

# How to speak and write Japanese words with confidence

Haruko Iwami

Pennsylvania State University

# Japanese words

- Arigato
- Sayonara
- Tsunami
- Fukushima
- Futon
- Teriyaki
- Karaoke
- Jiu-jitsu

# Japanese writing system

人気アイドルグループAKB48が、  
47都道府県ツアーを5ヶ月ぶりに  
再開させることが分かった。

# Japanese writing system

- Chinese characters

(人気、都道府県、再開、分かった)

- Hiragana

(が、を、ぶりに、分かった)

- Katakana

(アイドルグループ、ツアー)

- Roman letters (AKB48)

- Arabic/Roman numerals (AKB48)

- Japanese style emoticons

(\*\_\*)

(^.^)

(-\_-;)

Five vowels

a, i, u, e, o

# Combinations of consonants and vowels

	a	i	u	e	o
k	ka	ki	ku	ke	ko
s	sa	shi	su	se	so
t	ta	chi	tsu	te	to
n	na	ni	nu	ne	no
h	ha	hi	fu	he	ho
m	ma	mi	mu	me	mo
y	ya	-	yu	-	yo
r	ra	ri	ru	re	ro
w	wa	-	-	-	-

# More combinations 1

	a	i	u	e	o
g	ga	gi	gu	ge	go
z	za	ji	zu	ze	zo
d	da	-	-	de	do
b	ba	bi	bu	be	bo
p	pa	pi	pu	pe	po

# More combinations 2

	a	i	u	e	o
ky	kya	-	kyu	-	kyo
sh	sha	-	shu	-	sho
ch	cha	-	chu	-	cho
ny	nya	-	nyu	-	nyo
hy	hya	-	hyu	-	hyo
my	mya	-	myu	-	myo
ry	rya	-	ryu	-	ryo
gy	gya	-	gyu	-	gyo
j	ja	-	ju	-	jo
by	bya	-	byu	-	byo
py	pya	-	pyu	-	pyo



# Arigato → Arigatoo

- mora vs. syllable

a-ri-ga-to-o

- pronunciation of /r/

1. Yes, it is.
2. wedding
3. See you later.
4. I wrote a letter.

[ r ]

# Arigatoo

- pitch accent vs. stress accent
  - “subject” (noun) and “subject” (verb)
  - “ame” (hard candy) and “ame” (rain)

a ri ga to o

# Sayonara → Sayoonara

- sa-yo-o-na-ra
- pronunciation of /r/
- no pitch fall

# Tsunami

- tsu-na-mi
- pronunciation of /ts/
- no pitch fall

# Fukushima

- fu-ku-shi-ma
- pronunciation of /f/
- whisper “fu”
- pitch fall after “ku”

# Futon



- fu-to-n
- pronunciation of “fu”
- whisper “fu”
- pronunciation of “n”

<http://www.akenotsuki.com/kyookotoba/shiryoo/pron/>

- no pitch fall

# Teriyaki

- te-ri-ya-ki
- pronunciation of /r/
- no pitch fall

# Karaoke

- ka-ra-o-ke
- pronunciation of /r/
- no pitch fall



# Jiu-jitsu → Juujutsu

- ju-u-ju-tsu
- pronunciation of /ts/
- no pitch fall

# Tokyo → Tookyoo

- to-o-kyo-o
- no pitch fall
- pronunciation of /ky/

# Shiitake

- shi-i-ta-ke
- pitch fall after “shi”

# Hiragana

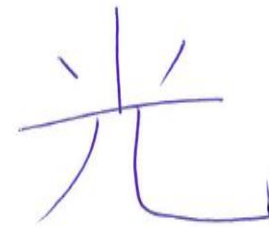
	a	i	u	e	o
	あ	い	う	え	お
k	か	き	く	け	こ
s	さ	し	す	せ	そ
t	た	ち	つ	て	と
n	な	に	ぬ	ね	の
h	は	ひ	ふ	へ	ほ
m	ま	み	む	め	も
y	や	-	ゆ	-	よ
r	ら	り	る	れ	ろ
w	わ	-	-	-	を
	ん				

# Handwriting

さ き わ  
さ き わ

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8zfBMDNkJul>






# Writing tools and stroke types



# Stroke order

- Top to bottom
- Left to right
- Why?

# Mnemonics

	Being a <b>cheerleader</b> isn't easy. ち as in <u>cheer</u> leader		It's a <b>no</b> sign. の as in <u>no</u> sign
	A <b>cat's</b> tail. つ as in <u>cat's</u>		I bought a <b>house</b> . は as in <u>house</u>
	This is a <b>table</b> . て as in <u>table</u>		He is <b>strong</b> . ひ as in <u>he</u>
	A thong in my <b>toe</b> . と as in <u>toe</u>		Mt. <b>Fuji</b> is beautiful. ふ as in <u>Fuji</u>
	He's taking a <b>nap</b> . な as in <u>nap</u>		I have a <b>headache</b> . へ as in <u>headache</u>
	Look at my <b>knees</b> . に as in <u>knee</u>		House becomes <b>home</b> with antenna. ほ as in <u>home</u>
	<b>Noodles</b> and chopsticks. ぬ as in <u>noodles</u>		My <b>mother</b> can't sit like this. ま as in <u>mother</u>
	Only one fish in the <b>net</b> . ね as in <u>net</u>		Who's 21? <b>Me!</b> み as in <u>me</u>



# ありがとう

- a-ri-ga-to-o
- ka (か) becomes ga (が) with a diacritic mark.
- the second “o” is represented by “u” (う)

つなみ

つなみ

つなみ

# Language Institute at Penn State

- Summer program welcomes high school students and adults.
- offers first four semesters of Japanese.
- intensive: one semester in four weeks

<http://omcphplive.outreach.psu.edu/omc/language-institute/>