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SPLASH! AT CORNELL

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*Fall 2015*

# Introduction to Japanese Language and Culture

Chirag Bharadwaj



日本語

# Japanese Language

皆さん、こんにちは！  
私はバラドワジ・チラグです。

**Hello, everybody!**  
**My name is Chirag Bharadwaj.**

# About Me

- From Flushing, NY
- Went to high school in Princeton, NJ
- Junior at **Cornell University**
  - B.Sc., *Computer Science*
  - B.Sc., *Electrical and Computer Engineering*
- Japanese is one of my **side** interests!
- Other than that, just like you:
  - 18 years old
  - Interested in **learning**
  - Love helping others and **teaching** (probably)



# Overview

- **60** minutes (oops!) to get a quick **introduction** to Japanese
- Need to cover a wide range of topics
  - **Writing systems**
  - IPA system
  - *Romaji, hiragana, katakana, furigana*
  - Some vocabulary and *kanji*
  - **General phrases**
- If time permits, we may discuss aspects of **culture**
- Pace: Very rapid!
  - We only have 60 minutes! (And that's pushing it...)
- **Holism** vs. **reductionism**: The age-old question, age-old answer...

# Background

- Assumes no previous knowledge of Japanese
  - No reason to be scared!
- Learning a language is a general skill
  - Can be applied to any type of language
    - Natural languages
    - Computer languages
  - Metaphysical: Can be extended to *anything*, not just languages!
- Toolkit: Learning **how to learn**
  - Celebrate **autodidactism!**
  - Reading, Writing, Listening, Speaking (RWLS)
  - Need to focus on all 4! Lots of people have *strong* RW, *weak* LS or vice versa



# “Proficiency”?

- Various degrees of proficiency
- Measure of the achievement?
- *Option 1*: Introduce a scoring mechanism
  - Take the **JLPT N1** proficiency exam, score **120/180** or higher
  - Alternatives: *Kanji kentei*, *J-test*, etc.
- *Option 2*: Self-measurement
  - Can you convert all of your course notes into Japanese?
  - No loss of meaning
    - Transliteration
    - Romanization?

# Lossless Pronunciation

- *Objective:* Can we create a system to pronounce any language's sounds in a correct, functional way without any loss of meaning?
- Is there a language for which we can use Latin characters with extensions to represent the set of all sounds in that language?
  - Sanskrit                      देवनागरी                      Devanāgarī
  - International Alphabet of Sanskrit Transliteration
  - Lossless romanization of Indic scripts using extensions to Latin script
  - Sanskrit is the **only** language for which a lossless romanization exists
- A **Latin-based** pronunciation system for other languages? **IPA**

# IPA: International Phonetic Alphabet

- Complicated system invented by linguists to keep track of how to pronounce things (i.e. **don't worry too much about it**)
- *Idea*: Cannot represent meaningful units of sound (*morphemes*) so need to use fundamental unit of sound to characterize (*phonemes*)
- Can then represent **any** language, because all languages just use sounds at a fundamental level

- Examples from English:

why	<i>wɑɪ</i>	flower	<i>'flaʊər</i>
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Japanese	<i>,dʒæpə'niz</i>	learn	<i>lɜrn</i>
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- IPA may vary due to regional accents... we use *standard IPA*

# Japanese Writing Systems

- Japanese has three different writing systems
  - *Hiragana* (**cursive writing**: native Japanese words, particles, etc.)
  - *Katakana* (**fragmented writing**: foreign/loaned words, grammar inflections)
  - *Kanji* (**general vocabulary**: borrowed from ancient Chinese characters)
    - Much harder to learn than either hiragana or katakana
    - Takes many years to memorize/understand how to interpret meaning of kanji
    - Overloaded characters
    - Overridden meanings
- We will cover hiragana (in-depth) and katakana (briefly) today
  - Pure *syntax*... providing *building blocks* to allow you to learn
  - *Semantics* of the Japanese language not covered
  - *The hope*: This lesson inspires you enough to get started learning *by yourself*!

# Japanese Writing Systems

- Kana: Hiragana and Katakana
  - Kana are *syllabaries* (spoken exactly as written)
  - No ambiguity
  - Unlike English, Latin, or *rōmaji* (romanization of Japanese script)
- Lexicographic representation: Kanji
  - No choice but to memorize (Anki, Memrise, etc.)
  - Standard education: 2200
  - University education: 5000
  - Total kanji: ~80000 (...just use a dictionary beyond the standard 5000)
- Japanese sentences **mix all three** scripts
  - Need to learn all, especially kanji (the kana are “elementary”)

# A Word on Stroke Order

- Stroke order matters in Japanese
- Handwriting needs to be able to maximize fluidity
- Retention of knowledge: Follow a set stroke order so don't need to memorize how things flow if they are similar
- cf. English: Not parallelizable
- Stroke order in English is mostly irrelevant (except in cursive)

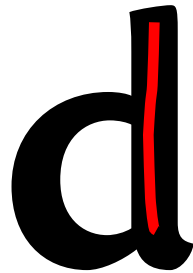
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d

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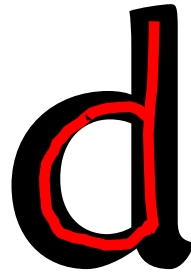


VERSION 1



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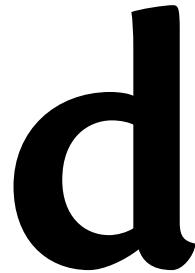
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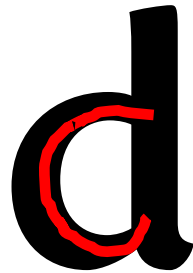
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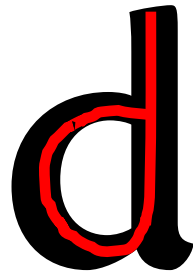
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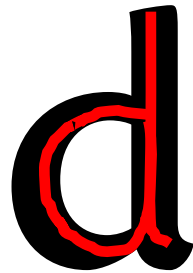
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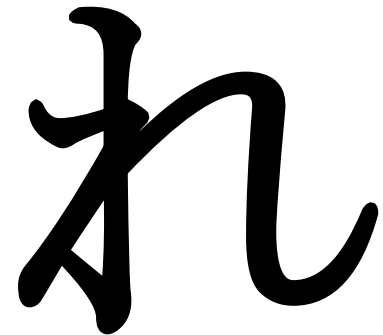
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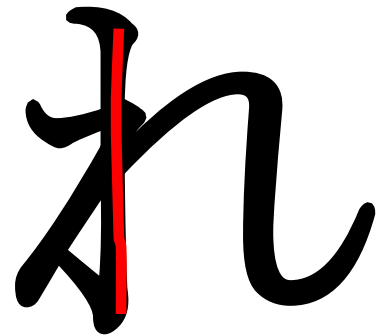
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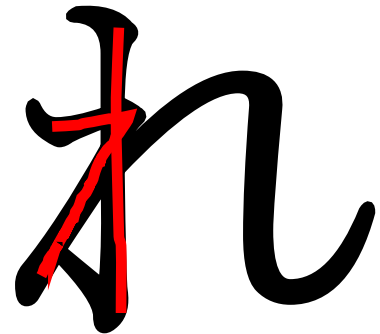
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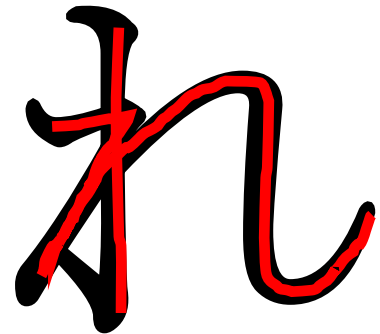
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  - Not the case in Japanese!
  - Rule of thumb: *Top to bottom*, *left to right*, and *clockwise*

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- Both versions are equally as fluid in English
  - Not the case in Japanese!
- For now: **Ignore stroke order**
  - Can learn while writing kana **by hand** (computer  $\Rightarrow$  otherwise, unnecessary)

**HIRAGANA**

# Hiragana

Rōmaji	IPA	Hiragana	Kanji
hiragana	<i>çiragana</i>	ひらがな	平仮名

- **Core** of Japanese sound system/written system (not omnipresent)
  - *Monographs, diacritics, digraphs, digraphs with diacritics*
  - *gojūon, (han)dakuten, yōon, yōon (han)dakuten*
- Learning hiragana comprises learning all of Japanese sounds
- Ignore kanji for now
  - Much more **complex stroke order**
- Hiragana characteristics
  - Smooth, curved in nature
  - Similar to cursive writing

# Vowel Sounds

Sounds:

a i u e o  
[a] [i] [u] [e] [o]

Note: u is a compressed sound, like in *Tsubaki-chan*

In general: These are *short* sounds. Long sounds covered later.

Every consonant is based off of these sounds, using the style of consonant prefix sound + vowel sound, e.g. *k + a = ka* ([ka])

# Vowel Symbols

Sounds:

あ い う え お  
[a] [i] [u] [e] [o]

Let's go into depth for memorizing each one!

System: Mnemonics, pictorial representations

*Memorize with pictures, make association, break picture association over time as recollection becomes knowledge*



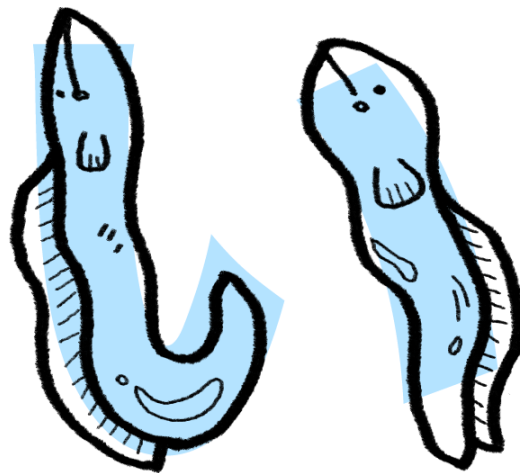
**a** [a] あ

A large, bold, blue Japanese character 'あ' (a) is centered on the page. It consists of a horizontal bar at the top, a vertical stem, and a circular base with a small hook on the right side.

A large, light blue Japanese character 'あ' (a) is centered on the page. A black capital letter 'A' is overlaid on the character, positioned in the center of the circular base.

**Mnemonic:**  
*capital 'A'*

*i* [i] い



**Mnemonic:**

*two eels*

u [u] う



**Mnemonic:**  
*sideways 'u'*

e [e] え

え



**Mnemonic:**  
*exotic bird*

o [o] お



**Mnemonic:**

*two 'o's*

# K\* Sounds

Sounds:

**ka ki ku ke ko**

*[ka] [ki] [ku] [ke] [ko]*

# K\* Symbols

Sounds:

か き く け こ

[ka] [ki] [ku] [ke] [ko]

Let's go into depth for memorizing each one!

*ka* [ka] か

か



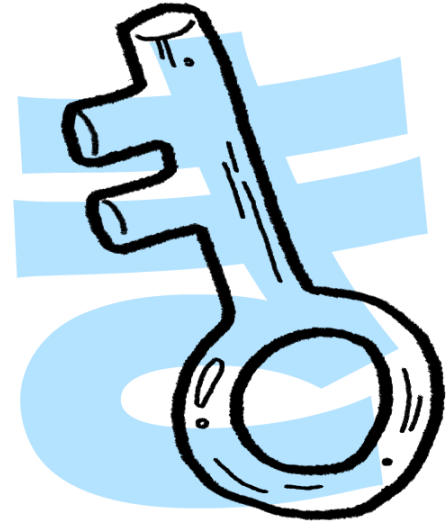
**Mnemonic:**

*ballerina dancing to can-can*



*ki* [ki] 匙

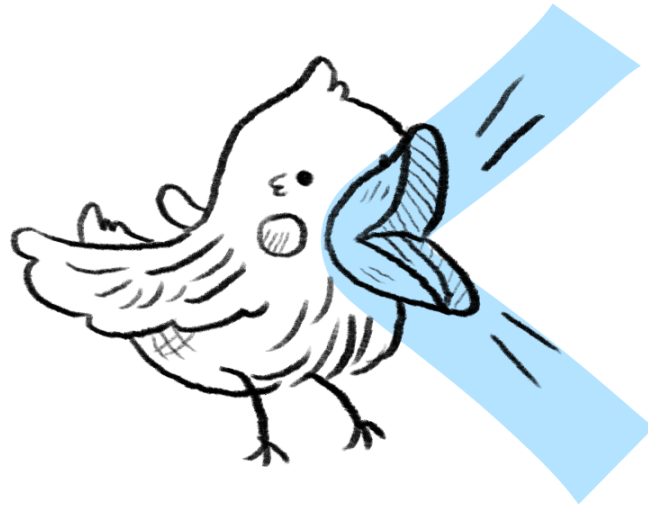
匙



**Mnemonic:**

*key*

*ku* [ku] <



**Mnemonic:**  
*cuckoo bird*

*ke* [ke] け

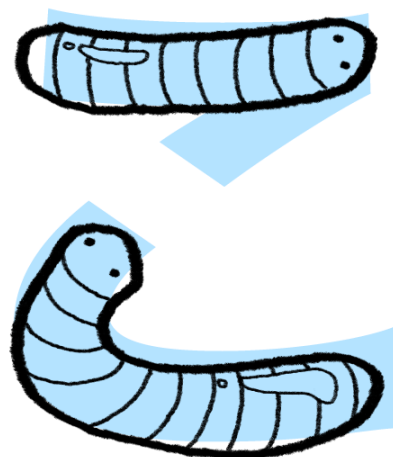
け



**Mnemonic:**

*keg*

*ko* [ko] ㄎ



**Mnemonic:**  
*cohabitation worms*

# S\* Sounds

Sounds:

sa shi su se so

[sa] [çi] [sɯ̥] [se] [so]

Note: The *shi* is an example of an *exception kana*, which has a slightly different pronunciation than the expectation for historical reasons.

*There are a few exception kana scattered between the consonant sets.*

# S\* Symbols

Sounds:

さ し す せ そ

[sa] [ʃi] [sɯ] [se] [so]

Let's go into depth for memorizing each one!

*sa* [sa] さ

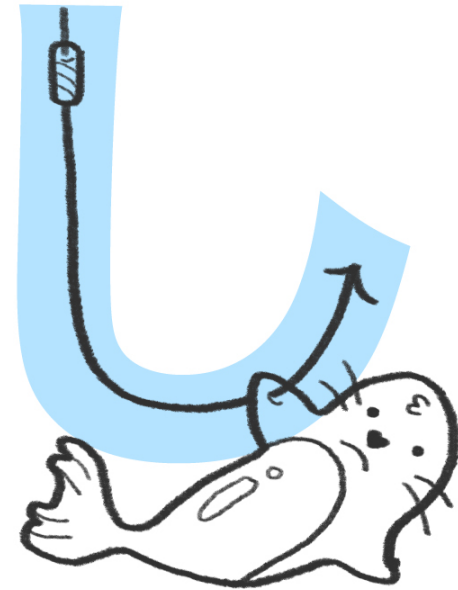
さ



**Mnemonic:**

*sign*

*shi* [çi] し

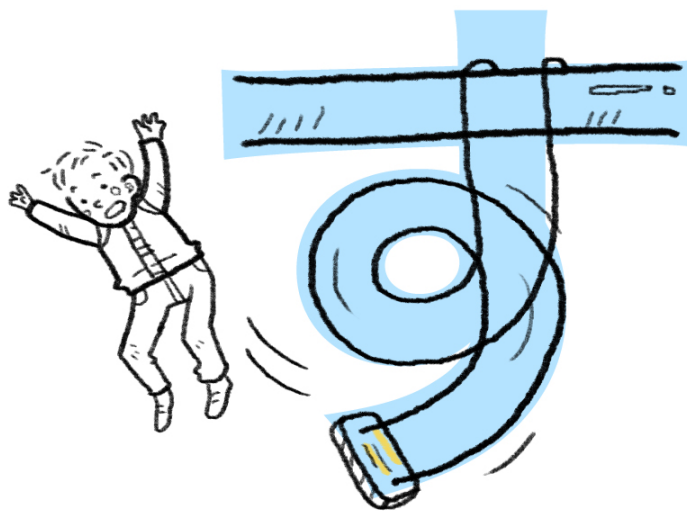


**Mnemonic:**  
*fishy hook*



*su* [su] す

す



**Mnemonic:**

*swing*

se [se] 世

世



**Mnemonic:**

*say, what a large tooth!*

so [so] そ

そ



**Mnemonic:**

*songbird*

# T\* Sounds

Sounds:

**ta chi tsu te to**

[ta] [t̄çi] [t̄s̄y] [te] [to]

Note: The *chi* and *tsu* are exception kana here. They sound somewhat similar to *shi* and *su*, in fact.

This will become more apparent when we study the *yōon* (*han*)*dakuten* versions of them.

# T\* Symbols

Sounds:

た ち つ て と  
[ta] [t̄çi] [ts̄y] [te] [to]

Let's go into depth for memorizing each one!

*ta* [ta] た

た

た

**Mnemonic:**  
*looks like "ta"*

*chi* [tʃi] ち

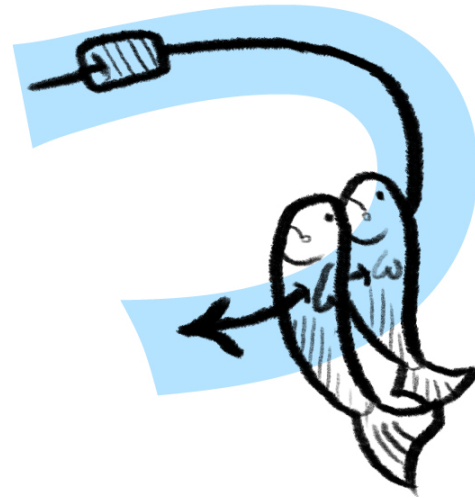
ち



**Mnemonic:**

*no chin*

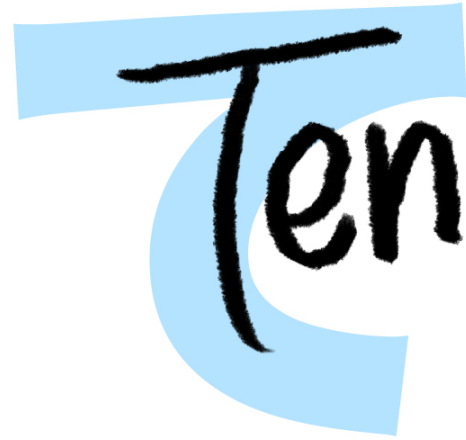
*tsu* [tsu] ㄙ



**Mnemonic:**  
*two fishy hooks*



*te* [te] て

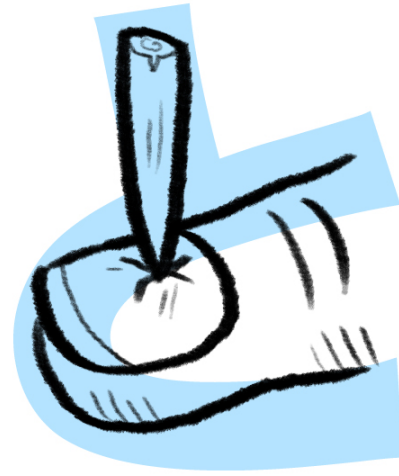


**Mnemonic:**

*ten*

*to* [to] と

と



**Mnemonic:**  
*toe with nail*

# N\* Sounds

Sounds:

**na ni nu ne no**

*[na] [ni] [nu] [ne] [no]*

# N\* Symbols

Sounds:

な に ぬ ね の

[na] [ni] [nu] [ne] [no]

Let's go into depth for memorizing each one!

*na* [na] な

な



**Mnemonic:**

*nun*

*ni* [ni] に

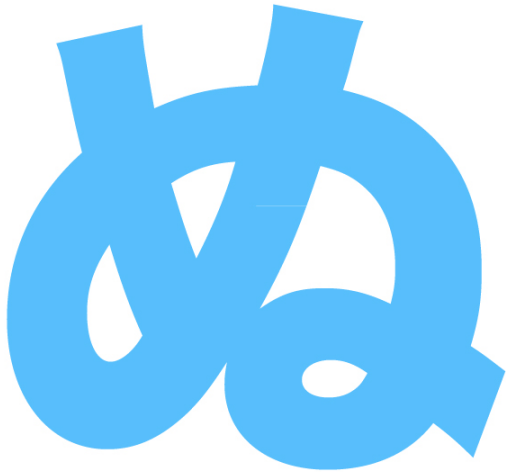
A large, solid blue Japanese character 'に' (ni) is shown. It consists of a vertical stroke on the left and a curved stroke on the right that starts from the top of the vertical stroke, goes up, then curves down and to the right.

A large, solid blue Japanese character 'に' (ni) is shown. A black needle is drawn over the character. The needle's shaft is vertical, passing through the top of the vertical stroke and the top curve of the right stroke. The needle's eye is at the bottom of the vertical stroke, and the needle's point is at the bottom of the right stroke.

**Mnemonic:**

*needle*

*nu* [nu] ぬ



**Mnemonic:**

*noodle*

*ne* [ne] ね

ね



**Mnemonic:**

*neko (cat)*



*no* [no] の



**Mnemonic:**  
*no smoking*

# H\* Sounds

Sounds:

ha hi fu he ho

[ha] [çi] [φy] [he] [ho]

Note: The *fu* is an exception kana here. Furthermore, the *hi* has a unique pronunciation—it carries a slight *palatalization*.

# H\* Symbols

Sounds:

は ひ ふ へ ほ  
[ha] [çi] [φy] [he] [ho]

Let's go into depth for memorizing each one!

*ha* [ha] は

は

は

**Mnemonic:**  
*looks like "ha"*

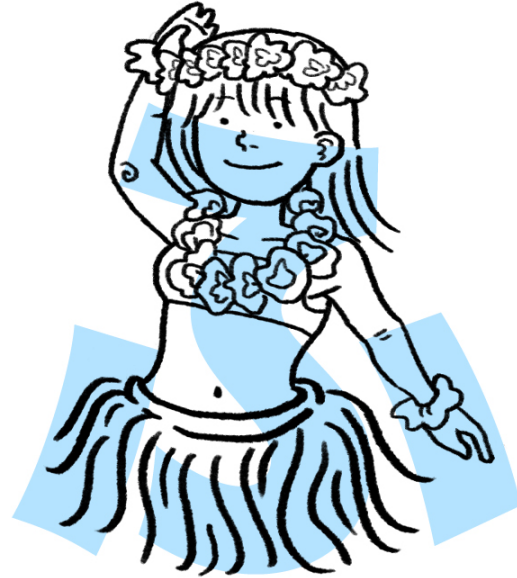
*hi* [çi] ひ



**Mnemonic:**  
*he looks angry*

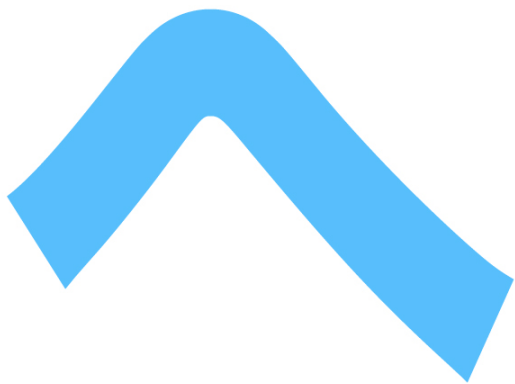
*fu* [φu] ふ

ふ



**Mnemonic:**  
*hula dancer*

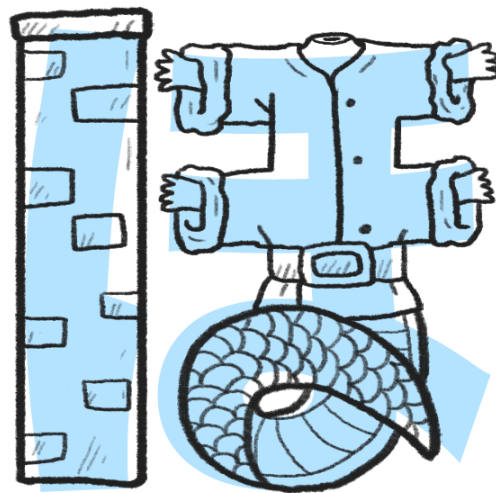
*he* [he] ˆ



**Mnemonic:**  
*Mt. St. Helens*

*ho* [ho] ほ

ほ



**Mnemonic:**  
*looks like "ho"*



# M\* Sounds

Sounds:

**ma mi mu me mo**

*[ma] [mi] [m<sub>u</sub>] [me] [mo]*

# M\* Symbols

Sounds:

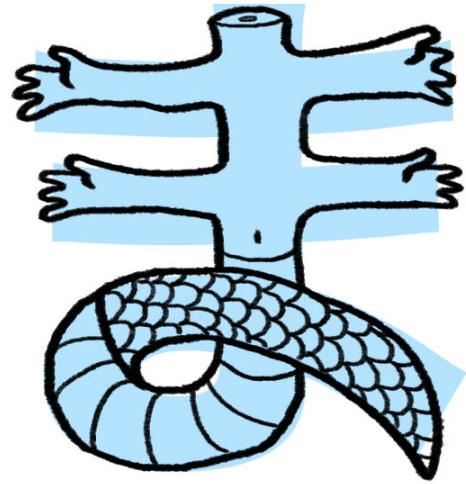
ま み む め も

[ma] [mi] [mu] [me] [mo]

Let's go into depth for memorizing each one!

*ma* [ma] ま

ま



**Mnemonic:**

*monster*

*mi* [mi] み

み

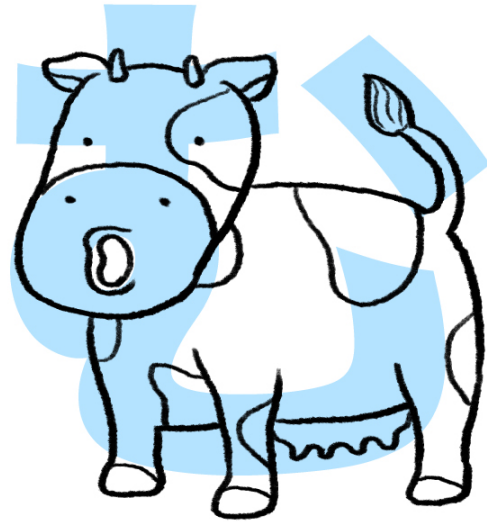
み

**Mnemonic:**

*who's 21? not me...*

*mu* [mu] む

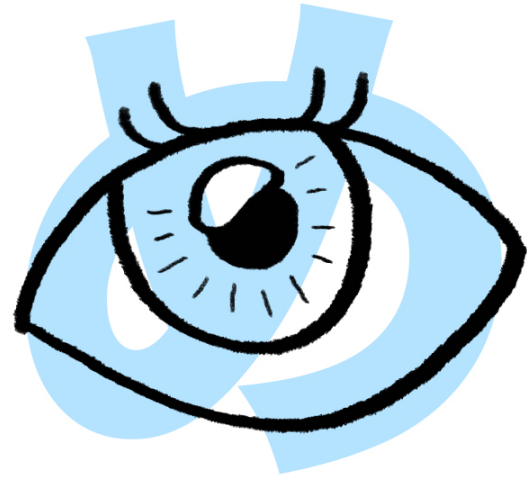
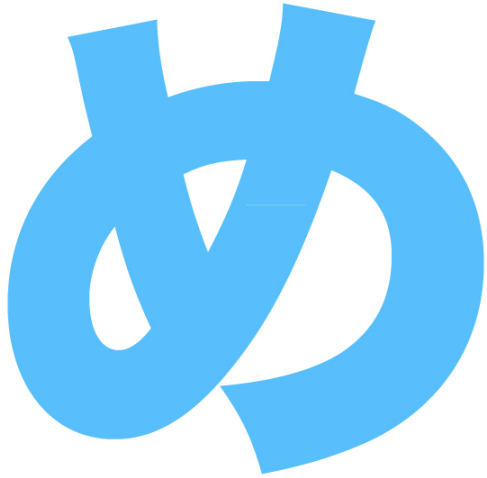
む



**Mnemonic:**

*cows say "moo"*

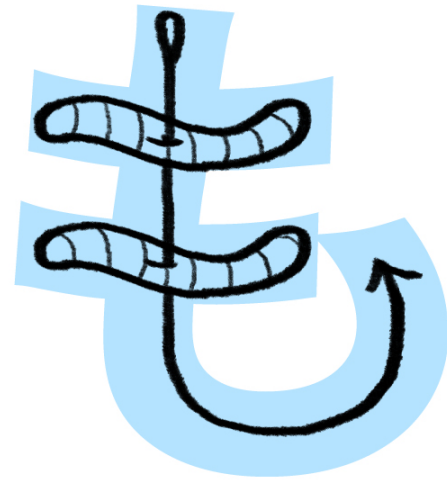
*me* [me] め



**Mnemonic:**

*me (eye)*

*mo* [mo] も



**Mnemonic:**

*more bait on hook*

# Y\* Sounds

Sounds:

ya yu yo

[ja] [ju] [jo]

Note: There are only three y\* kana. The pronunciation is like Spanish.

*Slightly untrue, more later...*



# Y\* Symbols

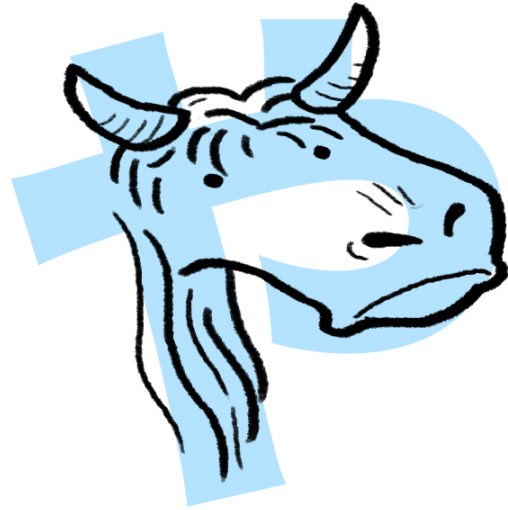
Sounds:

や ゆ よ

[ja] [ju] [jo]

Let's go into depth for memorizing each one!

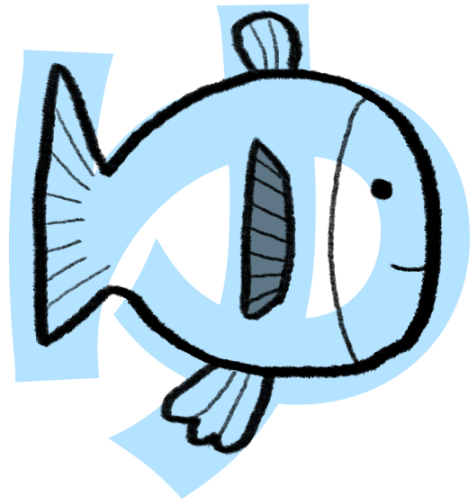
*ya* [ja] 



**Mnemonic:**

*yak*

*yu* [jy] ϣ



**Mnemonic:**  
*unique fish*

yo [jo] よ

よ



**Mnemonic:**  
*guy screaming "yo!"*

# R\* Sounds

Sounds:

ra ri ru re ro

[ra] [ri] [rɯ] [re] [ro]

Note: The pronunciation of the  $r^*$  kana is non-trivial. It requires a *flap* of the tongue (hence the name for the phoneme: *retroflex flap*).

# R\* Symbols

Sounds:

ら り る れ ろ

[ra] [ri] [ru] [re] [ro]

Let's go into depth for memorizing each one!

*ra* [ra] ら

ら



**Mnemonic:**

*DJ rapping*

*ri* [ri] り



**Mnemonic:**

*reeds*



*ru* [ru] る



**Mnemonic:**

*route Z*

*re* [re] れ

れ



**Mnemonic:**

*vomiting upon getting rekt*

*ro* [ro] ろ



**Mnemonic:**

*route 3*

# Miscellaneous Sounds

Sounds:

**wa wo n'**  
[w̥a] [w̥o] [n; N]

Note: The  $w^*$  sounds function as *particles* in Japanese, and the  $n$  sound functions as a mechanism for conjunctions in Japanese. Note furthermore that the  $w̥$  is a compressed  $w$  sound, so  $wa = húa$ .

# Miscellaneous Symbols

Sounds:

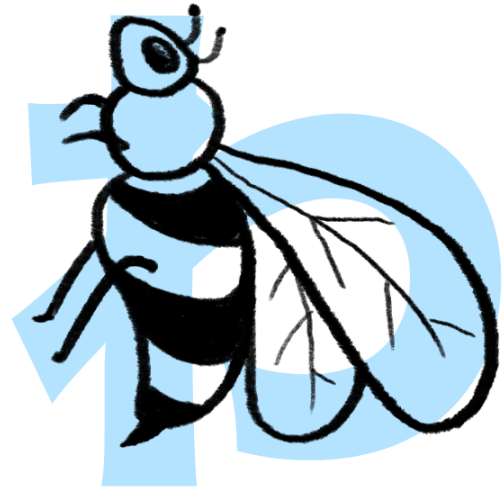
わ を ん

[wa] [wo] [n; N]

Let's go into depth for memorizing each one!

*wa* [wa] わ

わ

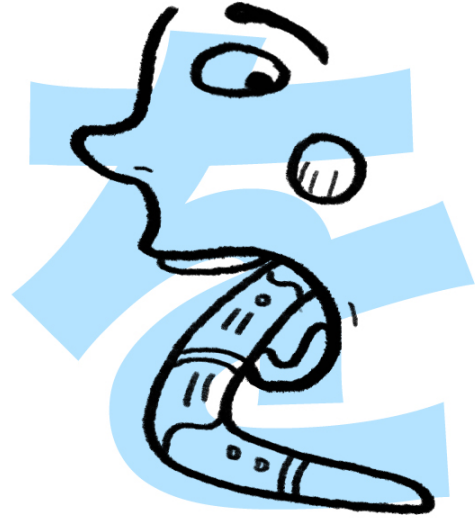


**Mnemonic:**

*wasp*

wo [wɔ] を

を



**Mnemonic:**

*whoa, a boomerang!*

*n'* [n; N] *h*



**Mnemonic:**

*looks like 'n'*



# Summary of Monographs



- We have covered all of the *monographs* in hiragana
- Japanese name: *gojūon*, or ごじゅおん (kanji: 五十音)
- Basic sounds/written scripts
- Will now make things slightly more complicated:
  - Combining sounds
  - Combining symbols
  - Simple in principle if the *gojūon* are understood well

# Extensions to Monographs

- There are actually kana for representing the *wi*, *we*, *ye*, and *yi* sounds, but not *wu* (never existed in Japanese)
- Mostly **outdated**, never used except for style in modern times
- Basic idea shown below:

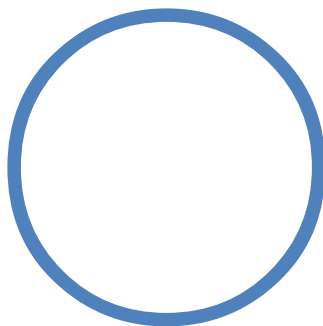
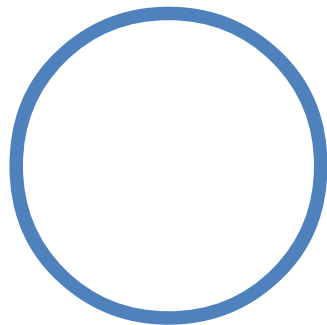
wi	we	ye	yi
ゐ	ゑ	ヱ	ヰ
[wi]	[we]	[je]	[ji]

# Diacritics

- Japanese name: *dakuten*, or *だくてん* (kanji: 濁点)
- Used for *voicing marks* used as *diacritic* signs
- Indicates that the corresponding consonant is voiced instead of unvoiced
- There are also *handakuten*, or *はんだくてん* (kanji: 半濁点)
  - Semi-voiced consonants (*plosives*)
- Denotation of diacritics (○ represents a monograph kana):
  -   
dakuten
  -   
handakuten
- We will establish phonetic shifts as a result of voicing

# Diacritics: Basic Idea

○ = は



# Diacritics: Basic Idea

○ = は

は ば

は ば

## Diacritics: Basic Idea

ha ba


ha pa

# Voice Shifts

	Gojūon	Dakuten	Handakuten
<b>k-</b>	k- [k-] →	g- [g-] →	ng- [ŋ-]
<b>s-</b>	s- [s-]	z- [z-]	NONE
<b>t-</b>	t- [t-]	d- [d-]	NONE
<b>h-</b>	h- [h-]	b- [b-]	p- [p-]

Note, however, that *exceptions breed exceptions*:  
し ⇒ じ, but shi does not yield zi. Instead, shi ⇒ ji.

# Voice Shifts

	Gojūon	Dakuten	Handakuten
k-	k- [k-]	g- [g-]	<b>NONE</b> 
s-	s- [s-]	z- [z-]	NONE
t-	t- [t-]	d- [d-]	NONE
h-	h- [h-]	b- [b-]	p- [p-]

*Not really used, so ignore*

Note, however, that *exceptions breed exceptions*:  
し ⇒ じ, but shi does not yield zi. Instead, shi ⇒ ji.



# List of Diacritics

が	ぎ	ぐ	げ	ご
ga	gi	gu	ge	go
ざ	じ	ず	ぜ	ぞ
za	ji	zu	ze	zo
だ	ぢ	づ	で	ど
da	dzi	dzu	de	do
ば	び	ぶ	べ	ぼ
ba	bi	bu	be	bo
ぱ	ぴ	ぷ	ぺ	ぽ
pa	pi	pu	pe	po

# Pronunciation of Diacritics

が	ぎ	ぐ	げ	ご
[ga]	[gi]	[gɯ]	[ge]	[go]
ざ	じ	ず	ぜ	ぞ
[za]	[d̥zi]	[zɯ]	[ze]	[zo]
だ	ぢ	づ	で	ど
[da]	[d̥zi]	[d̥zɯ]	[de]	[do]
ば	び	ぶ	べ	ぼ
[ba]	[bi]	[bɯ]	[be]	[bo]
ぱ	ぴ	ぷ	ぺ	ぽ
[pa]	[pi]	[pɯ]	[pe]	[po]

# Summary of Diacritics

- We have covered all of the *diacritics* in hiragana
- Easy once monographs are known
- Simple *voice shifts*
- Even exceptions are regular (exceptions breed exceptions!)
- Pronounce each consonant through vibration of mouth
- So far:
  - Have changed sounds through voice shift
  - Can we combine sounds?
  - Can we combine symbols?

# Extensions to Diacritics

が	ぎ	ぐ	げ	ご
[ga]	[gi]	[g <u>u</u> ]	[ge]	[go]
ざ	じ	ず	ぜ	ぞ
[za]	[d̄zi]	[z <u>u</u> ]	[ze]	[zo]
だ	ぢ	づ	で	ど
[da]	[d̄zi]	[d̄z <u>u</u> ]	[de]	[do]
ば	び	ぶ	べ	ぼ
[ba]	[bi]	[b <u>u</u> ]	[be]	[bo]
ぱ	ぴ	ぷ	ぺ	ぽ
[pa]	[pi]	[p <u>u</u> ]	[pe]	[po]

Can voice this vowel too,  
but not really common

う  
[vu]

# Digraphs

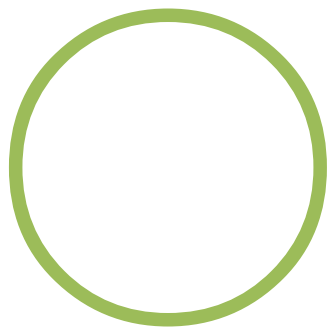
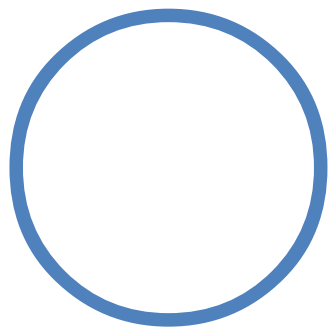
- Japanese name: *yōon*, or よおうおん (kanji: 拗音)
- Used for *palatalization marks* used as *mora* signs
  - Contracted words, diphthongs
- Indicates that the corresponding consonant has a palatalized central phoneme
- Standard *i-column* prefix + *smaller* size of *ya*, *yu*, or *yo* kana
- Denotation of digraphs (○ represents a monograph kana):

○や

○ゆ

○よ

# Digraphs: Basic Idea



# Digraphs: Basic Idea

○ = ぀

぀

぀

぀

# Digraphs: Basic Idea

ki kya



# List of Digraphs

きゃ きゅ きょ しゃ しゅ しょ

kya kyu kyo sha shu sho

ちゃ ちゅ ちょ にゃ にゅ によ

cha chu cho nya nyu nyo

ひゃ ひゅ ひょ みゃ みゅ みょ

hya hyu hyo mya myu myo

りゃ りゅ りょ

rya ryu ryo

# Pronunciation of Digraphs

きゃ きゅ きょ しゃ しゅ しょ

[kʲa] [kʲu] [kʲo] [ɕa] [ɕu] [ɕo]

ちゃ ちゅ ちょ にゃ にゅ にょ

[tɕa] [tɕu] [tɕo] [ɲa] [ɲu] [ɲo]

ひゃ ひゅ ひょ みゃ みゅ みょ

[ça] [çu] [ço] [mʲa] [mʲu] [mʲo]

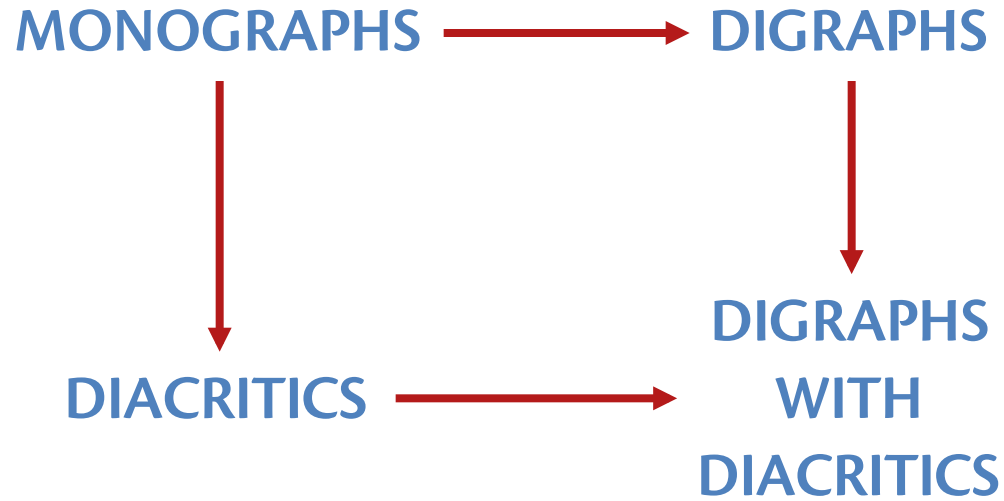
りゃ りゅ りょ

[rʲa] [rʲu] [rʲo]

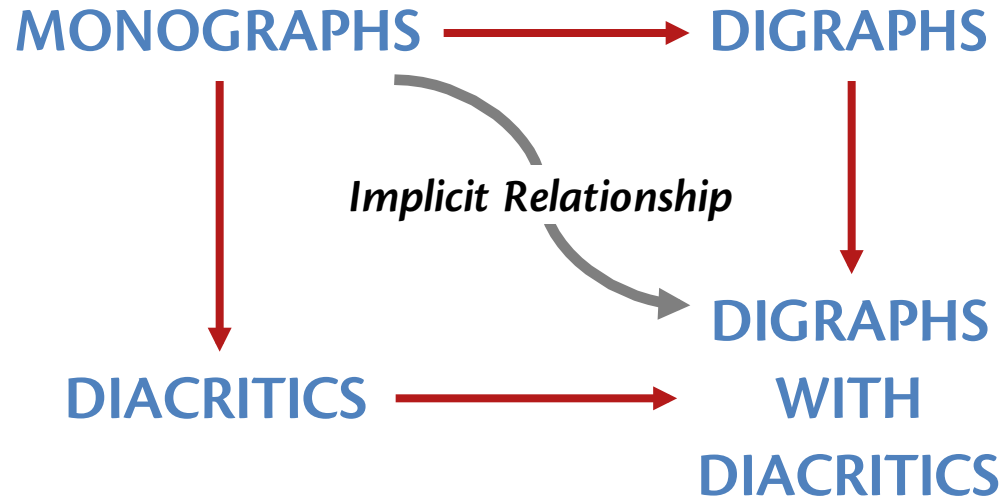
# Summary of Digraphs

- We have covered all of the *digraphs* in hiragana
- Basic *combination kana* based on existing hiragana characters
- Combining symbols AND sound
- More complicated model of syllabary
- Note: Digraphs use SMALL kana
  - きよ is NOT きよ! Note: *kyo* is a digraph, while *kiyo* means “skilled”
- Problem: Two different systems exist
  - *Diacritics* for voiced/unvoiced
  - *Digraphs* for combining sounds into less fundamental units of sound
- Can we combine both?
  - Yes, *digraphs with diacritics*

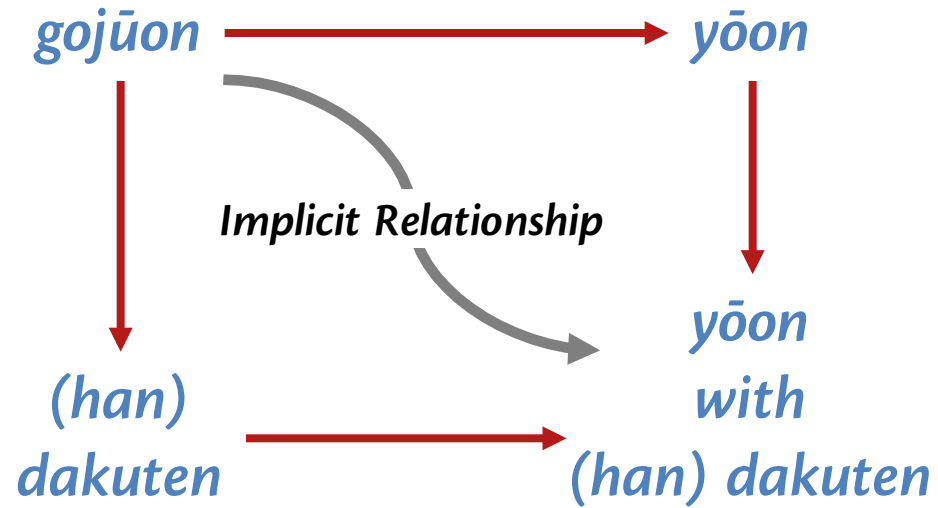
# Digraphs with Diacritics



# Digraphs with Diacritics



# Digraphs with Diacritics



# List of Digraphs with Diacritics

ぎゃ ぎゅ ぎょ じゃ じゅ じょ

gya gyu gyo ja ju jo

ぢゃ ぢゅ ぢょ びゃ びゅ びょ

dzya dzyu dzyo bya byu byo

ぴゃ ぴゅ ぴょ

pya pyu pyo

# Pronunciation of Digraphs with Diacritics

ぎゃ ぎゅ ぎょ じゃ じゅ じょ

[gʲa] [gʲu] [gʲo] [d͡ʒa] [d͡ʒu] [d͡ʒo]

ちゃ ちゅ ちょ ぴゃ ぴゅ ぴょ

[d͡ʒa] [d͡ʒu] [d͡ʒo] [pʲa] [pʲu] [pʲo]

ぴゃ ぴゅ ぴょ

[pʲa] [pʲu] [pʲo]



# Summary of Digraphs with Diacritics

- We have covered all of the *digraphs with diacritics* in hiragana
- Complex *combination kana* based on existing hiragana characters
- Have a **complete model** of hiragana now
- Can represent a multitude of sounds
- Use these sounds to represent **classical** Japanese concepts
- What about foreign loanwords? These also use the same sounds...
  - Need *katakana*, which uses the **SAME SOUNDS** but a slightly modified script
  - Thus, the sounds of hiragana **ARE** the sounds of Japanese
  - *Pitfalls*: Misusing hiragana/katakana for certain “reborrowed” words

**HIRAGANA EXTRAS**

# Geminates

- There is a “small *tsu*” character (っ), called *sokuon* (kanji: 促音)
  - English equivalent: A so-called *geminate*
  - Used for reduplication purposes
  - Transcribes “double-consonants” with a slight pause
  - cf. the word “bookkeeping” in English: *slightest pause between ‘k’s*
- Geminate can affect rōmaji through “twinning” of consonant

っ○

- Some examples of sokuon usage:

いた	<i>ita</i>	かった	<i>kat'ta</i> (won)
いった	(cf.) <i>it'ta</i>	さっか	<i>sak'ka</i> (writer)
けこう	<i>kekou</i>	はっぱ	<i>hap'pa</i> (leaf)
けっこう	(cf.) <i>kek'kou</i>	ざっし	<i>zas'shi</i> (magazine)

# Twining $n$

- To have the “double-consonant” effect for  $n^*$ , we need to use  $ん$
- Solution:

$-nna = \text{—}んな$      $-nni = \text{—}んに$      $-nnu = \text{—}んぬ$   
 $-nne = \text{—}んね$      $-nno = \text{—}んの$

- Here, the  $\text{—}$  means what it does in English: a dash
- However, we need a way to be able to “double” vowels
  - i.e. representing long vowels, like in English
  - Can use a technique similar to how we twinned  $n^*$

# Long Vowels

- We will explore the technique via example
  - When to double, when not to double
  - Does it affect meaning?
    - **Yes, by a lot** 😞
- There are some exceptions
  - Mostly **historical** (a recurring theme in Japanese)

# Long Vowels

- *aa*
  - おばあさん (*obāsan*, or grandmother) vs. おばさん (*obasan*, or aunt)
- *ii*
  - おじいさん (*ojīsan*, or grandfather) vs. おじさん (*ojisan*, or uncle)
- *uu*
  - すうじ (*sūji*, or number)
- *ee*
  - Hiragana **usually** achieves *ee* with *ei*, as in せんせい, or *sensei* (master)
  - えいが (*ēga*, or movie) uses *ei*, but おねえさん (*onēsan*, or sister) is true *ee*
- *oo*
  - Hiragana **usually** achieves *oo* with *ou*, as in ありがとう, or *arigatō* (thanks)
  - ほうりつ (*hōritsu*, or law) uses *ou*, but とお (*tō*, or ten) is true *oo*

**KATAKANA**

# Katakana: A Very Brief Overview

Rōmaji	IPA	Katakana	Kanji
katakana	<i>katakana</i>	カタカナ	片仮名

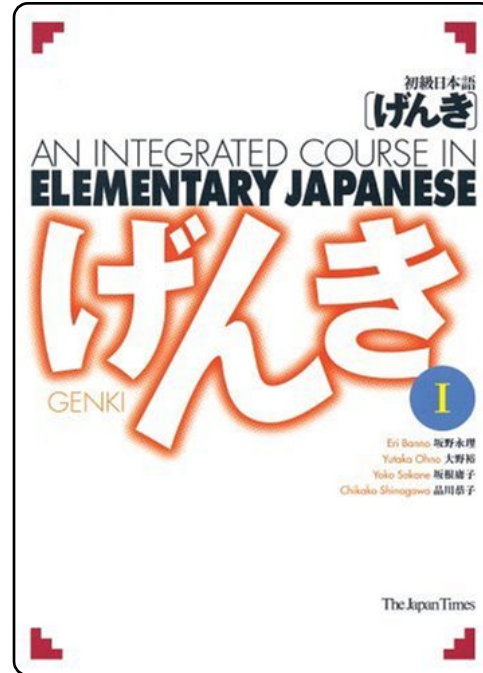
- Katakana contains the **SAME** core of Japanese that hiragana offers
  - *Monographs, diacritics, digraphs, digraphs with diacritics*
  - *gojūon, (han)dakuten, yōon, yōon (han)dakuten*
- Meaning: “Fragmentary kana”, i.e. contains part of original kanji
  - Hiragana and katakana derive from ancient kanji due to need for simplicity
- Katakana characteristics
  - Boxy, straight in nature
  - Similar to English/Latin writing
- ***Take Part II of this class—covers katakana and more culture***



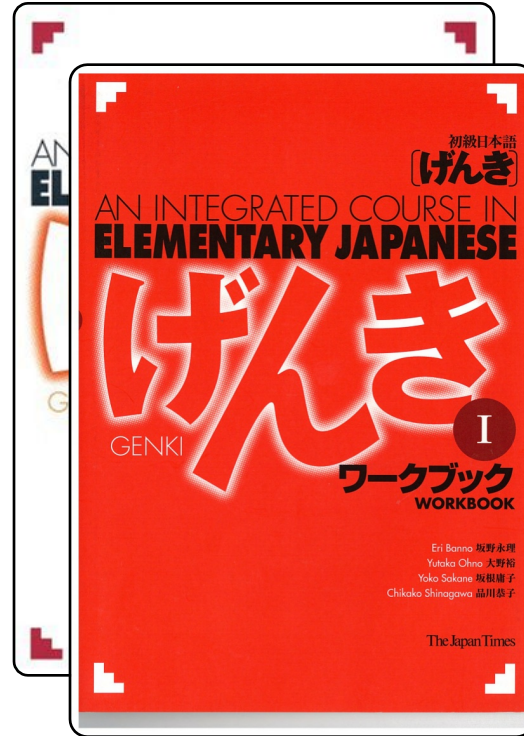
## **RESOURCES**

*...to get you started (stay hungry for knowledge!)*

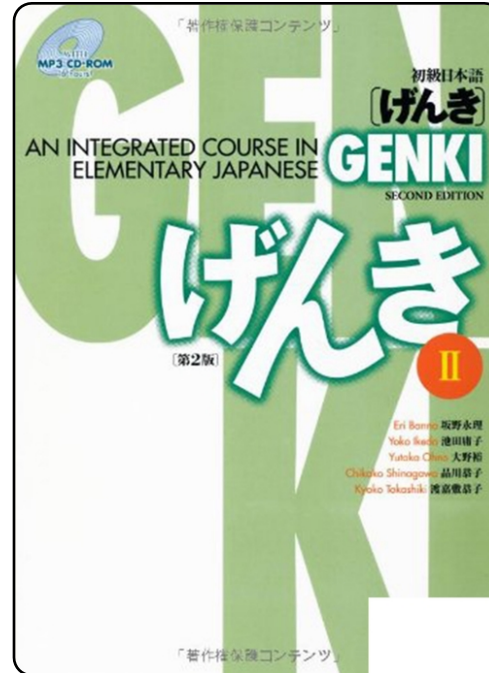
# Genki I



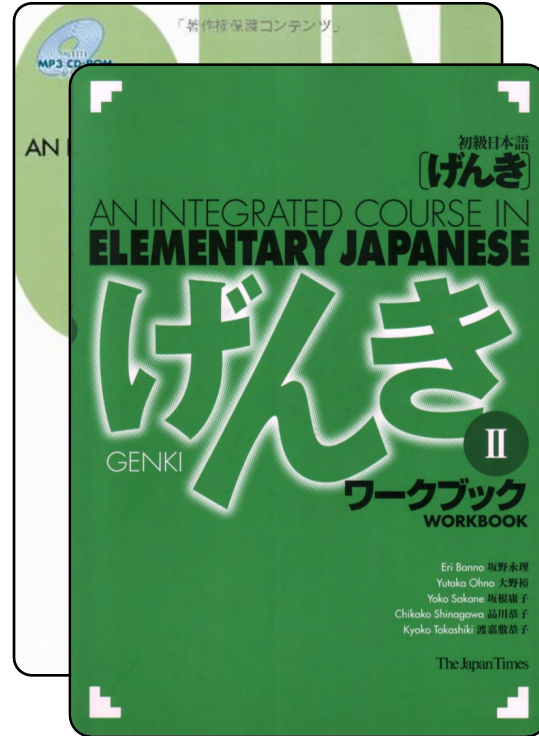
# Genki I



# Genki II



# Genki II



# Learning the Kana and Kanji



# Varying Levels of Grammar



# Speaking and Listening

- Find **native speakers** in your area (rarer in the Northeast cf. West)
- Practice online (with parents' permission)
  - Find speakers online
  - Teach them English, ask them to teach you Japanese
  - Don't lose motivation by a few bad finds
- Listen to **podcasts**, the **news**
- Find **sources** that translate to rōmaji/hiragana/katakana at first
- Use Reddit: [/r/learnjapanese](https://www.reddit.com/r/learnjapanese)



# Questions?

- If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to me!
- My email address is [cb625@cornell.edu](mailto:cb625@cornell.edu), and I'm always available!
  - May take some time to reply, though
  - We're all busy students!
- I wish you the best of luck in your future Japanese studies
  - Take a class in high school?
  - Major/minor in university?
  - Think ahead, plan for a little while (even if you're still young!)
  - Living in a language house cultural unit
  - [Interaction with native speakers](#) is key

**THE FUTURE**



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SPLASH! AT CORNELL

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*Spring 2016*

# Introduction to Japanese Language and Culture II

Chirag Bharadwaj

**THE FUTURE**

