

Useful Japanese Phrases

Learning spoken Japanese is not as difficult as it may seem, despite how intimidating it may sound at first. There are several options for learning the language: FFSC Workshops, language schools and language exchange (trade teaching English for Japanese.) The Japanese people appreciate your attempts to speak their language. Below is a list of a few common phrases that can be used on a regular basis. Pronunciation of vowel sounds is consistent, but a bit different that you might be used to. Refer to the chart below for the correct vowel sounds. NOTE: the (u) at the end of a word is pronounced as a short sound, almost silent, as if it has been cut off before it is completely spoken.

VOWEL	Sounds Like:	In Sample Word:
A	ah	father
I	ee	see
U	oo	too
E	eh	met
O	oh	boat

Good Morning Ohayo gozaimasu
 Good Afternoon Konnichiwa (pronounce BOTH "n" sounds!)
 Good Evening Konbanwa
 Good Night Oyasumi Nasai
 Good Bye Sayounara

How are you? Ogenki desu ka?
 Fine, thank you. Hai, genki desu.
 I'm pleased to meet you. Hajimemashite.
 Nice to meet you. Douzo Yoroshiku.
 What is your name? Onamae wa nan desu ka?
 My name is _____ . . Watashi wa _____ .

I don't speak Japanese. Nihongo wo hanashimasen.
 Please say that again. Mou ichido itte kudasai.
 I am sorry. Gomen nasai.
 Do you speak English?..... Eigo wo hanashimasu ka?
 Do you understand? Wakarimasu ka?
 Yes, I understand. Hai, wakarimasu.
 Please (Here you are.)..... Onegai shimasu (Douzo.)
 Thank you..... Doumo arigatou gozaimasu.
 You are welcome. Dositashimashite.
 I like it. Suki desu.
 I don't like it Kirai desu.

See you later! Mata ne!
 Take care..... Kiotsukete! (the "u" is almost silent!)
 It's OK, I don't mind..... Daijobu.
 I'm leaving..... Itte kimasu!
 Have a nice day..... Itte rashai! (said to someone who is leaving)
 Please come in.. Agatte kudasai!
 Please wait a moment. Chotto matte kudasai!