa (heater)

kattaa (cutter)

3. Write the following food-related words in Katakana.

sunakku (snack)

piza (pizza)

<i>chippusu</i>	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	(chips)	<i>pai</i>	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	(pie)
<i>bisuketto</i>	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	(biscuit)			
<i>kukkii</i>	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	(cookie)	<i>nugaa</i>	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	(nougat)
<i>koohii</i>	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	(coffee)	<i>pasuta</i>	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	(pasta)
<i>suteeki</i>	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	(steak)	<i>suupu</i>	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	(soup)
<i>biihu</i>	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	(beef)	<i>pooku</i>	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	(pork)
<i>toosuto</i>	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	(toast)			
<i>bataa</i>	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	(butter)	<i>chiizu</i>	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	(cheese)
<i>banana</i>	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	(banana)	<i>kiui</i>	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	(kiwi)
<i>piinatsu</i>	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	(peanuts)	<i>poteto</i>	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	(potato)

4. Write the following sports-related words in Katakana.

<i>supootsu</i>	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	(sports)	<i>tenisu</i>	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	(tennis)
<i>sakkaa</i>	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	(soccer)	<i>hokkee</i>	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	(hockey)
<i>sukeeto</i>	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	(skate)			

5. Write the following vehicle-related words in Katakana.

ootobai (motorcycle)

sukuutaa (scooter)

baiku (bike)

basu (bus)

takushii (taxi)

6. Write the following clothing-related words in Katakana.

seetaa (sweater)

sukaato (skirt)

suutsu (suutsu)

sukaahu (scarf)

biizu (beads)

nekutai (necktie)

besuto (vest)

besuto (vest)

koto (coat)

sokkusu (socks)

taitsu (tights)

boots (boots)

7. Write the following place names (mostly name of countries) in Katakana.

<i>Kanada</i>	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	(Kanada)	<i>Doitsu</i>	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	(Germany)
<i>Echiopia</i>	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	(Ethiopia)			
<i>Ejiputo</i>	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	(Egypt)	<i>Tai</i>	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	(Thailand)
<i>Chibetto</i>	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	(Tibett)			
<i>Indoneshia</i>	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	(Indonesia)			

8. Write the following names (mostly names of people) in Katakana.

<i>Geete</i>	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	(Goethe)	<i>Hesse</i>	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	(Hesse)
<i>Gohho</i>	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	(Gogh)	<i>Pikaso</i>	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	(Picasso)
<i>Bahha</i>	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	(Bach)			
<i>Pucchiini</i>	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	(Puccini)			
<i>Pinokio</i>	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	(Pinocchio)	<i>Popai</i>	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	(Popeye)
<i>Isoppu</i>	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	(Aesop)			

Hiragana Reading Practice I-3

1. Read the following words written in Katakana.

セット	ネット	カップ	ホップ
キック	バッグ	ベッド	ペット

2. Read the following words written in Katakana.

デート	カード	ノート	エッセー
デパート	スーパー	ヒーター	カッター

3. Read the following food-related words written in Katakana.

スナック	ピザ	チップス	パイ
ビスケット	クッキー	ヌガー	コーヒー
パスタ	ステーキ	スープ	ビーフ
ポーク	トースト	バター	チーズ
バナナ	キウイ	ピーナツ	ポテト

4. Read the following sports-related words written in Katakana.

スポーツ	テニス	サッカー	ホッケー
スケート			

5. Read the following vehicle-related words written in Katakana.

オートバイ スクーター バイク バス
タクシー

6. Read the following clothing-related words written in Katakana.

セーター スカート スーツ スカーフ
ビーズ ネクタイ ベスト コート
ソックス タイツ ブーツ

7. Read the following place names (mostly names of countries) written in Katakana.

カナダ ドイツ エチオピア エジプト
チベット インドネシア タイ

8. Read the following names (mostly names of people) written in Katakana.

ゲーテ ヘッセ ゴッホ ピカソ
バッハ プッチーニ ピノキオ ポパイ
イソップ

Kanji Visualization 3

いみ (meaning)

よみかた (reading)

which month

何月

何月

なんがつ

which day (of a month)

何日

何日

なんにち

what time

何時

何時

なんじ

れいぶん (Example Sentences)

- ① あなたは 何月うまれですか。
- ② きょうは 何日ですか。
- ③ いま 何時ですか。
- ④ 日本語のじゅぎょうは 何時から何時までですか。