



Some of the most important everyday questions

 **toire ni ikitai / toire wa doko desu ka?**
I want to go to the toilet / where is the toilet?

 **(kono densha wa) ○○ ni tomarimasu ka?**
(is this train) stopping at ○○?

 **(kore wa) ikura desu ka?**
how expensive (is this)?

Please remember to say **sumimasen** (excuse me) before asking something!

 **kurejitto-kādo de haraemasu ka?**
can I pay by credit card?



Constructing basic questions

nan ...
what ...
dare ...
who ...
itsu **desu ka?**
when is it?
doko ...
where ...
dō ...
how ...

dōshite?
why?
hontō desu ka?
really?
ī desu ka?
okay?
genki desu ka?
how are you?

Frequently used interjections:

anō... / eto...
uhm...
ne?
right?
yatta!
hooray! / I did it!
yappari
I knew it
are? / arere?
wait... what?

kore this **kono ○○** this ○○ **ano ○○** that ○○ **koko** here **soko** there

Some everyday phrases

please always say this before eating

itadakimasu
"I receive thankfully" / (said before eating)

ganbatte(-kudasai)
(please) hang in there

ki wo tsukete (kudasai)
(please) be careful / "use your mind"

jya, mata ne
bye, see ya

sayōnara
goodbye

Handy adjectives:

oishī
delicious
omoshiroi
funny / interesting
atarashī
new
atsui
hot (temperature)
samui
cold
yasashī
friendly / easy

irasshaimase

welcome to our store/restaurant

yōkoso
welcome

otsukaresama desu
you're working hard / (appreciates someone's work)

naruhodo
oh, I understand

daijōbu you'll hear this quite often
it's alright

watashi
I / me

watashi-tachi
we / us

anata
you

anata-tachi
you (plural)

minna
everyone

3 · Everyday Phrases

Shioyama-senpai's

V1.1

Japanese Cheat Sheet

for beginners



- 1 Basics
- 2 Important Words
- 3 Everyday Phrases
- 4 More Vocabulary Hiragana / Katakana Numbers & more...

hajimemashite!
nice to meet you!



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 **ohayō(-gozaimasu)**
good morning

gozen
morning

 **konnichiwa**
good day

gogo
afternoon

 **konbanwa**
good evening

hai - iie
yes - no

arigatō(-gozaimasu)
thank you (very much)

sumimasen / gomennasai
excuse me / I'm very sorry

-kudasai / -onegaishimasu
please... / please... (formal)



hajimemashite!
nice to meet you!

never forget this one :D

wakarimasu
understand

wakarimasen
don't understand

eigo o hanasemasu ka?
Do you speak English?

1 · Basics

*blue text is optional to build a formal sentence

The most important words you need to know

男	otoko	<i>man</i>	You will be glad to know these two as soon as you visit your first public toilet
女	onna	<i>woman</i>	
人	hito / -jin	<i>person</i>	
大	ō- / ōkī	<i>big</i>	
小	ko- / chīsai	<i>small</i>	
禁止	kinshi	<i>forbidden</i>	These words are used on pretty much every prohibition/danger sign
注意	chūi	<i>caution</i>	
入口	iriguchi	<i>entrance</i>	
出口	deguchi	<i>exit</i>	
ドア	doa	<i>door</i>	
トイレ	toire	<i>toilet</i>	
駅	eki	<i>station</i>	
きっぷ	kippu	<i>ticket</i>	
電車	densha	<i>train</i>	
バス	basu	<i>bus</i>	
車	kuruma	<i>car</i>	
円	en	<i>yen</i>	Used as currency sign (¥)

There's more on page 4!



2 · Important Words

Hiragana/Katakana

あ ア	い イ	う ウ	え エ	お オ	ぎゃ	ぎゅ	ぎょ
a	i	u	e	o	きゃ	きゅ	きょ
か カ	き キ	く ク	け ケ	こ コ	くや	くゆ	くよ
ka	ki	ku	ke	ko	くや	くゆ	くよ
が ガ	ぎ ギ	ぐ グ	げ ゲ	ご ゴ	ぎゃ	ぎゅ	ぎょ
ga	gi	gu	ge	go	ぎゃ	ぎゅ	ぎょ
さ サ	し シ	す ス	せ セ	そ ソ	しゃ	しゅ	しょ
sa	shi	su	se	so	しゃ	しゅ	しょ
ざ ザ	じ ジ	ず ズ	ぜ ゼ	ぞ ゾ	じゃ	じゅ	じょ
za	ji	zu	ze	zo	じゃ	じゅ	じょ
た タ	ち チ	つ ツ	て テ	と ト	ちゃ	ちゅ	ちょ
ta	chi	tsu	te	to	ちゃ	ちゅ	ちょ
だ ダ	ぢ チ	づ ツ	で デ	ど ド	ぢゃ	ぢゅ	ぢょ
da	ji	zu	de	do	ぢゃ	ぢゅ	ぢょ
な ナ	に ニ	ぬ ヌ	ね ネ	の ノ	にゃ	にゅ	にょ
na	ni	nu	ne	no	にゃ	にゅ	にょ
は ハ	ひ ヒ	ふ フ	へ ヘ	ほ ホ	ひゃ	ひゅ	ひょ
ha	hi	fu	he	ho	ひゃ	ひゅ	ひょ
ば バ	び ビ	ぶ ブ	べ ベ	ぼ ボ	びゃ	びゅ	びょ
ba	bi	bu	be	bo	びゃ	びゅ	びょ
ぱ パ	ぴ ピ	ぷ プ	ぺ ペ	ぽ ポ	ぴゃ	ぴゅ	ぴょ
pa	pi	pu	pe	po	ぴゃ	ぴゅ	ぴょ
ま マ	み ミ	む ム	め メ	も モ	みゃ	みゅ	みょ
ma	mi	mu	me	mo	みゃ	みゅ	みょ
や ヤ		ゆ ユ		よ ヨ	りゃ	りゅ	りょ
ya		yu		yo	りゃ	りゅ	りょ
ら ラ	り リ	る ル	れ レ	ろ ロ			
ra	ri	ru	re	ro			
わ ワ		ん ン		を ワ			
wa		n		wo			

Numbers	20	ni-jū	200	ni-hyaku	2000	ni-sen	
1	ichi	21	ni-jū-ichi	210	ni-hyaku-jū	2100	ni-sen-hyaku
2	ni	22	ni-jū-ni	220	ni-hyaku-ni-jū	2200	ni-sen-ni-hyaku
3	san	...	...	...	...	...	...
4	shi/yon	30	san-jū	300	san-byaku	3000	san-sen
5	go	40	yon-jū	400	yon-hyaku	4000	yon-sen
6	roku	50	go-jū	500	go-hyaku	5000	go-sen
7	shichi/nana	60	roku-jū	600	roppyaku	6000	roku-sen
8	hachi	70	nana-jū	700	nana-hyaku	7000	nana-sen
9	kyū	80	hachi-jū	800	happyaku	8000	hassen
		90	kyū-jū	900	kyū-hyaku	9000	kyū-sen
10	jū	100	hyaku	1000	sen / issen	10000	ichi-man
11	jū-ichi	110	hyaku-jū	1100	sen-hyaku	20000	ni-man
12	jū-ni	120	hyaku-ni-jū	1200	sen-ni-hyaku	21000	ni-man-issen
...	...	...	...	...	...	22000	ni-man-ni-sen
					

Counting

* If you're unsure, just use the general/uncategorised counter.

	general / uncategorised	flat or round objects (CDs, slices, paper, cards, ...)	books	machines, vehicles, devices (cars, bikes, computers, TVs, ...)	people	long or cylindrical objects (trees, trains, pens, bottles, ...)	cups, bowls
how many?	ikutsu?	nan-mai?	nan-satsu?	nan-dai?	nan-nin?	nan-bon?	nan-bai?
1	hitotsu	ichi-mai	issatsu	ichi-dai	hitori	ippon	ippai
2	futatsu	ni-mai	ni-satsu	ni-dai	futari	ni-hon	ni-hai
3	mittsu	san-mai	san-satsu	san-dai	san-nin	san-bon	san-bai
4	yotstu	yon-mai	yon-satsu	yon-dai	yonin	yon-hon	yon-hai
5	itsutsu	go-mai	go-satsu	go-dai	go-nin	go-hon	go-hai
6	muttsu	roku-mai	roku-satsu	roku-dai	roku-nin	roppon	roppai
7	nanatsu	nana-mai	nana-satsu	nana-dai	shichi-nin/ nana-nin	nana-hon	nana-hai
8	yattsu	hachi-mai	hassatsu	hachi-dai	hachi-nin	happon	happai
9	kokonotsu	kyū-mai	kyū-satsu	kyū-dai	kyū-nin/ kunin	kyū-hon	kyū-hai
10	tō	jū-mai	jissatsu/ jussatsu	jū-dai	jū-nin	jippon/ juppon	jippai/ juppai
11	jū-ichi	jū-ichi-mai	jū-issatsu	jū-ichi-dai	jū-ichi-nin	jū-ippon	jū-ippai
12	jū-ni	jū-ni-mai	jū-ni-satsu	jū-ni-dai	jū-ni-nin	jū-ni-hon	jū-ni-hai

More Vocabulary

at the station

1番線	ichi-ban-sen	track number 1
ホーム	hōmu	platform
乗り換え	norikae	to change
発車	hassha	departure

各停 / 普通	kakutei / futsū	local / normal (stops at every station)
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準急	jun-kyū	semi-express (skips some stations)
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急行 / 特急 / 快速	kyūkō / tokkyū / kaisoku	express / rapid (stops at certain stations only)
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きっぷ	kippu	ticket
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改札	kaisatsu	ticket gate
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ICカード	IC kādo	IC card
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チャージ	chāji	charge
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J R / 国鉄	JR / kokutetsu	Japan Rail / national railway
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地下鉄 / メトロ	chikatetsu / metoro	underground railway / metro
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at the restaurant

メニュー	menyū	menu
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ご注文	gochūmon	the order
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店内飲食	tennai-inshoku	to eat in
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持ち帰り	mochikaeri	to take away
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単品	tanpin	only the product
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セット	setto	set
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shopping

お買い物	o-kaimono	the groceries
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スーパー / スーパーマーケット	sūpā / sūpāmāketto	supermarket
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レジ	reji	cash register
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現金	genkin	cash
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クレジットカード	kurejitto-kādo	credit card
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ビニール袋	biniru-bukuro	plastic bag
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肉	niku	meat
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魚	sakana	fish
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野菜・果物	yasai · kudamono	vegetables · fruits
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パン	pan	bread
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my notes: