

Let's Learn about Tanabata through Manga

— Wishing on a Tanzaku —



Tanabata Day (July 7) is when two star-crossed lovers, Princess Orihime and Prince Hikoboshi, are allowed to cross the Milky Way to see each other once a year. People write their wishes on a strip of paper called *tanzaku* and hang them on a bamboo tree.

“とも” provides helpful advice on living in Japan, tips for learning the Japanese language, and other such information, in Japanese with furigana and nine foreign languages (Vietnamese, Chinese, Filipino, Indonesian, Thai, Cambodian, Burmese, Mongolian, and English). The Japanese version is available on paper, and the foreign language versions are available in PDF format on JITCO’s website for viewing on a smartphone, PC, or other such device. We hope you make good use of these resources. (<https://www.jitco.or.jp/ja/tomo/>)



So many interesting expressions!

Let's Learn about オノマトペ

クイズ

Q1

あめ 雨が ○○○○ ふ 降っている



Q2

あめ 雨が ○○○○ ふ 降っている



Q3

あめ 雨が ○○○○ ふ 降っている



えら ABC からそれぞれ選んでね!

A しとしと B ざあざあ C ぽつぽつ



In Japanese, onomatopoeia is a general term for gitaigo (words that describe conditions and states), giongo (words that mimic sounds made by inanimate objects), and giseigo (words that mimic the sounds made by people and animals). They are used frequently in daily conversation, such as in “にこにこ笑う (smile with a wide grin)” and “床がつるつるすべる (the floor is smooth and slippery).” The Japanese language is said to have a particularly wide variety of onomatopoeia, so learners of Japanese might find it a challenge to understand the meanings of many onomatopoeia that crop up in conversations.

The quiz introduces “ざあざあ,” “しとしと,” and “ぽ

つぽつ” as onomatopoeia related to rain, but there are many more, including “ばらばら,” “しょぼしょぼ,” and “ざんざん” to name a few.

“きりきり,” “ずきずき,” “ぴりぴり,” “じんじん,” “ずきんずきん,” “ちくちく,” and “がんがん” are onomatopoeia expressing pain. When you go to a hospital, your doctor or nurse may be able to grasp your condition more easily if you use onomatopoeia to describe the type of pain you have.

Having a good command of onomatopoeia would enrich your power of expression and make for smoother conversation, so you might want to enjoy learning how to use them.

Onomatopoeia? Here's more!

The National Institute for Japanese Language and Linguistics operates a website that provides an exhaustive list of onomatopoeia in order of the Japanese alphabet or by category. It might be interesting to check it out!

<https://www2.ninjal.ac.jp/>

[Onomatopoeia/index.html](https://www2.ninjal.ac.jp/Onomatopoeia/index.html)



JITCO learning materials

JITCO sells a wide variety of educational materials for studying Japanese. They include textbooks you can use to concentrate on studying Japanese conversations that are commonly used in technical intern training environments. Besides textbooks, CDs, DVDs, and e-learning materials are also available. We invite you to browse the site and see what might be helpful to you.

Learning materials online shop

<https://onlineshop.jitco.or.jp/>

e-learning

<https://www.jitco.or.jp/ja/service/learning.html>



What you should know



Beware of Heatstroke!

What's heatstroke?

Heatstroke occurs when your body's water and salt balance is disrupted by high temperatures and high humidity. You need to be especially careful on days when it suddenly becomes hot or when you exert yourself in a hot environment for the first time in a while, because your body is not yet used to adjusting to the ambient temperature. In fact, an increasing number of people suffer from heatstroke in such situations.

To prevent heatstroke:

- When indoors, use the air conditioner or fan to keep cool. Closing the curtain is also effective in shutting out the heat.
- When outdoors, dress coolly as much as possible and use a parasol or hat to protect yourself from direct sunlight.



Major symptoms of heatstroke

Mild	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dizziness	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lightheadedness
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Muscle pain	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-stop sweating
Moderate	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Headache	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nausea
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fatigue (malaise)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lack of strength (lethargy)
Severe	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unconsciousness	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Convulsion
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High body temperature	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Inability to walk straight
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Incoherent response to calls	

* 環境省 熱中症～ご存じですか？予防・対策法～リーフレットより抜粋し、JITCOが作成

- Take in fluids and salt. Make it a habit to take sips of fluids frequently before you feel thirsty.

What to do if you suspect heatstroke

If you show signs of heatstroke, move to a cool place, loosen your clothes, and cool your body. Hydrate yourself with water, salt, or an oral rehydration solution (water mixed with table salt and glucose, sold in drugstores). If you are unable to drink the water by yourself, or if someone who is suspected of heatstroke is unconscious, call the ambulance and immediately seek medical attention at a hospital.

Heatstroke alert

A heatstroke alert is issued when the risk of heatstroke is predicted to be extremely high on a particular day. The alert is issued in the evening before or the early morning of that day by each relevant local government. The information is provided via the TV, community wireless systems, and social media.

When a heatstroke alert is issued, take precautions such as refraining from going outside as much as possible.

Check the heat stress index for the risk level of heatstroke.


<https://www.wbgt.env.go.jp/>


かんきょうしょう ねつちゆうしょう よ ぼうじょうほう
環境省 熱中症予防情報サイト



Kokugonomori

This is an exercise for learning Japanese words and kanji and their usage. Think of the correct answers while having fun! (Answers are provided on the next page.)





指導・元世田谷区立
小学校教諭
高橋 侑子
イラスト・奈良 恵

山に登る
に、一字の言葉を書きましよう。



Trainees from Indonesia and Vietnam experienced various aspects of Japanese culture during their post-entry lecture period. As part of this cultural exposure, they learned Japanese calligraphy and how to write their names in kanji. While they initially struggled with using the calligraphy brush and paper for the first time, they eventually succeeded in their efforts. Well done!

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We are looking forward to your entries.

Every month, a photo is selected from among those which receiving/supervising organizations have contributed to “技能実習 Days” on the JITCO website. Scan the QR code at right to visit the 技能実習 Days page and learn about the entry guidelines.

(<https://www.jitco.or.jp/ja/days/>)



Inquiry and Consultation Services

If you need help... (<https://www.otit.go.jp/notebook/>)

The Organization for Technical Intern Training (OTIT) offers a variety of services and resources you can use when you need help. These include Native Language Consultation, information on local consultation services and disaster prevention, and convenient apps such as the “On-site Japanese Language” app and “Technical Intern Trainee Handbook” app.



助詞はほかの言葉の下について、「他の言葉との関係が分かる」働きをします。
「空は」「空が」が迷いませんでしたか。
「は」「空」というものは、というように他と区別して取り出すときに使います。
「が」は「空がどんなに（広いなど）」ということを表します。森から出て、下を向いて石ころ道を歩いた後、頂上で頭の上いっぱい空の広さを実感するでしょう。
「は」と「が」。やさしいようで難しい言葉です。



Particles, known as 助詞 in Japanese, are suffixed to words to indicate their relationship to other words. You may have wondered about the difference between 空は and 空が. You would use は when referring to the sky in a general sense, as opposed to something else. On the other hand, you would use が when you want to emphasize the vastness of the sky. For example, let's say you emerge from a forest, walk along a gravelly path while watching your step, and suddenly look up at the sky after reaching the top of the mountain. You would likely say “空が広い” in realization of how vast the sky is. In this way, は and が are two seemingly simple particles that have a profound difference in meaning.

とも

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