

Japanese phrases and slang



Brown Belt Unit 1 of 4 has hopefully made you start thinking about how to use your levels of politeness in Japanese more.

You are already familiar with the basic polite form 'teinei' (that is masu and desu form) and you are now quite confident in using the casual plain form 'kudaketa' (the dictionary 'jishyo' form of the verbs and the da form of the copula).

Black Belt will introduce the most polite form of Japanese, the 'keigo' form. Keigo is however, becoming more and more uncommon, especially among the younger generations.

Knowing some Japanese slang and phrases is also important~! But make sure you only use them at appropriate times.

It is vital to evaluate how you use your English as this is how you should think about using your Japanese.

For example, you would not say to your boss "I am going to the dunny" you would say "I am going to the bathroom".

Practise some of the following casual phrases, paying attention to the endings also.



JAPANESE	ENGLISH
じょうだんだよ!	I'm just joking
ほんきだよ!	I'm serious
かんべんしてよ	Give me a break
やった	I/You did it
ちよつとずつね	Little by little/Bit by bit
何でわかっただの?	How did you know?
うそ	You're lying. Are you kidding me?
君の番だよ	It's your turn
へんななあ	That is weird/odd
なくなっちゃった	It's gone/disappeared
行くぞ!	Let's go!
きにしないで	Don't worry/Never mind
何で私・僕なの?	Why me?
しょうがない	Oh well, can't be helped
ごうかいするぜ!	You'll be sorry!
あぶねえ(あぶない)	That is dangerous/That will get you into trouble
ひどい	That is terrible/horrible
ほら	Hey/Look