

INTRODUCTION

JAPANESE IN THE REAL WORLD is a language book that introduces a new and effective method in learning Japanese in which **you** the student will be able to reach quickly a working level of proficiency, achieving basic language skills both rapidly and effectively, which can be put to immediate use in very quick time. This means years of work reduced to a much shorter period. The text is an astute careful combination of style and simplicity that offers a varied and imaginative approach. The language taught is based upon careful research in daily Japanese conversation speech that range from colloquial to the more formal, with the grammar and structure of the language broken into basic units and then logically reassembled so that difficult topics can be understood clearly and practically. The book **SIMPLICITY ITSELF** teaches only what is essential in making the most rapid progress from the early stages. Just as a baby learns a language, progressing in stages from the simple to the higher plane, so will **you**.

All essential features needed in a quality language manual, such as vocabulary, key pattern sentences, examples, explanations, short dialogues, additional sentences, and reading are included. To facilitate comprehension and pronunciation all Japanese is given in Romanized form (called romaji - English spelling in rendering the sound) for the convenience of the pupil, with no Japanese characters included in order to reduce complications. Just looking at the way the contents are organised will give the pupil a more positive attitude and a greater feeling of understanding as will the fact that the use of grammatical terms are kept to a minimum.

The book's layout, which is divided into four parts - **each section having its own maximum effectiveness in the learning process** - will form a good basis for self-tuition as well as course work with a teacher. **Part one**; contains practically all the grammar forms and syntax needed in twenty well designed lessons that would not overburden the student, giving concise, clear, and detailed explanations. Of the twenty lessons, the fourth, eighth, twelfth, sixteenth, and twentieth are practical reviews of previous lessons while at the same time introducing new vocabulary. The vocabulary covers the most important basic words used in daily life. The sentence patterns and dialogues are based on actual conversations I always encounter, of which you will inevitably experience in your Japanese studies. At the close of each lesson sentences are given in English for the student to translate into Japanese. Following that come sentences in which some words are missing and will need filling in by the student. The lesson finishes with a short test in which the student is asked to use vocabulary and constructions in a creative way. Before a lesson can be considered complete, a second reading is required until it becomes automatic...practice will bring perfection as in all tasks in life. **Remember** before you start free your mind from any strain or from anything that will impede relaxed learning. Once part one has been mastered I feel you will be over halfway towards your goal. **Part two**; introduces more vocabulary and sentences used in daily life not to an extent found so often in books - phrases that will be mind blowing to Japanese speakers, words you are not expected to know. **Part three**; enables the student to move onto more specialized vocabulary, containing sections covering vocabulary of many specific areas such as public services etc. The student may choose whichever of these is relevant to their needs. **Part four**; is simply a glossary on further vocabulary that can be used to improve on constructions when studying part one.

People are forever asking me **'HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE TO MASTER JAPANESE?'** As with anything it's what effort you put into it. Of course it will come to some easier than others....but there are methods which will help greatly such as mixing with Japanese speaking people, nothing can ever beat that. As often as possible try listening to conversations or better still seek out Japanese friends. Because in my experience they are generally the friendliest and **EASIEST** race to get along with - **TRUE or FALSE?** They will rarely if ever reject speaking to you, because believe it or not they want to converse with you **'A foreign person'** just as much. But mixing with them only helps if you are actually using the language. Some may study for a period of six months and gain a good conversational level by simply putting in a tremendous amount of work. Some will make little progress despite years of study remaining on the same level in terms of construction with the only improvement made in vocabulary without being able to construct any real sentence patterns. Listening to the Japanese radio, watching television and films - once a certain standard had been reached - will facilitate progress. This form of study enables the student in getting accustomed to the speed of conversations. One myth that should be immediately banished is the method of **'trying to think and say everything to oneself in daily life'**, in the language being studied rather than your own language. **Do** not attempt to review mentally; **do** not even try to remember; don't worry about it; let it go. Learning should not be associated with anything that involves too much concentration. All this puts unnecessary strain on the mind. Only practice in conversation or when listening to speech. Once you are sure within yourself it will never leave you. It will be lodged within you like a computer. When required words will just automatically come out. Remember; read it, hear it and repeat it, repeating until it becomes natural. Devote time to pronunciation and accent. Even if you get it wrong **'DON'T BE AFRAID'** because surely someone nice will correct you. The biggest hindrance is the fear in getting it all wrong. If one does not know his or her mistakes how is it possible for improvement? Pace yourself like a marathon runner, because it's not a race, with endurance and perseverance needed in reaching the goal ahead.

Ultimately, this course of study will make the pupil very able in the spoken language of Japanese, with one able to converse on any subject in full flow conversation. With just a bit knowledge you can make friends with ease, gain respect, trust, and admiration with probable acceptance into that community if that is wished. Another and more effective course of study can be achieved by entering the AOC **Cantonese and Japanese Spoken Language School** of which details can be found elsewhere on this site. The system - unlike no other - worked for me, and given the correct application will undoubtedly work for **you**. It will simply be one great experience and I wish you the very best of luck in it.