

# JAPANESE HANDBOOK

— Welcome to a great Adventure! —



**LEX America**

90 Sherman Street Cambridge, MA 02140

(617) 354-1140 info@lexlrf.org www.lexlrf.org

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Chapter 1: <i>Introduction</i> .....	1-2
Chapter 2: <i>Welcome</i> .....	2-4
Chapter 3: <i>Everyday Expressions</i> .....	4-9
Chapter 4: <i>Let's Eat</i> .....	9-11
Chapter 5: <i>Shopping</i> .....	11-13
Chapter 6: <i>On the Phone</i> .....	13-14
Chapter 7: <i>Let's Play</i> .....	14-15
Chapter 8: <i>Going Out</i> .....	15-16
Chapter 9: <i>Health Problems</i> .....	17-20
Chapter 10: <i>Other Good Phrases</i> .....	20-21
Chapter 11: <i>Chatting</i> .....	21-23
Chapter 12: <i>Saying Goodbye</i> .....	24-25

# Welcome to a Great Adventure!

## *Chapter 1: Introduction*

There are four different writing systems used in Japanese. Often two or more systems are used in the same sentence.

- Kanji 漢字 are Chinese characters used in Japanese. Each character or combination of characters has its own meaning which developed from earlier pictographs.
- Hiragana ひらがな is an alphabet made up of 46 rounded characters, each representing a different syllable.
- Katakana カタカナ is the other Japanese alphabet made up of 46 angular characters. Each katakana symbol has an equivalent in hiragana. Katakana is most often used for writing foreign words.
- Romaji ローマ字 is the Roman alphabet (same as used in the English alphabet) and is used to write foreign words, and to write the names of train stations, etc.

## *Pronunciation*

When reading the following Japanese, you should pronounce *every letter*, unless otherwise indicated. The vowels are pronounced as in Spanish and Italian.

- a (あ) is pronounced “ah”, as in “father”.
- i (い) is pronounced “ee”, as in “pizza”.
- u (う) is pronounced “oo”, as in “flu”.
- e (え) is pronounced “eh”, as in “let”.
- o (お) is pronounced “eye”, as in “Mai Tai”.

After you, please.

You go first.

Make yourself at home.

Won't you sit down?

My name is \_\_\_\_\_.

My nickname is \_\_\_\_\_.

Let me introduce my family.

This is my wife.

husband.

mother.

father.

sister.

brother.

Please call me \_\_\_\_\_.

Come over here.

I'll show you around.

Osaki ni douzo.

お先にどうぞ。

Jibun no ie dato omotte kutsuroide ne.

自分の家だと思ってくつろいでね。

Douzo suwatte.

どうぞ、座って。

Watashi no namae wa \_\_\_\_\_ desu.

私の名前は\_\_\_\_\_です。

Watashi no adana wa \_\_\_\_\_ desu.

私のあだ名は\_\_\_\_\_です。

Watashi no kazoku wo shoukai shimasu.

私の家族を紹介します。

Kochira wa watashi no tsuma desu.

こちらは私の妻です。

夫 (otto)です。

母 (haha)です。

父 (chichi)です。

姉妹 (shimai)です。

兄弟 (kyoudai)です。

\_\_\_\_\_ tte yonde ne.

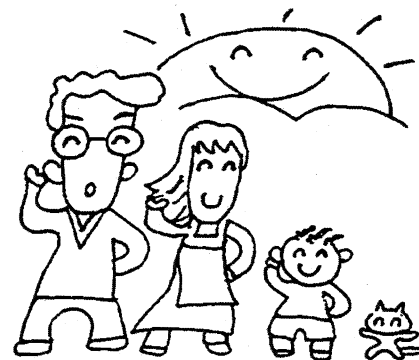
\_\_\_\_\_って呼んでね。

Kotchi ni oide.

こっちにおいで。

Annai shima-shou.

案内しましょう。



Good bye / See you!

Sayoo-nara / Matane!

さようなら / またね。

Yes.

Hai.

はい。

No.

Iie.

いいえ。

No thank you.

Kekkou desu.

結構です。

No / Stop it / Don't do that.

Dame (yamete).

だめ (やめて)。

There are several different ways to say "No". You can distinguish amongst them as follows. First "No" is very common. Second "No" is used when refusing an offer, of food or drink for example. Last "No" is used when scolding children.

Maybe (perhaps).

Tabun.

たぶん。

Do you understand?

Wakari- mashitaka?

分かりましたか?

Yes, I understand / I see.

Wakari-mashita.

分かりました。



That makes sense.

Naruhodo (yatto wakatta wa).

なるほど (やっと分かったわ)。

I don't understand.

Wakari-masen.

分かりません。

I have no idea.

Mattaku wakari masen.

全く分かりません。

Great / wonderful!

Sugoi!

すごい。

Sounds great / That would be great.

Suteki / Ii-kangae.

That's a good idea!

素敵 / いい考え。

That sounds interesting.

Sore wa omoshiro sou da.

それはおもしろそうだ。

That's funny.

Sore wa okashii.

それはおかしい。

That's weird.

Sore wa hen dayo.

それは変だよ。

That's too bad.

Sore wa okinodoku ni.

I'm sorry to hear that.

それはお気の毒に。

What a shame!

Kawaisou.

かわいそう。

You are lucky!

Sore wa yokatta ne!

それは良かったね!

Why?

Doushite / Nande?

How come?

どうして / なんで?

It's a secret.

Himitsu (naisho).

秘密 (内緒)。

I'm happy.

Ureshii.

うれしい。

I'm sad.

Samishii.

さみしい。



Wait a minute.

Chotto matte.

ちょっと待って。

Be careful!

Ki wo tsukete!

気をつけて!

Watch your step!

Ashimoto-ni-ki-wo-tsukete.

足元に気をつけて。

Watch (look) out!

Abunai!

あぶない!

#### **Chapter 4: Let's eat**

Are you hungry (thirsty)?

Onaka suite? (Nodo kawaita?)

お腹すいた?(のどかわいた?)

Would you like something to drink or eat?

Nanika nomu, soreto mo nanika taberu?

何か飲む、それとも何か食べる?

It's time for breakfast.

Asa-gohan desu yo.

朝ごはんですよ。

lunch.

昼ごはん(hiru gohan)ですよ。

dinner.

夕ごはん(yuu gohan)ですよ。

Let's say grace before eating.

Taberu mae ni oinori wo shima-shou.

食べる前にお祈りをしましょう。

"I gratefully receive this food."  
(Standard phrase before eating)

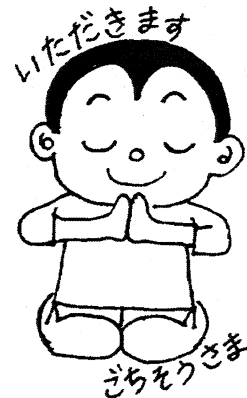
Itadaki masu.

いただきます。

"Thank you for the delicious food."  
(Standard phrase after eating)

Gochi-sou-sama.

ごちそうさま。



I'm full (stuffed).

Onaka ga ippai.

お腹がいっぱい。

## Chapter 5: Shopping

Do you need to buy gifts for your family?

Kazoku no minna ni omiyage kau no?

家族のみんなにおみやげ買うの？

We'll go shopping tomorrow (next week.)

Ashita (raishuu) kaimono ni lkou.

明日(来週)買い物に行こう。

Today is the last day we'll go shopping.

Kyou de kaimono wa oshimai.

今日で買い物はおしまい。

Please buy all your gifts today.

Kyojyuu ni kaimono wo sumasete ne.

今日中に買物をすませてね。

Let's take a look at them.

Naka ni haitte mite miyou.

中に入って見てみよう。

What do you think of this clothing?

Kono fuku wa dou?

この服はどう。

This feels a little too big (small).

Sukoshi ooki sugiru (chiisa sugiru).

少し大きすぎる(小さすぎる)。

It's a real bargain / steal!

Okaidoku yo.

お買い得よ。

How much is it (does it cost)?

Ikura (nanbo)?

How much do they cost?

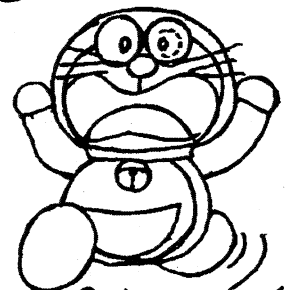
いくら (なんぼ)?

It costs \$5.

Go doru desu.

5ドルです。

Oh, Boy!



Let's Go! 行かないかニ

Do you want to take it?

Hoshii?

欲しい?

I'll take it.

Kore kudasai. (choudai).

これ下さい。(ちょうだい)。

Do you have everything you need?

Anata no hoshii mono wa korede zenbu?

あなたの欲しい物は、これで全部?

Anything else?

Hoka ni nanika aru?

他に何かある?

I'm just looking around.

Tada mite iru dake desu. (Miteru dake.)

ただ見ているだけです(見てるだけ)。

Could you show me another?

Betsu no mono wo misete kudasai.

別の物を見せて下さい。

## **Chapter 6: On the Phone**

Who's calling?

Dochira sama desuka (Donata)?

どちら様ですか (どなた)。

Just a moment, please.

(Hold on, please.)

Shou-shou omachi kudasai.

少々お待ち下さい。

I'll go and get her / him.

Kanojyo / kare wo yonde kimasu.

彼女/彼を呼んできます。

It's your parents.

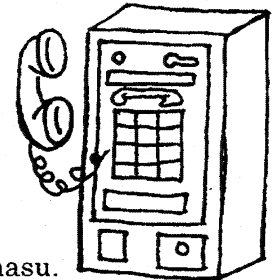
Anata no goryoushin kara denwa yo.

あなたのご両親から電話よ。

Will you answer the phone?

Chotto denwa ni dete kure masenka.

ちょっと電話に出てくれませんか。



Time is up (over).

Jikan-gire.

時間切れ。

It doesn't work.

Ugokanai yo.

It won't go.

動かないよ。

How can I use it?

Dou yatte tsukauno.

どうやって使うの。

You can use it by yourself.

Katte ni tsukatte iiyo.

勝手に使っていいよ。

Please turn it up /down.

Onryou wo agete / sagete.

(such as stereo and television)

音量を上げて/下げて。

### Chapter 8: Going Out

< At a restaurant or food court >

What do you want to eat?

Nani ga tabetai.

何が食べたい？



It's up to you.

Anata ni makaseru yo.

あなたにまかせるよ。

What do you recommend?

Osusume wa nan desuka?

お勧めは何ですか？

This is very tasty.

Korewa oishii yo.

これはおいしいよ。

Try it and see.

Tabete mireba wakaruyo.

食べてみれば分かるよ。

I'll take this one.

Kore ni shimasu.

これにします。

## Chapter 9: Health Problems



Are you sick?

Byouki desuka?  
病気ですか？

Do you feel bad?

Guai ga warui no?  
具合が悪いの？

Are you feeling better?

Guai wa yoku natta?  
具合はよくなった？

Do you have medicine?

Kusuri motteru?  
薬もってる？

Please show me the medicine.

Sono kusuri wo misete.  
その薬を見せて。

What's the matter with you?  
What's wrong?

Douka shita no? / Nani ka atta no?  
どうかしたの? / 何かあったの?

Where does it hurt?

Doko ga itai no?  
どこが痛いの？

Point to where it hurts.

Itai-tokoro wo yubisashite goran.  
痛い所を指さしてごらん。

I have a slight headache.

Atama ga sukoshi itai.  
頭が少し痛い。

I have a stomachache

Onaka (I) ga itai.  
お腹 (胃)が痛い。

toothache.

歯(Ha)が痛い。

throat.

のど(nodo)が痛い。

dogs.

犬アレルギー(Inu arerugi)です。

cats.

猫アレルギー(Neko arerugi)です。

dust.

Hokori arerugi desu (hokori ni binkan).  
ほこりアレルギーです (ほこりに敏感)。

food.

Tabemono no arerugi desu.  
食べ物のアレルギーです。

How are you feeling today?

Kyou no guai wa dou?  
今日の具合はどう？

I'm feeling better.

Daibu yoku natte kita.  
だいぶ良くなってきた。

I feel well.

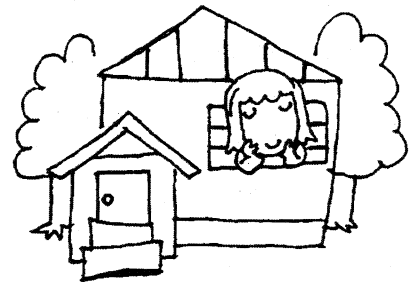
Taichou ga ii.  
体調がいい。

I'm fine / very good.

Totemo genki.  
とても元気。

I'm so so.

Maa-maa.  
まあまあ。



Do you have a good appetite?

Shoku-yoku wa aru?  
食欲はある？

Take the medicine and go to bed early.

Kusuri wo nonde, suguni nenasai.  
薬を飲んで、すぐに寝なさい。

Take them three times a day after meals.

Ichi-nichi, sankai shokugo ni nomu koto.  
一日三回、食後に飲むこと。

Get well soon.

Odai ji ni.  
お大事に。

Practice makes perfect!

Narau yori nare yo!

習うより慣れよ!

That was close.

Tasukatta.

助かった。

That was a big help.

Tasukete kudasai.

助けてください。

I need your help.



## Chapter 11: Chatting

How are things with you?

Saikin dou?

最近、どう?

What are you from in Japan?

Nihon no doko no shusshin desuka?

日本のどこの出身ですか。

What does your father (mother) do?

Otousan (okasan) no oshigoto wa nani?

お父さん(お母さん)のお仕事は何?

Do you have any brothers or sisters?

Kyoudai wa iru?

きょうだいは、いる?

How many?

Nannin?

何人?

What's this (that)?

Kore (are) wa nani?

これ(あれ)は何?

Who's this (that)?

Kono (Ano) hito wa dare?

この(あの)人は誰?

When's your birthday?

Tanjyou-bi wa itsu?

誕生日はいつ?

I forgot my camera.

Kamera wasurete kichatta.

カメラ忘れてきちゃった。

I'll go and get it.

Tori ni itte kuru.

取りに行ってくる。

Here is a little present for you.

Hai, anata ni purezento yo.

はい、あなたにプレゼントよ。

May I open it?

Akete mo ii?

開けてもいい？

Go ahead.

Douzo.

どうぞ。

I'm glad you like it.

Kini-itte kurete yokatta.

気に入ってくれて良かった。

It's very impressive.

Kandou shichau.

感動しちゃう。

What time is it (do you have) now?

Ima nanji?]

今、何時？

How's your homework going?

Shukudai wa haka-dotteru.

宿題は、はかどってる？

So far, so good.

Imanotokoro iikanji (jyunchou).

今のところいい感じ(順調)。

Do you like school?

Gakkou wa suki?

学校は好き？

What subjects do you like?

Nan no kyouka ga suki?

何の教科が好き？



プレゼント For You!!

Say hello to your family.  
Give my regards to your family.

Kazoku no min-na ni yoroshiku.  
家族のみんなによろしく。

Please send us a letter.

Otegami choo dai.  
お手紙ちょうだい。

Let's keep in touch!

Renraku-shi-ai masho.  
連絡しあいましょう。

Take care of yourself.

Okarada wo taisetsu ni.  
お体を大切に。

Do come and see me again!

Mata kite ne.  
また来てね。

Have a safe trip.

Bujide.  
無事で。