



Nihongo

Perapera

Newsletter

# 日本語ぺらぺらニュースレター

For the Language Lovers!

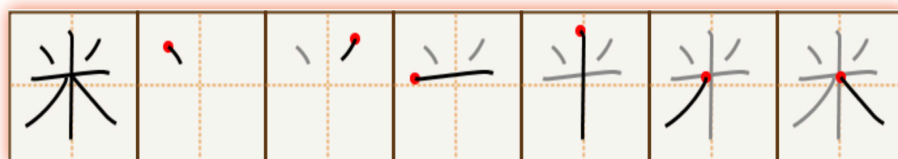
月刊 Monthly  
Vol. 5 Mar. 2021Nihongo (Japanese), Perapera (fluent), Newsletter.

Once a month language-focused newsletter designed for both new and seasoned Japanese learners to use as a resource for study.



## Let's study! 勉強(べんきょう)しましょう!

### 今月の漢字



6 strokes

Associated common words

玄米 (げんまい) brown rice  
白米 (はくまい) white rice  
欧米 (おうべい) Europe and America



History of Kanji 米



Noriko K. Williams ©2016

### 四字熟語 -よじじゆくご- (4 character idiom)

日米関係  
(にちべいかんけい)

Japan-U.S. relations

Relationship between Japan and the United States

Example

日米関係は新たな段階に進化したのだと思います。

"nichibei kankei" wa arata na dankai ni  
shinka shita no da to omoimasu.

I think Japan-U.S. relations have evolved  
to a new stage.

### ことわざ (proverb)

腹が減っては戦ができぬ  
(はらがへってはいくさができぬ)

Without having food as fuel, none of us can  
properly function at our jobs

Example

仕事は山ほどあるけど、とりあえずご飯を食べよう。  
"腹が減っては戦が出来ぬ"と言うじゃないか!?

Shigoto wa yamahodo aru kedo, toriaezu gohan wo tabe-  
mashou. "hara ga hette wa ikusa ga dekinu" to iu janaika!?

We have mountains of work to do, but for the time  
being, let's eat. Don't they say you can't fight while hungry!?

### 日本を旅しよう! -Exploring Japan-

#### 秋田 (あきた) -Akita-



#### Fast facts!

- Literally means autumn (秋) rice paddy (田)
- Akita Castle (built in 733 AD) served as base of military operations
- Akita is home to Kakunodate, a preserved former samurai district
- During a New Year's ritual of the Oga Peninsula, the namahage visits looking for lazy or bad children, making rounds of people's homes

(なまはげ) Namahage Oni

泣く子はいねがぁ!?

悪い子はいねえか!?





かまくら (kamakura) or snow domes found in Akita's Yokote City

## Dialect discovery with JET Alumni

### Jesse Kerstetter

#### ジェシー・ケルステッター

- ・ んだ (nda; that is right) (そうです equivalent)
- ・ めんけ (menke; cute)
- ・ け (ke; eat) (たべて equivalent)

"Lots of Akitaben and the general Akita accent were clipped and shortened so that people wouldn't lose too much hot air speaking in the winter."

To read about JET Alumni Jesse's experience living and teaching in Akita, [click here!](#)



Answer key located at bottom of page.

### クイズタイム!

1. わたしは ゆうべ 8じかん( ) ねました。

I slept about 8 hours last night.

- A. ぐらい C. から  
B. ごろ D. しか

2. 明日 パーティーがありますから、ワインを冷やして( )。

As I have a party tomorrow, I am going to chill the wine ahead of time.

- A. のみます C. いります  
B. おきます D. できます

3. こんな難しい問題は、先生にも答えられる( )。

- A. に違いない C. に過ぎない  
B. べきではない D. わけがない



秋田犬 (Akita inu)

The dog breed originated in the mountainous, snowy rural lands of Akita and Odate



## Onomatopoeia Bank -どうぶつ Edition-

There are thousands of onomatopoeia in Japanese.  
How many do you know? モノマネしましょう!

WHAT DO THE ANIMALS SAY?

Bear くま: ガオ-  
Bird 鳥 (とり): チュンチュン  
Dog 犬 (いぬ): ワンワン  
Monkey 猿 (さる): ウキキ  
Cow 牛 (うし): モーモー  
Fox 狐 (きつね): コンコン

Duck アヒル: ガーガー  
Horse 馬 (うま): ヒヒーン  
Mouse ネズミ: チューチュー  
Cat 猫 (ねこ): ニャーニャー  
Sheep 羊 (ひつじ): メーメー



ニャー...!?



### Where are you from in Japan?

I am from Yokohama, a city in Kanagawa Prefecture.

### What do you like to do when you have free time?

I play piano extensively and enjoy embracing the music created by world class composers.

### What's your favorite place you've traveled to?

I have traveled to 25 countries so far. Every place has its own charm so it's a bit difficult to choose only one, but I would most recommend Tekapo, New Zealand. Tekapo's sky is a national treasure. You can see thousands of bright stars scattered like golden sand in the sky making you feel so small, yet at the same time, you feel how wonderful it is to live on earth.

### What book/movie have you read/seen recently would you recommend, and why?

I watched a Japanese animation called "Forest of Piano" repeatedly last year on Netflix. The story is about a boy named "Kai" who is from a very poor family, but aims to compete in the Chopin International Competition. This show not only depicts his struggles, but also the challenges of those around him which made for a really complex story.

## Instructor Spotlight!



### Minagawa Sensei

Minagawa Sensei teaches Japanese Intermediate II and Advanced Intermediate I

Answer key: 1.A 2.B 3.D



# ランゲージスクールのお知らせ! -Announcements-



New semester!



## JSB SPRING JAPANESE GROUP CLASSES 2021

We are pleased to offer a variety of levels of Japanese online courses at the Japan Society of Boston.

Registration is now open!

[Click here for details and registration](#)

A spring social to meet the community of JSB language learners

Friday, March 26th, 2021  
7:00 - 8:30pm EDT  
Via Zoom

Featuring  
guest speaker  
Edward Demling



This is the opportunity to meet and network with fellow students who are studying Japanese in our virtual classrooms. Find out what motivates and inspires others to **がんばる** (ganbaru; give it your all) in their Japanese endeavors. **Current, past and future students of our Language Program are welcome!**

Our guest speaker Edward Demling will share with us how his interest led him from being a student of Japanese to a translator and visa consultant in Japan!

## ~MY JAPAN JOURNEY~

We're launching our exciting new podcast series, in which we explore the untold stories behind the cultural encounters that have transformed lives.

In our first episode, Executive Director Yuko Handa interviews Susan Napier, Tufts University Professor of Rhetoric and Japanese Studies and anime expert! We hope you hear Susan's story and feel inspired to embrace the unfamiliar.

**Our first episode will be airing on March 25th!**

**My Japan Journey Podcast Launch Party!**

Listen to the podcast premiere!  
Answer trivia questions! Win prizes!

Thursday  
March 25th, 2021  
6pm EDT  
Youtube Live

MY JAPAN JOURNEY

CGP My Japan Journey podcast was made possible thanks to a grant from The Japan Foundation Center for Global Partnership