

JAPANESE POP CULTURE & LANGUAGE LEARNING

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MANGAJIN

No. 24

Bars, Cabarets, and the "Water Trade"

Edo period pop culture flashback

Fūryū Manga: Odaiji ni

Elizabeth Andoh reports on:

JAPAN'S CHOCO-MANIA







MANGAJIN

No. 24, March 1993

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MANGAJIN is a made-up word combining *manga* ("comics/cartoons") and *jin* ("person/people"). It sounds almost like the English word "magazine" as rendered in Japanese—*magajin*. All of the Japanese manga in MangaJin were created in Japan, by Japanese cartoonists, for Japanese readers.



Editor & Publisher

Vaughan P. Simmons

Translation Editor

Wayne Lammers

Advising & Contributing Editors

Peter Goodman Karen Sandness Frederik L. Schodt Jack Seward

Contributing Writers

Elizabeth Andoh, Cheryl Chow, Robert Leutner, Alfred H. Marks, Mark Schreiber, Ginny Skord

Editorial Assistants

Ben Beishline, Virginia Murray

Art & Graphics

Ashizawa Kazuko

Business Manager

Brett A. Pawlowski Tel. 404-590-0092 Fax 404-590-0890

Subscription/Office Manager

Mary Ann Beech Tel. 404-590-0091

Marketing Manager

Greg Tenhover Tel. 404-590-0270

Advisory Board

Doug Reynolds, John Steed, William Yamaguchi

Cover by Kazuko

Printed in U.S.A.

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Editor's Note

Starting in this issue is an "Events" calendar (page 6). This is something of a radical move for us, since it implies that there is a correlation between our production schedule and the flow of time in the outside world. Of course, we are working with events that range over a period of months, so it should be manageable, but this represents a break with the Mangajin of the past. Until now, almost all of our material (manga and feature) has been timeless—it had to be, because in our understaffed condition, we had trouble predicting exactly when the next issue would actually come out.

One development that made possible this stronger link to the space-time continuum was the addition of Ben Beishline to our full-time staff, joining Virginia Murray in our editorial department. Greg Tenhover, our marketing manager, is the one actually coordinating the Events Page. We welcome your submissions, but please keep in mind that space is limited, and we still need plenty of advance notice.

Our feature manga for this issue, *O-daiji ni*, is one of my all-time favorites. The story is cute, and there is a playful kind of use of the Japanese language, with a little taste of classical Japanese thrown in. Although the setting is the Edo period. the dialog between the main characters is in contemporary Japanese.

Since haiku plays a prominent role in the story, we took this opportunity to present some background information about the evolution of haiku. That took up considerable space, and the story itself has so much dialog that in the end, we didn't have room to tell about the artist. Christophe Kourita is of French-Japanese descent, but grew up in Japan, and is of Japanese nationality. His artwork has a unique style, and the story does a good job of portraying some of the diversity in Japanese society.

Kanji PageMaker and KanjiTalk users & potential users: if you would like to see more support for these products in the US, please see our notice on page 21.

Vaughan P. Simm

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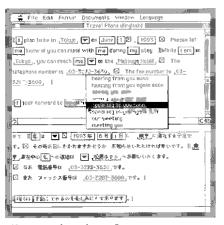
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(See Mangajin's "Events Calendar" in this issue for more details on the program and participants.)





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MANGAIN welcomes comments by letter or fax, although we reserve the right to edit for clarity or length. Please address correspondence to: Editor, P.O. Box 6668, Marietta, GA 30065. Fax: 404-590-0890 日本語の投書も大歓迎です。日本在住の方は世界出版研究センターへ送っていただいて結構です: 〒107東京都港区

AIDS misconceptions

南青川2-18-9, Fax: 03-3479-4436

I think you showed poor judgment in printing a strip about AIDS in *Manga-JIN* No. 19 and No. 22.

On page 37 of No. 19 you printed an "O-jama Shimasu" strip titled "Kokuhaku," or "Confession." In the last panel, which you printed again in No. 22, a young man says, "I have AIDS" to a young woman, who instantly runs away. The joke, as you pointed out in No. 22, is that the woman was expecting words of love, or maybe a marriage proposal, and instead got bad news. That she should actually run away from the man just because he has AIDS doesn't seem to come into question. Doesn't this strip reinforce the false notion that talking to people with AIDS is dangerous?

People still have many misconceptions about AIDS, especially in Japan. As a result, the suffering of people with AIDS is compounded by the callous treatment they receive from others. A comic strip that upholds this prejudice does not deserve to be in Mangajin.

IVER TORIKIAN Nishinomiya, Japan

The Japanese manga material that we publish in Mangaiin is selected for the purpose of illustrating points about the Japanese language and about Japanese society. In that sense, the strip in question served well to make the same point that you do-people still have many misconceptions about AIDS. It was also an excellent example of the use of the word desu, and vocabulary-wise, it provided the Japanese word for AIDS (エイズ, eizu). We try to select material from wide circulation manga since these more accurately reflect mainstream Japanese attitudes and thinking. We avoid more obscure material because it might not be representative of the general population. Our readers have a very high level of education, and the average age in 36. We assume that they can take controversial material in the proper context.

Why katakana?

As a relatively new reader and a beginning (second semester) Japanese student, I have a question: why do manga artists sometimes use katakana with indigenous words (for example, in No. 22, in "Tsuri-Baka Nisshi," frame 26, where Sasaki answers his boss "hai") instead of hiragana?

I asked my Japanese teacher and she thought it was because the artist wants to catch the reader's attention by using katakana instead of hiragana. But it still doesn't make sense to me.

JON JUNG

San Mateo, CA

Katakana is used in Japanese something like italics in English. We have speculated in the past that manga artists sometimes use katakana to indicate that there is something different in the tone of a person's voice. In the example you mention, Sasaki probably gave a pretty snappy sounding Hai!, and writing it in katakana could distinguish it from an ordinary sounding Hai.

If that doesn't make sense either, just remember that the use of katakana can be very arbitrary.

Beyond sumo gossip

As a rabid sumo fan, I was delighted to see that you have some coverage of sumo, albeit a bit gossipy (and a trifle out of date).

However, may I suggest some sumo news that is much more relevant to Mangajin's readers? Akebono, the new yokozuna, is an American who has lived in Japan only a few years, yet who has become impressively fluent in Japanese. When he is interviewed, the interviewers give him no quarter. They ask questions rapidly, in ordinary Japanese, and he responds so nicely! How about giving us an interview with Akebono about how he learned to speak Japanese so well?

Stephanie Tomiyasu Yokohama, Japan

We got a couple of letters from readers who referred to our Taka-Rie piece as "gossipy." I wonder if it's significant

that they were both from Americans living in Japan, where the media has been saturated with Taka-Rie "news." Since this was such a huge phenomenon, we wanted at least to report on it, but Time and Newsweek can rest easy, because it takes us over two weeks to print MAN-GAJIN and get it to our readers. The "news" is almost certain to change by then. An interview with Akebono would certainly be a worthy project for MAN-GAJIN. Let us see what we can do.

NihongoWare user speaks

I recently read an article published in MANGAJIN No. 21 titled "CD-ROM Product Showcase" written by Paul Ferguson that was so slanderous that I felt a response from a user was warranted. I should clarify that I don't work for Ariadne and have no relationship to them except as a satisfied customer.

After moving from the US to Tokyo two years ago with extremely little Japanese language capability, I chose NihongoWare as a means to learn the language and it has proven to be very useful for myself, my wife and our 6 and 9 year old children. Based upon the article, it is apparent to me and anyone

who has used this product that the author has extremely little knowledge of it. I question if he ever really used it. If he were familiar with it, or talked with users of it, he would have mentioned the similarities between JapaneseForEvervone and Nihongo Ware such as "isolating key sentence patterns and playing a ping-pong volley of listening and repeating these patterns. . .," the fact that the general approach is listening and repeating, and that it is about 150 hours of material, etc.

There is a complete failure of the author to grasp or even point out some of the nice features of NihongoWare such as the cultural information contained in it, animated graphics, text switchable to English, the entertaining coffee breaks that add enjoyment to the learning process. Totally missed is the fact that the user can use it in near privacy by the use of the headset to help them hear themselves until their pronunciation matches the CD-ROM voice. There is no mention that the user can also make cassette tapes of the course with their voice via the headset or that they have the option to change the playback speed to be able to catch those difficult words and phrases.

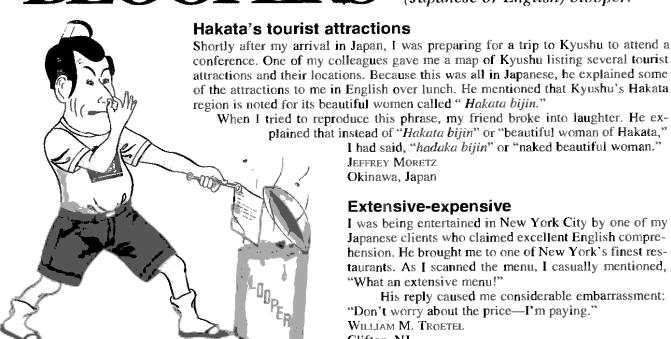
The points that the author does mention are taken totally out of context. His reference to lesson one totally misrepresents what you may hear in a large Japanese city such as Tokyo. Has Mr. Ferguson ever been on a train platform in Tokyo? The company uniform reference is again taken out of context in that it is only part of a larger explanation contained in the program. I cannot disagree more with his statement that "beginners will get almost nothing from this program. . ." Perhaps Mr. Ferguson would like to have a conversation in Japanese with me?

In summary, this was not an objective evaluation of the product. You should question Mr. Ferguson's research and, I believe, a formal printed apology is due the reading public. I dare you to print this letter.

JOSEPH H. LANG Tokyo

Paul Ferguson's style of writing may be somewhat controversial, however we did confirm his general opinions with other well-informed sources prior to publishing the article. -Ed.

We'll send you a Mangajin T-shirt if we publish your language (Japanese or English) blooper.



region is noted for its beautiful women called "Hakata bijin." When I tried to reproduce this phrase, my friend broke into laughter. He ex-

plained that instead of "Hakata bijin" or "beautiful woman of Hakata," I had said, "hadaka bijin" or "naked beautiful woman."

> JEFFREY MORETZ Okinawa, Japan

Extensive-expensive

I was being entertained in New York City by one of my Japanese clients who claimed excellent English comprehension. He brought me to one of New York's finest restaurants. As I scanned the menu, I casually mentioned, "What an extensive menu!"

His reply caused me considerable embarrassment: "Don't worry about the price-I'm paying."

WILLIAM M. TROETEL

Clifton, NJ

Events Calendar

April

1-30—NEW YORK, N.Y. Japan Society of New York: Japan Society Film Center presents The First U.S. Retrospective of the Films of Actress and Director Kimuyo Tanaka. The retrospective features 22 films starring Tanaka, many of them internationally recognized classics of the Japanese cinema from the 1930s to the 1970s, in addition to the six she directed. Admission for single or double features: General—\$6.50; Japan Society Members/senior citizens and students with valid I.D.—\$5.00. Information: 212-752-0824.

1- May 30—LOS ANGELES, CA. Asobi: Play in the Arts of Japan. Exhibition of over 70 works in a variety of mediums dating from several periods of history highlight playfulness in Japanese art. Includes screens, scrolls, masks, decorative pieces, games and sculpture. Los Angeles County Museum of Art, 5905 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles. Information: 213-857-6111

2-3—YPSILANTI, MI. Free Workshops for Teachers of Japanese, Arabic, Chinese and Portuguese. Simulated Oral Proficiency Interview (5OPI) Rater Training Sponsored by the National Foreign Language Resource Center at World College, Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, Michigan. Information on SOPI WORKSHOP C: Japanese Speaking Test for Teachers of Japanese contact Xixang Jiang—CAL/EMU Workshop Coordinator, Center for Applied Linguistics, 1118 22nd Street, Washington, D.C. 20037; tel: 202-429-9292; fax: 202-659-5641.

3—WASHINGTON, D.C. Japan-America Society of Washington, D.C.: Cherry Blossom Matsuri. 12 noon—6 pm. Freedom Plaza between 14th and 13th Streets and E and Pennsylvania Ave. Japanese food and crafts. Before during and after the Cherry Blossom Festival Parade.

6—NEW YORK, N.Y. Japan Society of New York: Japan Society's Distinguished Lecturer Series presents **Professor Hayao Kawai**, a prize-winning author who will explore the depths of the Japanese psyche as revealed through contemporary problems of the family. Information: 212-832-1155.

15—LOS ANGELES, CA. Japan-America Society of Southern California: **Understanding and Working with the Japanese.** Three-part workshop for American managers. Part One, "An Overview of Japanese History," is April 15 from 9 am—12 noon. Part 2, "Cultural Contrasts Between Japanese and Americans:

Communication and Decision Making," takes place April 29 from 9 am—12 noon. Part 3, "Future Perspectives," takes place May 13 from 9 am—1:45 pm. Biltmore Hotel in downtown Los Angeles. \$125 for all three sessions; \$50 for one session. Information—tel: 213-627-6217; fax: 213-627-1353.

19—WASHINGTON, D.C. **Shakespeare Kyogen** at the Folger Library. One performance only. Information: Call The Folger Theater at 202-544-4600.

20-21—LOS ANGELES, CA. Japan-America Society of Southern California and Richard Nixon Library present a two-day conference: Fragile Friendship: United States-Japan Relations and the Balance of Power in Post-Cold War Asia. Chaired by former Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger, the conference will examine the security, trade and political issues that mold the world's most important bilateral relationship. Highlights include: A Keynote address by Henry Kissinger and an address by President Richard Nixon. Other participants include: General Brent Scowcroft, former National Security Advisor; Noboru Hatakeyama, MITI, Vice Minister; Makoto Kuroda, former Japanese trade negotiator; Karel van Wolfren, author of The Enigma of Japanese Power; Michael Crichton, author of Rising Sun. There will also be high-level participation by Clinton Administration representatives and the Government of Japan. Biltmore Hotel in downtown Los Angeles. Full participation: \$300 per person. Information-tel: 714-993-5075; fax: 714-528-0544.

24—WASHINGTON, D.C. Japan-America Society of Washington, D.C.: First Annual Japan Bowl. An academic/fun competition among high school students in the Greater Washington-Baltimore area. Students compete in the areas of Japanese language, culture, and current events. Information: 202-289-8290.

May

15—LOS ALTOS HILLS, CA. Communications Japan '93: An Exposition. Multimedia and software conference and expo for those interested in better communication in the Japanese language. 20+ exhibits; demos and Japanese software, books, CD-ROMS, fonts electronic mail; Connect with Japanese clubs like *Kaisha Society* and *Japanese English Toastmasters*; lectures on intercultural relations and learning Japanese. Sponsored by Japanese Cultural Center at Foothill College, Los Altos Hills, CA. (between San Francisco and San Jose). Information: 415-949-7302.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Translation Contest

Sponsored by Babel, Inc. (one of the leading language service & cross-cultural communication companies in Japan), this contest is open to anyone regardless of nationality, age, sex, or educational background. The purpose of the contest is to discover and nurture promising but unknown translators, and the only restriction is that applicants have not had their translation work published.

The contest involves translation of a Japanese text of 1,500 characters into English. Cash prizes will be awarded as follows: 1st Place (1 award): \$1,500, plus free trip to Japan. 2nd Place (2 awards): \$500 each. 3rd Place (5 awards): \$200 each.

The text to be translated and all information necessary for applying (including application form) will be published in MANGAJIN No. 25.

MANGAJIN Reading Club

Tokyo Mangajin Readers:

Join this club and meet twice a month to learn Japanese from the pages of **Mangajin**. Each member chips in ¥2000 to pay for a teacher and room rental, then the club spends the first and third Monday of every month running a fine-tooth comb through the pages of **Mangajin**, pen and note book in hand. This is a great way to learn Japanese and meet fellow **Mangajin** enthusiasts,

The MANGAJIN Reading Club is small and friendly, but highly motivated. New members are always welcome to these informal, hard-working classes.

For more information call Mr. Moteki at 03-3479-4434 or fax him at 03-3479-5047.

BRAND NEWS

Innovative uses of the Japanese language in naming products and services

ウメボ•シー Umebo-C



Ume are usually called "plums," but the dictionary says they are really "Japanese apricots." *Umeboshi* are pickled *ume*, although the *-boshi* ending really means "dried." At any rate, *umeboshi* are believed to have all kinds of health benefits, and *Minato Seiyaku* (Minato Pharmaceutical) has come up with a product that combines *umeboshi* with vitamin C. Since the English letter "C" is pronounced *shii* in Japanese, what else could they call it but *Umebo-shii*.

The name is written in English letters (rōmaji), but to make sure people understand, it's written phonetically in katakana above the name, and an additional logo on the lower part of the package uses kanji and hiragana (梅はしさん, Umeboshi-san)

The product is made from tiny chunks of completely dried *umeboshi* with a coating of vitamin C and sugar. The taste is described as:

はあっり 甘酸っぱい Horo-ri Amazuppai mellow sweetish sour Delicately Sweet & Sour

It's recommended for a change of pace when driving, traveling, playing sports, or studying; to ward off drowsiness; and for those trying to quit smoking.



果実ごこち Kami-gokochi

The product is a fruit juice drink with lots of pulp mixed in—enough even to chew, according to the name! In the name, *kami*- is written with kanji (果実) that are usually read *kajitsu*, meaning "fruit." (as in fruit salad), but the second kanji (実), can also be read *mi*, referring to "fruit" in a broader sense (things brought forth by plants, including seeds, nuts, etc.), and additionally has

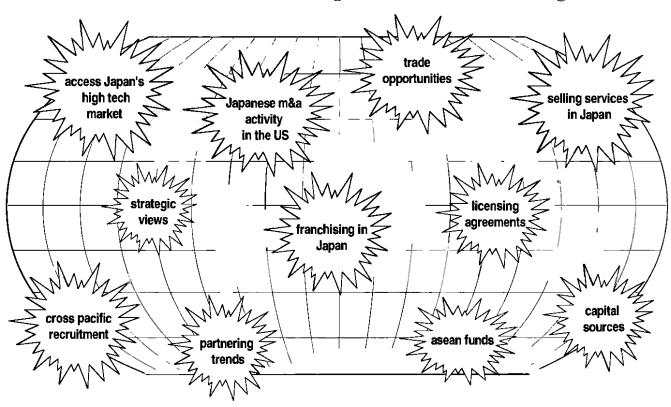
the implication of "physical substance/matter." So how do you know the kanji are supposed to be read *kami*? For one thing, the reading is given underneath in hiragana, but the ending *—gokochi* is really a verb ending, so it immediately suggests *kami* (随み) from the verb *kamu* (陳む), meaning "chew."

The ending —gokochi is a combining form of kokochi, "feeling/sensation." A typical usage is its combination with suwaru (座名, "sit") → suwari-gokochi ("the sensation of sitting in a [particular] chair"). For example, Kono isu wa suwari-gokochi ga ii desu means "This chair is comfortable." Thus, Kami-gokochi has the double meaning "the sensation of chewing," and "the sensation of fruit," implying that it contains so much fruit pulp that you can chew it.

Send us your examples of creative product names or slogans (with some kind of documentation). If we publish your example, we'll send you a Mangajin T-shirt to wear on your next shopping trip. In case of duplicate entries, earliest postmark gets the shirt, BRAND NEWS, P.O. Box 6668, Marietta, GA 30065



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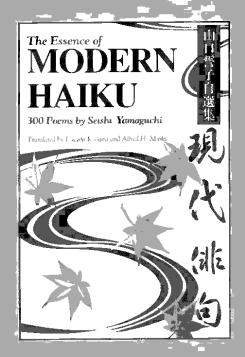
he Essence of Modern Haiku presents, for the first time in English, the ploneering work of 91-year-old Yamaguchi Seishi, known as the master of modern haiku. Breaking free from the centuries of poetry limited to nature themes, Seishi has modernized haiku while at the same time retaining the elegant beauty of the classics.

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-James Kirkup, President, the British Haiku Society



The Essence of Modern Haiku features:

日蔽や キネマの衢 Hiōi va kinema no chimata

鬱然と utsuzen to Seishi's original Japanese Romaji transliteration

A row of awnings darkness settles down upon the movie district.

English translation

1927

Dōtonbori, the movie district of **O**saka. The street is dark under a row of awnings. It was like the darkness under a deep sea. I had graduated from the university and was working for Sumitomo and living in the company dormitory in Unagidani. I often visited Dōtonbori.

Season word: hiōi, "awnings" Summer, life.

Vocabulary

utsuzen-to is an adverb that can mean either "gloomily/cheerlessly" or "in
a lively/flourishing/energetic manner." While describing how dark the
street seems under the awnings, it also suggests the possibility of a street
crowded with moviegoers

Other points of interest:

 Dötonbori has been a famous entertainment district since the Tokugawa era (1600-1867), stretching for mile and a half through central Osaka along the southern bank of Dötonbori Canal. Seishi's own notes help readers see how a poem is constructed, enabling the aspiring haiku writer to see how a modern master creates.

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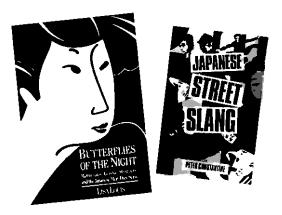
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漢字をどれくらい覚。 the practical jitsuy [na] 実用的[な] jis English-1(languag Eigo 英語 2(persor Japanese I (langua Nihon-go 日本語 26 dictionary ji'sho # jiten 辞典; jibiki 争 Noah S. Brannen(g Noa Esu Buranen

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Yamafuji Shōji's

BLACK ANGLE

Yamafuji Shōji, an illustrator, manga artist, and essayist, graduated from the prestigous Musashino College of Art in 1960 and went to work for National (known as Panasonic in the U.S.) as a staff designer. He turned free-lance in 1964 and has won numerous awards for his work, which appears in several magazines. Collections of his material are available in book format as well.

This cartoon appeared in the Japanese magazine Shūkan Asahi as part of the media frenzy that accompanied the engagement and subsequent break-up of sumō superstar star Takahanada (now Takanohana) and teen idol Miyazawa Rie, known to the Japanese as Rie-chan.

For any Japan watcher in a coma until recently, the October 26th engagement of Rie and Takahanada stunned the Japanese and triggered waves of media coverage. Almost daily, the press and public alike speculated on whether the two would ever make it to the altar. Many worried that the couple was too young and wondered if Rie would be willing to give up her career and become a traditional sumo wife for her top-knotted beau. It was rumored that the greatest threat to the planned nuptials was Rie's mother, her manager since birth, who didn't want her daughter to give up her lucrative show-biz career. Such concern was warranted—the wedding was indeed called off and many held Rie's mother responsible.

The small figure in the middle is a self-portrait of Yamafuji as a sumō announcer/referee. He is introducing the two *rikishi* ("sumō wrestlers") like a boxing announcer shouting, "In this corner. . ." In sumō, compass points—*Higashi* ("East"), and *Nishi* ("West")—are used instead of corners.

"Rie no Umi" is a parodicd version of the professional names sumo wrestlers take when they enter the 相撲界 sumō kai ("world of sumo"). Names ending with Umi (written 海 or 湖 and implying "The ocean of...") are popular; for example, 舞の海 "Mai no Umi," 豊の海 "Toyo no Umi," and 北の湖 "Kita no Umi."

Yamafuji writes *Umi* with the kanji 産, however. 産 refers to giving birth, and *no* is possessive, so りえの産み is literally "Rie's birther" or "The one who gave birth to Rie," a clever twist on the popular sumo name.



Title: 川藤章 この ブラック=アングル
Yamafuji Shōji no burakku anguru
(name) 's black angle

Yamafuji Shōji's Black Angle

Announcer: ひが し、貴花田 貴花田-Higa—shi, Takahanada Takahanada east (name) (name)

にイーし、りえの産み、りえの産み Ni—shi. Rie no umi Rie no umi west Rie 's mother Rie 's mother

"In the East, Takahanada, Takahanada— In the West, Rie's mother, Rie's mother—"



Businessman 1: Na,naniii!?

"Wha, whaat!?"

Businessman 2: Tanoshimi ni shiteta

terebibangumi ga kyanseru ni

natta dakeda.

"It's just that the TVprogram

he was looking forward to got

cancelled."

FX: GAAAN

(an FX word indicating

shock or realization)

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Bars, Cabarets, & the "Water Trade"

水商売 (mizu shōbai), literally "water trade," refers to the world of entertainment in general, especially bars, cabarets, or anything that has to do with sex and drinking. Some say the term is a reference to the hot springs and bath houses that were the center of the early entertainment trade, while others say it is an allusion to the flowing, ever-changing nature of the business. Whatever the etymology, it's a manifestation of another side of the Japanese psyche. Here, Mark Schreiber serves up a smorgasbord of information about this world.

The Japanese are well known for their businesslike attitude, rigid demeanor and dedication to the company. There is another side, however, to the Japanese personality. Put a Japanese businessman in a bar, add a little alcohol, and an amazing transformation takes place. In fact, it's probably no exaggeration to say that if a foreigner were somehow to confine his contacts with Japanese exclusively to places where they engaged in after-hours drinking, no amount of argument would convince him that the Japanese were not the most affable, easygoing, happy-go-lucky people on earth.

There is an old saying, "Edokko wa yoigoshi no kane o motanai," (江戸っ子は宵越しの金を持たない, "A true son of Edo never goes to bed with money in his pockets"). Tokyo males of yore were apparently a hard-drinking, hard-playing, free-spending bunch of guys. Tokyo males of today may be free-spending, but when they are drinking with their own money, they can usually spend freely only within the range of their allowance, or kozukai (小造, pocket money doled out by wives from the monthly household budget—see Crayon Shin-chan, page 52).

In addition to corporate entertaining (the greatest source of revenue for bars and cabarets), most office workers find the opportunity one or more nights a week to unwind and spend a few thousand yen of their pocket money. Over an icy nama biiru (生ビール, "draft beer") or tokkuri (徳利, "decanter") of hot sake, co-workers might exchange gossip and anecdotes about customers or the cute receptionist at a client's office who looks like she'd accept an invitation for a date. The venue might be a small nomiya around the corner from their office or perhaps a yakitori ("grilled skewered chicken chunks") stand close to the train station from which they commute home.

But these after-work encounters do not count as a night on the town. The real dedicated drinking comes when the parties concerned make the decision to do just that. This kind of drinking may coincide with the arrival of the twice-a-year bonus; come after a springtime session of *o-hanami* (老花見, cherry blossom viewing); be a celebration over a promotion or the landing of a new account; serve as a reunion with old schoolmates; or, it may be for no particular reason at all—just a spontaneous decision.

The "water trade," that caters to these revelers has an amazingly complex hierarchy of prices and types of establishments, and there are even territorial lines. Typically, in Tokyo, company presidents and executives drink in Ginza; politicians and bureaucrats in Akasaka; rank-and-file businessmen in Shinjuku; young office workers and college students in Roppongi or Shibuya; and bluecollar workers in Ueno and the downtown area known as *shitamachi* 下町.

In Osaka, the drinking areas are identified as Kita and Minami, north and south, respectively. The latter includes an area called Dōtonbori, which boasts a history going back some four centuries. Its spectacular neon scenery was prominently featured in the Michael Douglas film *Black Rain*.

Any regional city in Japan worth its salt has a large *sakariba* (盛り場, "entertainment district") and visitors to Sapporo, Hiroshima, Fukuoka, and Sendai, will not be disappointed.

The business establishments—

bars, cabarets, night clubs, dance halls, restaurants, coffee shops, game arcades massage parlors, and so on—that make up Japan's water trade come under the legal control, not of general commercial codes, but of a section of statutes known as Keiji Tokubetsu Hō (刑事特別法, "Special Criminal/Civil Law") that directly empowers the police authorities with enforcement. The law, specifically known as the Fūzoku Eigyō-tō Torishimarihō, (風俗営業等取締法) Law Controlling Commerce of Public Morals, was passed by the Diet in July 1948 and has since undergone numerous revisions.

[・]psyche = 精神/心 seishin/kokoro ・smorgasbord = 寄せ集め/バイキング料理 yoseatsume/baikingu ryōri ・affable = 気のおけない ki no okenai ・happy-go-lucky = 楽天的な rakutentekt-na ・anecdotes = 逸話 itsuwa ・land a new account = 新しい顧客を獲得する atarashii kokyaku o kakutoku suru ・caters to = 娯楽を提供する/要求を満たす goraku o teikyō suru/yōkyū o mitasu ・bureaucrats = 官僚 kanryō ・worth its salt = 「応名のある/ 善及に値する ichiō na no aru/genkyū ni atai suru ・commercial codes = 商法 shōhō ・section of statutes = (立法府によって制定された)成文法の一部 (rippōfu ni yotte seitei sareta) seibunhō no ichibu ・empowers = 権限を与える kengen o ataeru

It defines how the various types of establishments can be operated.

The impact of the law varies according to the degree local authorities choose to enforce the statutes. Thus, it is difficult to generalize about what you'll encounter once you walk into a night club, cabaret or other establishment. Larger night clubs may feature a live orchestra, hold stage shows and include a dance floor. Cabarets usually offer hostesses and sometimes dancing. New variations on the theme, such as "kyaba kura" (キャ バクラ, an amalgamation of cabaret and club), work further to thwart any easy definition. Likewise a bar might be no more than a half-dozen stools and an elderly proprietress serving drinks from behind a counter; or, it may offer elegantly attired hostesses and the ambiance of a high-class European drawing room.

Needless to say, the cost of drinking in these places varies widely; in this, the fifth year of Heisei (1993), customers should count on paying anywhere between \(\frac{\pmathbf{1}}{5},000\) to \(\frac{\pmathbf{3}}{3},000\) (\(\frac{\pmathbf{1}}{2}0\) to \(\frac{\pmathbf{2}}{2}40\) at current rates) per head to drink in a respectable night club or cabaret, although this can easily reach \(\frac{\pmathbf{5}}{5}0,000\) (\(\frac{\pmathbf{4}}{4}00\)) or even more. Those who leave large amounts of money behind, incidentally, are usually those who get priority on other privileges, such as the favors of the hostesses.

Drinking establishments have long kept to a successful formula of knowing what their customers desire and delivering the goods, mainly through what I like to call the "Three A's"—alcohol, ambiance and arousal. The arousal part comes from hostesses, and in some establishments, the hostesses may actually be available for the evening, if the timing and price are right. In most cases, however, their work stops with arousal.

According to the rules of the establishment, a hostess may be expected to make the rounds to different tables, or may stay with the same customer from arrival to departure. If hostesses can hold their liquor, it is common for them to share a drink with their customers; otherwise they may sip beer, or request that the customer buy them something lighter, such as tea or a soft drink.

The professional hostess prides herself on being a woman who knows how to deal with men, and takes to her profession with the aura of a performer on the stage—complete in many cases with a stage name. The Japanese service industry has always taken high marks for making its customers feel "special," and Japanese men seem to have a strong weakness for that kind of treatment.

Good hostesses can make a lot of money, certainly much more than an or-

(continued on following page)

The hostess is an integral part of the bar and cabaret scene. But, as Michael the cat discovers in our manga story on page 58, there are all types of hostesses.

The hostess, part I:

Michiko, a beautiful woman at the peak of her profession, socializes with executives, college professors, and politicians. Handsome younger men threaten to commit suicide if she won't marry them. She speaks eight languages, and has purchased several condos with her earnings. She is about to retire after twenty successful years as a hostess.



© Saigan Ryōhei / Yūyake no Uta

The hostess, part II:

Hanako (on the left), is a working mother. She is supporting two children by herself, and although her earnings as a hostess are nothing like Michiko's (above), this is her best source of income. In the end, she is fired because of her unpopularity with the customers, but her children are glad their mother is back in the home at night.



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[•] drawing room = 応接間 ōsetsuma • count on = 予期する/考慮に入れておく yoki suru/kōryo ni irete oku • the favors of = (場合によっては情交をも含む)好意的なサービス(ba'ai ni yotte wa jōkō mo fukumu) kōiteki-na sabisu • delivering the goods = 期待に添うkitai ni sō • make the rounds = 巡回する junkai suru • hold their liquor = 酒が飲める/酒に強い sake ga nomeru/sake ni tsuyoi • taken high marks = 高い評価を得た takai hyōka o eta



A "high-class" Ginza club: from Tsuri-Baka Nisshi, Mangajin No. 23. Two employees of a medium-sized construction company are entertaining a potential client.

dinary OL ("office lady"), and all types of women are attracted to the profession. Many virtuous young ladies—and some married women—have opted to work at this admittedly sexist trade for the relatively high compensation it offers, without necessarily being dragged into the depths of depravity.

One fascinating aspect of Japanese night life is the way many establishments adopt a theme. Although the practice has become much more subtle (i.e. fewer watering holes still dress up hostesses in students' middy blouses, nurses' garb or abbreviated baseball uniforms), this use of a formula makes it easier to attract clientele and differentiate an establishment from competitors.

Back in the days when people were less conscientious towards others' sensibilities, I was escorted by my supervisor to a Shimbashi club that made a specialty of employing exceptionally homely females as hostesses. As nice as their personalities were, one had to be awfully hard up to feel any sexual attraction for these young ladies. But because of this, men apparently found it easier to relax and enjoy themselves, free from the sexual tension that arises in the presence of more attractive young women. These homely hostesses must have been paid well, as this club was, I learned afterward, not only famous but quite expensive. Go figure.

Mark Schilling, whose "Tokyo After Dark" column on Tokyo night life in the Japan Times Weekly was compiled into a book of the same title last year, has seen many changes since his arrival in Japan in 1975.

One of the biggest changes from Schilling's viewpoint is the information explosion, which has brought with it numerous speciality publications that in-

• have opted to (work) = (働くことを)選んだ (hataraku koto o) eranda • watering holes = バー,ナイトクラブ等 bā, naitokurabu nado • middy blouses = セーラー服 sērā fuku • differentiate = 区別をつける kubetsu o tsukeru • (be awfully) hard up = (よっぽど)欲求不満だ (yoppodo) yokkyū fuman da • Go figure = わからないものだ! wakaranai mono da! • information explosion = 情報量の夢発的増加 jōhōrvō no bakuhatsuteki zōka



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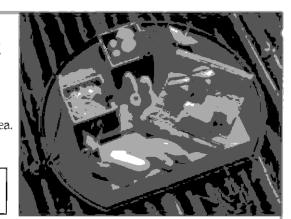
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troduce people to night life.

"There are lots of magazines, like *Hanako*, that specialize in telling people about where to go, what's in, what's out, what's happening and so on. A few weeks ago I was in this place down on the waterfront in Yokohama—an old GI hangout with a jukebox that was a relic out of the 1960s. It was full of people who read about it in some magazine and were trying it out because it was trendy. In a way, I miss the old days, because you had more of a feeling that you were exploring. Now that's a lot harder to do."

Whither the water trade in Japan? When the "bubble" reached its peak in the late 1980s, an article in one vernacular magazine suggested that the rampant inflation of real estate prices in Tokyo's Shinjuku area might even see Kabuki-chō, the area's moderate-to-sleazy entertainment quarters, transformed into neat rows of office buildings, trendy boutiques and discotheques. "Where will we go for sexual gratification once Kabuki-chō turns respectable?" the writer rhetorically demanded.

But then the economy finally began to obey the law of gravity. Companies began slashing their entertainment budgets, and are now even laying off personnel. During 1992, many of the bright lights of the Ginza began to flicker and fade.

The veteran "mama" at one of Ginza's pricier clubs was quoted in *Diamond* economic weekly last year as saying during the peak of the boom years, clientele from real estate firms, construction companies and securities houses flocked to her club every evening, popping the corks on bottles of champagne—at ¥50,000 a pop. Now, some of these same customers are more than 60 days in arrears on their bills.

She remains pessimistic about the long-term outlook. Even after the economy recovers, she says, company management is bound to change, and that will mean reduced entertainment budgets. What's more, customers seldom bring in their young staff to drink with them anymore; and young businessmen are no longer impressed with drinking at a Ginza club as a sign of job success. "Mō korekara wa, kōkyū kurabu no jidai de wa arimasen (The era of high-class nightclubs is over)," she says with a fatalistic shake of her head.

No one really knows what will happen when the Japanese economy makes its inevitable rebound. Although Japanese men and women seem to be learning to relate to each other in ways that may eliminate the need for some of the services it provides, the water trade is such an integral part of Japan that it's hard to believe it will ever disappear.

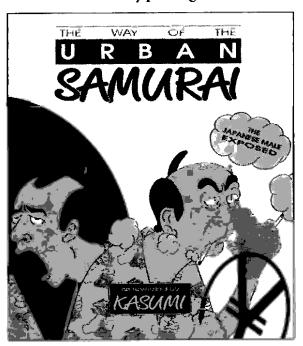
Mark Schreiber is a free-lance writer in Tokyo.

• specialty publications = 専門誌 senmonshi • what's in / what's out = 何がはやりで何が流行遅れか nani ga hayari de nani ga ryūkō okure ka • hangout = たまり場 tamariba • whither = (水商元)いずこ (mizu shōbai) izuko • rampant inflation = すさまじい高騰 susumajii kōtō • economic weekly = 週刊の経済誌 shūkan no keizaishi • securities hous = 証券会社 shōken-gaisha • a pop = コルク栓を つ抜くたびにパドトル・本に付き koruku-sen o hitotsu nuku tabi ni/botoru ippon ni tsuki • be in arrears = 滯納している。未払いだ tainō shite-iru, miharai da

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A Taste of Culture

Chocolate

Once an exotic treat, *chokorēto* has become established as an integral part of Japanese culture



by Elizabeth Andoh

It seems that the very first Japanese ever to taste chocolate was a gentleman by the name of Hasekura Tsunenaga, vassal to the powerful Lord Date Masamune, Daimyō of the Northern District under Shōgun Tokugawa Ieyasu. The year was 1614 and the place was Mexico. Just why Hasekura was traveling abroad is open to some speculation (negotiating an arms deal, perhaps?), but he apparently told tales upon his return to Japan of tasting a thick, dark drink the natives of Mexico called "shokolatoru."

The next account of chocolate in Japan comes from a rather interesting source—an 18th century diary written by a woman who refers to herself merely as "a lady of pleasure." The lady in question was a resident of Nagasaki, a port town in southwestern Japan where many Dutchmen had settled. Although the woman may have had a dubious reputation, she kept very accurate records of gifts received from patrons, and there is an entry in her diary for the year 1797 which includes cocoa.

Throughout the Edo period (1600-1868) there was very limited trade with foreign countries but with the restoration of Emperor Meiji to the throne in 1868 came tremendous political and social change throughout Japan. Chocolate was just one of many foreign items to capture the fancy of the Japanese and in 1878, a confectioner by the name of Yonezu Matsuzo from Tokyo's Ryogoku district placed the first Japanese newspaper advertisement extolling the delights of chocolate. In his ad, he elected to assign ateji rather than sound out the new word in katakana: *choko* ("sake cup") + *rei* ("chilled") + $t\bar{o}$ ("sugar"): 猪口冷糖. Although his spelling for chocolate never became very popular, the product itself won wide acclaim. By the way, Fugetsudo, the bakery Mr. Yonezu founded, is today a large and prosperous cake, cookie and candy manufacturing company favoring "old-fashioned" turn-of-the-century style foreign confections, though not specializing in chocolate.

The first of several giant Japanese chocolate companies to emerge was Morinaga, Ltd., who began to market their "cream chocolate" in 1899. They were soon followed by Meiji Seika, Fujiya, and Glico, though the real boom in chocolate manufacturing and consumption came with the American Occupation after World War II.

From the start, the most popular chocolate sweets were bars of milk chocolate, though today dozens of manufacturers produce a wide variety of goods. All are imaginatively packaged—even the most ordinary caramel and chocolate candies are wrapped in colorful crepe paper and tied with ribbons to resemble a bouquet of flowers for the ladies, or, for the gambling- and game-loving types, placed in dotted boxes that look like dice. Hollow chocolate molded to resemble cars and trains (especially the *shinkansen*) are very popular with young boys; little girls tend to prefer cuddly animals. Any way you look at it, the Japanese absolutely ADORE chocolate, and as with many foods of foreign origin, it has become an indispensable part of the contemporary culinary scene in Japan.

The Japanese tend to categorize their native foods as being either *amai* ($\sharp \nu$), "sweet") or *karai* ($\sharp \nu$), "spicy" or "salty"), and they expect children and women to like the former while adults, particularly male, are supposed to prefer the latter. The chocolate industry, not willing to lose its youthful clientele as they grow to maturity, nor forgo the vast male expense-account potential, has since the mid-80s launched a massive PR campaign to promote "adult candy."

Since alcoholic beverages are "adult" and somewhat macho, hundreds of varieties of liquor-spiked candies and hand-dipped truffles are making their way to market. On Valentine's Day, a recent addition to the culinary calendar in Japan, women give gifts of chocolate to men—most often whiskey-laced hearts, but occasionally novelty chocolates in the shapes of pipes, neckties, or golf clubs and balls. Indeed, enormous pressure is brought to bear upon most OLs ("office ladies" who serve tea and file correspondence for male executives) to present gifts of chocolate to their bosses and other men at work. Such gifts are referred to as giri choko 義理チョコ, giri being that guilt-laden word the Japanese use to describe both obligations and their in-laws!

I suspect that when Valentine's Day first started to be "celebrated" in Japan about 15 years ago, chocolate presents were exchanged as an expression of true romantic interest. But, since love is often fickle, or goes unrequited, such displays of affection could easily cause a loss of face (kao o tsubusu 顔を潰す). Kao (literally "face") is an important concept in Japan, and saving face (kao o tateru 顔を立てる) is serious business. Giri choco was probably an innovative retail solution to avoiding bruised egos!

Taste • of • Culture

Another interesting aspect to the Japanese version of Valentine's Day is the addition of "White Day" one month later on March 14. To most Americans, White Day probably sounds like a sale of linens and towels at their local department store. But in Japan, where reciprocity is a complex but essential element of gift-giving, White Day is the time for men to return gifts made of white chocolate to those women who presented

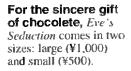
them with (dark) chocolate on Valentine's Day. If you think this is beginning to sound more like a successful PR effort than an expression of true love, you're probably right. Most often it's not love, but a good sales pitch, that makes the retail world go round in Japan.

In recent years many small, elegant shops and tearooms have sprung up in the boutique-dotted landscape of some of

Valentine's Day Chocolate basically falls into two categories. If it's a sincere expression of romantic interest, it's referred to as *honnei* (本命, a term also used to refer to the "favorite" in a horserace). If it's given because of obligation, or to avoid bruised egos (especially in the workplace), it's called *giri* (養理, "duty/obligation"). Here are some examples of both.



Aveilable in a number of sports varieties, this package features a request to "Take me along for tennis," or as the English on the label says, "Take me tennis with you." To make sure the message is communicated, the Japanese at the top says tsuretette ne, a contraction of tsurete itte ne, ("Take me along, won't you?").





The individually wrapped chocoletes in this dynamite package are filled with whiskey (¥500).



"Obligation chocolate." The package reads, Giri de gomen neko, a word play on Giri de gomen ne, ("Sorry this is only for obligation"). The ne is a colloquial ending, something like "OK?" Adding ko, however, gives neko ("cat"), and the chocolates in the package are shaped like cats.



Don't forget grandpa! The label reads:

おじいちゃん へ 元気チョコ Ojiichan e genki choko "Healthiness chocolate for Grandpa"



Tokyo's tonier neighborhoods. These establishments that specialize in hand-made chocolate confections vie with one another to capture and keep the imagination of their customers predominantly women. The unmarried young ladies are either students or OLs, while the older clientele are women whose husbands' status and salary both permit and sustain this type



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of socializing. The tastiest, most exquisite chocolates can be enjoyed at Ginza Wako Department Store's own cozy tea salon and shop. A more spacious setting for chocolate (and cookies) can be found at Yoku Moku (taken from the name of a Scandinavian village) near the Nezu Museum in Aoyama, and at Boule Mich opposite Shibuya's Parco I. Boule Mich offers up the work of Chef Yoshida Kikujiro, a bright star in the confectionery firmament of Tokyo. Mr. Yoshida's talents have filled several popular, colorful cookbooks on cookies and cakes and he has also authored two more serious treatises on the history of chocolate and Western-style confections in Japan.

Throughout the Japanese archipelago, supermarket shelves are filled with (relatively) inexpensive chocolate-coated snacks made by domestic companies—one of the most popular is Glico brand's chocolate-dipped pretzel sticks, called Pocky (the name is taken from the sound effects word, pokitto, or pokinto, representing a "snap"). The counters at all department store food halls carry a wide variety of imported, joint-venture-licensed. and original (Japanese) brand chocolates. The most outlandishly named domestic chocolate creations I found were made by Mary's. Their pamphlet (entitled "Poème de Mary") reads like a mini-romance novel with bonbons named "Whisperings of a Sprite" (Yōsei no Sasayaki 妖精のささやき), "Twinkling Premonition" (Kirameki no Yokan きらめきの予感), "Capricious Angel" (Kimagure Tenshi きまぐれ天使), and "Traces of Love" (Koi no Nagori 恋の名残り). Just imagine a combi-

(continued on p. 31)

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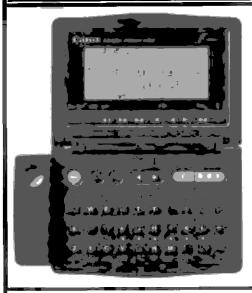
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The Inside Scoop on Japanese Men

Butterflies of the Night: Mama-sans, Geisha, Strippers, and the Japanese Men They Serve, Lisa Louis. New York: Tengu Books, 1992, 214 pages, \$19.95 (hardcover).

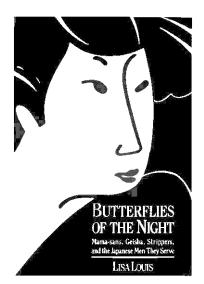
The Way of the Urban Samurai, Kasumi. Rutland, VT: Charles E. Tuttle Co., 1992. 113 pages, \$9.95 (hardcover).

Pity the Japanese male.

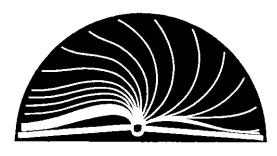
Pushed from indulged boyhood, he fights his way through examination hell, interview high-water, commuter trains and office politics, shouldering the weight of familial and even national expectations. Now he stands shivering in the spotlight, dirty linen and hidden warts exposed to the world. In these latter days of post-feminism, he doesn't come off well, pelted as he is with accusations of arrogance, materialism, sexual deviance, insensitivity, racism, and sexism. Of course, more than a few Japanese women have been saying this all along. A recent AP release reports an international survey undertaken by a romance novel publisher, in which Japanese women rated their men among the world's

least romantic of the male gender. The growing chorus is joined by two recent books by western women, both of whom speak from ample experience—one, an ex-bar hostess, now married to a Japanese; the other an ex-wife, now raising a half-Japanese son.

Like many women short of cash in a land of skyrocketing prices and seemingly insatiable male egos, Lisa Louis



tried her hand at hostessing, and emerged with *Butterflies* of the Night, an engaging, occasionally smutty account of women in the business of catering to men. The venue is Japan's water trade (mizu shōbai), which runs the gamut



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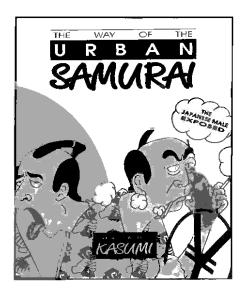
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from traditional teahouses and well-heeled, ruinously expensive bars to seamy strip joints and Turkish baths (now called "soaplands" in deference to the Turkish government). Westerners unfamiliar with the incredible range of such entertainment will no doubt be amused and appalled in turn by the likes of sekuhara (sexual harassment) clubs, where the patrons are free to harass the hostesses, who are dressed like office workers; no-pan kissa (no-panty coffee shops); or the more disturbing plight of Japavuki-san, Southeast Asian women often forced by their illegal immigration status into prostitution and smuggling.

The bulk of Butterflies is devoted to interviews with both hostesses and patrons. These manage to evoke the numbing quality of male-female relations in bars and salons throughout Japan, but like said relationships, they can get a little wearisome at times.

The interviews include material such as one man's opinion that "The Japanese don't have hobbies or interests to occupy themselves, so they look for a place to spend their money," or a quasi-prostitute's coolly uttered,

"My fiance doesn't know that I work here . . . I'm trying to save up money for our marriage ceremony." These are simply presented at face value, without qualification or comment.

Louis is at her best relating first-hand experiences. Having my-

selfendured a week-from-hell of bar hostessing, I can vouch for the accuracy of her acute, if forgivably biased account. "As juice dribbled down his chin, Kimiko wiped his face with a wet towel. I knew that I too was supposed to be serving in this way, but I was affected by a mixture of fascination and a strange sort of disgust at this creature who seemed to be unaware of anyone's existence but his own." This book wasn't intended to skewer Japanese men, but it's hard to imagine how a western woman writing on such a topic could come up with any other result.

While Louis inflicts incidental casualties on Japanese men, Kasumi (a.k.a. Deborah Minkin, an American artist and musician) declares open war, her ammunition equal parts satirical text and scathingly funny cartoons.

The text is a one-woman attack force with bludgeons. It is obvious that Kasumi has a bone to pick, and that she means to pick it clean. Her "Glossary of Urban Samurai Terms," for example, defines extramarital sex as "the only way to get any"; food processor as "wife, girlfriend, mother, or any female over

the age of 12"; for wives, she defines home improvement as "having hubby transferred to another city—alone."

The divorce must have been bitter indeed. Actually, many of these missiles would be equally suitable for launching against stereotypical male behavior on this side of the Pacific. Even some of the vocabulary in these diatribes (exile to Detroit, Urban Samurai Evangelical Hour, kosher pickles, Tupperware containers, Teflon) derives more from an American than Japanese context, rendering the humor curiously off-target.

However, Kasumi's puffing, gagging warriors in topknots, garbed in flowing robes patterned with yen signs, strutting and posturing their way through a cluttered urban Japan make a funny sight—especially to those familiar with their real-life prototypes.

While entertaining and, to varying degrees, insightful, these books are not, and do not claim to be, either analytical or unbiased. To Westerners bamboozled by glorified images of Japan and the Japanese created by western media, they provide a refreshing antidote; to those who are more inclined toward Japanbashing, they provide ample ammunition. Readers who have lived in Japan will relate to much of what they say; those who have not are cautioned that their contents add up to a very skewed portrait of homo Japonicus.

Ginny Skord Waters is a professor of Japanese language and literature and a frequent contributor to MANGAJIN.



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(continued from page 71)

Blyth's translations contain at least one ingredient that Huntley did not list, perhaps because he took it for granted. That is the season word: "chrysanthemums" in the first two and "hazy moon" in the third. The haiku is, above all, a nature poem, tied to the seasons, which for all three of these poems is autumn—the time of flowering chrysanthemums and moon viewing. Attention to the season word is important for the translator, because it is something Japanese poets take very seriously, and in connection with which they frequently consult almanacs called saijiki, or "season-event record." If the translator has nearby a saijiki like the hefty Nihon Dai-saijiki (Kodansha, 1983), he can look up the season word and perhaps find a gorgeous photograph of some object related to it, along with many other photographs on related words to lift his spirits and get the cordial juices flowing.

Once the translator has worked out the meaning being built around the season word, which is never easy, he has to work out how to adapt the word order of

his translation to the word order of the original. That works fairly well in translating into English from European languages, but not from Japanese. That quite different word order must somehow be moved around to bring out best the witty twist, sometimes called the "haiku moment," and which Huntley calls the "image... on which the resolution... turns."

Harold G. Henderson, who has done most, perhaps, to bring haiku to the attention of poets outside Japan with his many works on the subject, felt that adherence to the 5-7-5 in English translation was impossible but nevertheless used it or a syllable-count close to it whenever he could, and added rhyme, out of a belief that rhyme and assonance could supply the necessary rigidity in form.

It is important to note that Japanese syllables are not the same as those of English. What the Japanese think of as syllables, or onji (音字 "sound characters," or "phonograms") are single vowels, or a consonant followed by a vowel. All Japanese syllables have the same duration, giving spoken Japanese a metro-

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1904 Montecito Drive, Los Angeles, CA 90031-1650 Tel/Fax (213) 223-3212 nomic quality. When the vowels o and u are lengthened (\bar{o} and \bar{u}), they count as two syllables. The "consonant" \mathcal{L} (written as n in English letters), counts as a full syllable. The small 2/7 (tsu) in words such as rappa ($\bar{7}$ 7/8) or hossa ($\{\bar{3}, \bar{2}, \bar{2}\}$) counts as a sylable, so these words have three syllables each, and mottomo ($\{\bar{3}, \bar{2}, \bar{2}, \bar{3}, \bar{3}\}$) has four.

This linguistic difference between Japanese and English syllables has been instrumental in leading some haiku poets and translators to avoid, even anathematize, the rendering of haiku into 5-7-5 English syllable patterns. In my experience, translation into patterns of 5-7-5 is no more difficult than the problems a poet faces when composing in a fixed form. Poets, however, live in a freer country than most, a country in which no law, no critic, no coterie can tell them the beat they must march to.

The meter and the season word of the Japanese haiku are not the only elements to challenge the translator who wishes to bring over into English as many as possible of the qualities of each original poem. There is a certain solid, lumpy character to the haiku, a certain native Japanese quality that is as foreign to English as sushi to hamburgers. One element that contributes to the lumpiness is the Chinese characters, or kanji, which are almost as rich in meaning as Ezra Pound said they were. They are not only pictographic, they set up ripples and eddies in the mind of the reader to disturb the mellifluously metronomic flow of the haiku's language.

Not all the poet's readers are expected to know all the characters in the poems. Sometimes the poet supplies the pronunciations in *furigana* (smaller kana printed beside the kanji). Sometimes he leaves the reader to his own devices, one of which is a dictionary. Thus the task of the translator is often complicated by the problems of expressing in a few poetic words meanings that normally require many more of prose. He may also be forced to consider whether one or more of those few poetic words should not at times be polysyllabic, in a way conso-

(continued on page 26)

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(continued from page 25)

nant with the heaviness of the meanings the poem's short compass conceals.

One famous poem by Yamaguchi Seishi, for instance, is:

夏草に Natsukusa ni kikansha no sharin

汽罐車の車輪

来て止まる kite tomaru

The poem is heavy with kanji—nine of them to only four kana. We know that it is summer from the initial word natsukusa, or "summer grass." That word stands in contrast, however, to the words of the second phrase, kikansha no sharin, meaning "the wheels of a locomotive," for natsukusa uses the native Japanese reading of the characters, while kikansha no sharin, meaning literally "steam-boiler car," uses the Chinese readings. Thus the great front wheels of the train carry linguistic weight to go with the weight of the steel they are made of. And thus the poet uses his orthography to emphasize the point of his poem: the opposition of the great weight of the locomotive to the deli-

cate, however rankly abundant, living summer grass. The English language, fortunately or unfortunately, has no orthography like the kanji, but perhaps the word "locomotive" is ponderous enough. The word order, however, poses no problems, and the translation can be worked out phrase by phrase:

> Up to summer grass, wheels of a locomotive coming to a stop.

Then there is a poem which uses only kana. It is entirely a nature poem, concerned with what the Japanese call the mogaribue, the flutelike sound the wind makes over some bamboo fences. It is a music that is nature's own, and Seishi carefully inscribes this very natural utterance in the graceful hiragana:

> もがりぶえ とぎれとぎれの ものがたり. Mogaribue togire-togire no monogatari

Togire-togire is one of the countless compound onomatopoeias the Japanese flavor their speech with, and the word monogatari-best known, perhaps, in the title Genji Monogatari—reverberates with the allure of ancient romance.

The word "intoning" may stand in for the marvelous onomatopoeias, with "fits and starts" describing the repetitions and the irregularity of the phenomenon:

> Wind over fences, intoning by fits and starts its old, old story.

This is only a brief discussion of some of the problems of translating haiku, but perhaps it serves to demonstrate some of the perils, and agonies, that await the translator, and also some of the joys of the pursuit.

Alfred H. Marks has been translating and teaching Japanese literature for 50 years.

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Labo International Exchange Foundation

Building friendships in Japan

After years of studying Japanese, these Australian high school students finally got to visit. Here's what they had to say:

The world's largest pool of high-schoolers studying Japanese as a foreign language is in Australia. The Land Down Under sends more goods to Japan than to any of its other trading partners, and is naturally anxious to see its citizenry expand their knowledge of The Land of the Rising Sun. Aussie educators are cultivating potential Nihonophones right out of elementary school.

We spoke with two Australian high school students, visiting Japan on a LABO exchange program, about comics, life with a Japanese family, language, and *nattō*. Both had several years of language study under their belt and were seeing Japan for the first time.

"My biggest surprise was not meeting the father of the femily I'm staying with until I had already been here four days," said Samantha Rixon, of Sydney. "He's a medical doctor, and comes home late every night—after we were asleep—and returned to work before we woke up in the morning. This was new to me. I grew up in a home where my father was always home for dinner."

Samantha spent five weeks living with a family in Tokyo as a LABO exchange student. The LABO International Exchange is a Japanese program that has placed about 7,000 Australian





and North American high school students into Japanese families who open their hearts and hearths to these youngsters. LABO is a grass roots reflection of Japan's new enthusiasm to welcome outsiders.

Despite four years of study, another great surprise upon arrival was the language. "I was amazed that no one in my homestay family spoke the kind of Japanese I had learned at school," she said. "I mean, like 'arimasen.' No one in my host family ever says that to me. They say nai."

The contact with everyday Japanese life that LABO has provided her with has whetted her appetite to study Japanese further, though she said her appetite for sticky, slimy and fermented beans (nattō) remained unchanged. She said she will base her decision on which university she'll attend by the quality of their Japanese program.

Another Australian high-schooler who came to Japan as a LABO exchange student is Roedy Sawitto, also of Sydney. "Most kids at my school study Japanese because they want to go into business," he said. "But I want to be a cartoon animator, and I think Japanese animation is the best in the world."

He is a serious and focused young man, and has produced his own short animation feature. "I fell in love with comics because that is how I learned to speak English," says Roedy, whose family are recent emigrants to Australia from Indonesia.

"This LABO international exchange program has taught me a lot about Japan. I've been able to use the phrases that I learned in school," Roedy said. "I've decided to do part of my college studies here and perfect my Japanese."

Home-stay Opportunities with LABO International Exchange Foundation

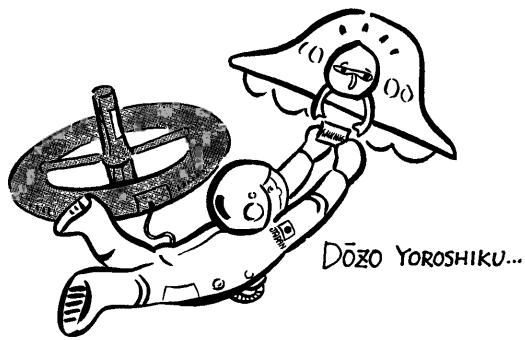
Everyone knows the easiest way to learn a foreign language is to start when you are five years old. But Japan's LABO is one of the few educational organizations that does anything about it.

About 40,000 Japanese children are enrolled in LABO's English-language program which uses a story-telling approach to teaching language. Kids read simple storybooks, listen to CD's and play games in English.

"it's the exact opposite of a cram school," says LABO staff member David Hylton. "Because LABO teaches kids about getting on in a global society as well as teaching them about English."

LABO also sponsors a nonprofit organization that arranges home-stays with Japanese families. Both Samantha Rixon and Roedy Sawitto were introduced to their home-stay families through LABO.

If you know a youngster who would like to travel to Japan and learn about Japanese culture, contact the LABO International Exchange Foundation at 1201 3rd Avenue, Suite 1850, Seattle, WA 98101 (206)-554-7255. The head office is located at 8-4-5 Nishl-Shinjuku, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo.



Hajimemashite, an introduction to meishi

The exchange of *meishi* 名刺 (name cards or business cards) is an integral part of business introductions in Japan. When people introduce themselves, they say "*Hajimemashite*" (How do you do?) and offer their meishi; therefore, I have called this series "*Hajimemashite*." Here, we will discuss four aspects of meishi: 1) meishi and the Japanese, 2) meishi etiquette, 3) the functions of meishi, and 4) the physical appearance of the meishi.

Meishi and the Japanese

While the Japanese are known throughout the world for their habit of using meishi, the Japanese ideal is, in fact, not to need meishi at all. Few, if any, celebrities or distinguished persons need to depend on meishi; well-known musicians, artists, film directors, sports figures, and top executives are accepted anywhere without them. One might say, meishi wa meishi o motanai 名士は名刺を持たない—a distinguished person (meishi 名士, stress on the first syllable) doesn't carry a calling card (meishi 名刺, unstressed accentuation). Most people, however, need to use meishi in any situation that involves business.

The Japanese often say meishi wa meshi no tane 名刺は飯の夕ネーmeishi are a means of earning one's rice. This means that business in Japan begins with meishi. Meishi exchange is an almost indispensable ceremony conducted at the start of any business relationship, and giving and receiving meishi opens up new horizons for one's business. Therefore, everyone tries to create opportunities to exchange meishi, not only in business situations, but at parties, school reunions, and even golf competitions. People seek every possible chance to exchange meishi. There are even par-

ties called *meishi kōkankai* 名刺交換会 (meishi exchange parties), which are usually held in hotels, although once one railway company even ran a meishi-exchange train. And Dr. Mori, the first Japanese scientist to travel on a US space shuttle, the *Endeavor*, last year, had a thousand meishi printed before boarding. Why? To deliver his meishi if and when he met an extra-terrestrial being.

It is said that the average company employee hands out at least three meishi a day; if in sales, 15 to 20. Participants in meishi exchange parties hand out and collect at least 200. Many businesses require as part of their training exercises that new recruits visit other companies to deliver and receive meishi. The larger the number of meishi collected, the better, so everyone scurries around to amass meishi. Many brave (or sufficiently desperate) young recruits make their calls anywhere at all and beg for meishi to submit as evidence of a call. Some companies have come up with a clever tactic to evade these meishi-hungry sharks: they print meishi specially made for this purpose and leave them at the entrance with a sign, "Please help yourself."

Most salarymen desire meishi with an impressive title and, of course, an impressive salary to go with it, but more than a few forego a raise, requesting only a higher title for the sake of their meishi. Many people say that the worst thing about retirement is no longer carrying a meishi with a title on it.

The etiquette of meishi exchange

The impression you leave upon exchanging meishi will influence the success of your business, so you must be careful to observe proper meishi manners.

Keep your meishi in a meishi-ire (meishi case)

You must have your own meishi, in sufficient quantity to properly receive business prospects. Sometimes we see people desperately trying to locate meishi in every pocket of their jacket, shirt, trousers, or overcoat, at the very moment when they need to produce one, giving an impression of carelessness or ill manners. Moreover, some people will not give you their meishi if they do not receive one in return.

Assuming you have your meishi, where do you keep them? Meishi should be carried in a meishi case (meishi ire 名刺入 1). Some people stuff loose meishi in their pockets, but this makes the meishi dirty and dog-eared, or worse, warm and moist from the temperature and sweat of the holder. Meishi are said to be the public face of a person—you don't want to present a sweaty or dirty face to the world. Avoid using your wallet or commuter pass case as a meishi holder; you will seem careless or unreliable for treating meishi in such a sloppy way. You also run the risk of pulling out something together with your meishi. I once saw a person remove a thousand yen note together with his meishi. He was quite upset and hastily drew back his hand, but his customer had already seen the gaffe. It wouldn't have been so bad if it had been a higher denomination, but the meagre thousand yen note revealed not only his carelessness but also his bad economic state.

Meishi should be presented promptly in a meishi exchange, so unless you wish to search every pocket, always keep your meishi case in the same place. If you are right-handed, it is convenient to keep them in the right inner pocket of your suit jacket. You can remove the case with your left hand and pull out a meishi with your right, in a smooth sequence of movements. Never put your meishi in your rear pocket. Meishi will curve, and your customer will think you impolite.

Women can keep a meishi-ire in their purses, but make sure you can pull it out quickly when needed.

When offering your meishi, you should hold it flat, face up, so that the receiver does not have to contort himself to take it. It helps to place the meishi this way in the meishi case, so that you can pull it out and present it without turning it over or shifting hands. Another thing to remember is not to crowd the case with too many meishi like passengers in Tokyo's rush hour trains. Otherwise, you will find it difficult to remove one smoothly. Keep a good supply of meishi on hand, but not enough to jam the case.

Give your own meishi

Keep your own meishi separate from those your receive, or you might mistakenly present someone else's card. You are not likely to be quick enough to retrieve it before the damage is done. It is embarrassing to have to admit that you offered the wrong meishi. It's even worse if it has come from a notorious Ioan shark or similarly disreputable person. I know someone who once handed over the meishi of a funeral parlor. "It wouldn't have been so bad if it had been for a wedding hall," he reported. "My client was quite visibly displeased. He sprinkled salt over me and had nothing more to do with me." (In Japan, salt is used to purify and remove the taint of death, evil spirits, or unpleasantness—the client literally sprinkled salt on him!)

To be continued in the next issue

by Sawane Fumitoshi





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Calvin and HobbEs

N MATERIAN M









1

1

2

3

4

Calvin: "There's a new girl in our class."

僕たちの クラスに新しい 女の子 が 入ったんだ。 Bokutachi no kurasu ni atarashii onna no ko ga haitta n da. we/us 's class in new girl (subj.) entered (explan.)

2

Hobbes: "Well! What's her name?"

→ あっそう! 何 ていう 名前? A! sō nan te iu namae? oh really what (quote/is called) name

Calvin: "Who knows?"

→ 知るか! Shiru ko! know ?

• Who knows? は疑問形だが、相手に聞いているわけではなく、「誰が知るもんか」「そんなこと知らないよ」の意。 I don't know の少し皮肉っぽい表現方法。

3

Hobbes: "Is she nice?"

・ レンレン 子 かい?

li ko kai?
good child/girl ?

Calvin: "Who cares? Not me!"

→ どっちだっていい さ! 関心 ない よ! Dotchi datte ii sa! Kanshin nai yo! whichever fine (cmph.) Interest not exist (emph.)

• Who cares? も上記の Who knows と同様、「そんなこと誰がかまうもんか」の意で I don't care の意味を含んでいるが、ここではこれに続く Not me = I don't care で「少なくともボクは関心ないね」と、これを二重に強調している。

4

Hobbes: "Do you like her??"

→ その 子 が 好き なの? Sono ko ga suki na no? that child/girl (subj.) is liked (explan.)

Calvin: "NO!"

違う! Chigau! different/no

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COLVIN and HOPPES

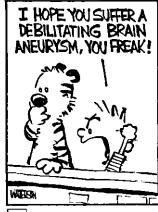
3

MARKED SON



HEY SUSIE DERKINS, IS THAT YOUR FACE, OR IS A 'POSSUM' STUCK IN YOUR COLLAR?







Calvin: "Here comes that new girl."

→ ほら、新入りの 女の子 が やってくる よ。 Hora shin'iri no onna no ko ga yatte kuru yo. hey newly-entered girl (subj.) come (emph.)

Calvin: "Hey Susie Derkins, is that your face, or is a 'possum stuck in your collar?"

やーい、スージー・ダーキンズ、それおまえの顔かよ。 sūjii dākinzu, sore omae no kao ka vo. Ya-iyou that 's face ? (emph.) hey (name) かい? それとも 衿 にネズミ が ひっかかってる 0 kai? Soretomo eri ni nezumi ga hikkakatteru he caught in collar in rat/mouse (subj.) (explan.) ?

・ possum [pás∂m/pós∂m] は、opossum と同様,アメリカ産のフクロネズミ。

Calvin: "I hope you suffer a debilitating brain aneurysm, you freak!"

→ ひどい 脳動脈瘤 になって苦しめば いいんだ、このできそこない!

Hidoi nōdōmyakuryū ni natte kurushimeba ii n da kono dekisokonai!
severe/harsh brain artery swelling become/get if suffer good (explan.) this failure/defective

• debilitating は、「(体を)衰弱させるような」。動詞は debilitate.

• aneurysm, またはaneurism は、医学用語で、動脈留のこと。発音は[ærijuriz(ð)m].

• サーカスに出てくる奇形の人の見せ物を"freak show"というが、ここではできそこない、くらいの意味。

4 Hobbes: "She's cute, isn't she??"

→ あの 子 かわいいじゃない? Ano ko kawaii ja nai? that child/girl cute isn't (sbe)

Calvin: "Go away."

▶ あっち 行ってろ。 Atchi ittero. over there go

Taste • of • Culture

(continued from p. 20)

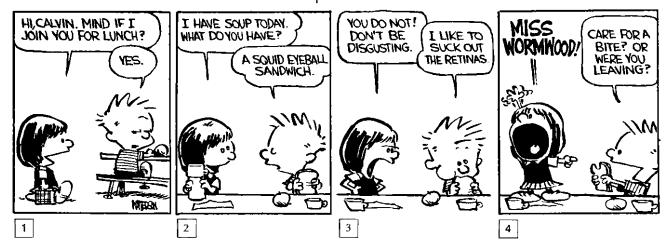
nation of cognac, coffee and ganache cream within a milk chocolate shell they call "Bewildered Heart" (Mayoi Kokoro まよい心), or a center of mango encased in Cointreau-flavored ganache dipped in milk chocolate—this last creation marketed under the name "In the Middle of a Dream" (夢の途中 Yume no Tochū)!

Although chocolate might, once upon a time, have been a foreign food in Japan, it has become a familiar and favor-

ite item. And, as often happens with acquired culinary tastes, the resulting hybrid becomes an indispensable part of the Japanese diet and lifestyle. Next time, we'll explore a similar phenomenon—the transformation of American fast food into Japanese mainstream culture and cuisine.

Correspondence to: Elizabeth Andoh, c/o Mangajin, PO Box 6668, Marietta, GA 30065

Calvin and HoppEs



Susie: "Hi, Calvin, Mind if I join you for lunch?"

→ こんにちは、カルヴィン。お昼ご飯 一緒に食べていい? karuvin. Konnichiwa Ohiru gohan issho ni tabete ii? noon rice/meal together eat

Calvin: "Yes."

2

4

→ 駄目。 Dame. bad/no good • Do you mind if I + 動詞で、「私が何々したらいやか?」つまり、それをしてもいい かどうかを尋ねる。普通はNoで受けて、いいですよ、という答えになる。

Susie: "I have soup today. What do you have?"
→ 今日 は スープ を 持ってきた の。 あなた は? $Ky\bar{o}$ wa $s\bar{u}pu$ o motte kita no anata today as-for soup (obj.) brought (explan.) you

Calvin: "A squid eyeball sandwich."

→ イカの 目玉 のサンドイッチ。 Ika no medama no sandoi**t**chi. squid 's eyeball of sandwich

スージーはカルヴィンが冗談でダメと言っ ているのだと思って、彼の言葉にかまわず に隣に座ったもの。

3 Susie: "You do not! Don't be disgusting."

→ 嘘 ばっかり! 気持悪い わね、 やめて よ。 Uso bakkari! Kimochi warui wa ne yamete yo. lie nothing but disgusting/disturbing (fem. colloq.) stop (emph.)

Calvin: "I like to suck out the retinas."

を すすり出すの が 好き なんだ。 Mõmaku o susuridasu no ga suki nan da. (obj.) sucking out (subj.) is liked (explan.)

Susie: "Miss Wormwood!"

ワームウッド 先生! Wāmuuddo sensei! (name) teacher

Calvin: "Care for a bite? Or were you leaving?"

一口 食べる? それとも 席を立つ ところ だった の? Hitoguchi taberu soretomo seki o tatsu tokoro datta no? one bite eat or leave your seat point in time was (explan.)

- worm は、ミミズ、毛虫、回虫などの類のこと。Wormwood は、ヨモギ属の植物、ニガヨモギ、苦悩 のたね、苦い経験、という意味がある。ここでは、カルヴィンに対して気持ち悪いことを言うなと攻 める女の子が、先生の名前を呼び、それがworm...!であるというのが可笑しい。
- do (would) you care for ~ は、「~はいかがですか」の意で、Would you care for tea? など飲食物などを すすめるときによく用いられる表現。

POLITENESS LEVELS

Codes used in Mangajin

(PL4) Politeness Level 4: Very Polite

Typically uses special honorific or humble words, such as nasaimasu or itashimasu.

(PL3) Politeness Level 3: Ordinary Polite

Typified by the verb desu, or the -masu ending on other verbs.

(PL2) Politeness Level 2: Plain/Abrupt

For informal conversation with peers.

- · "dictionary form" of verbs
- · adjectives without desu

(PL1) Politeness Level 1: Rude/Condescending

Typified by special words or verbendings, usually not "obscene" in the Western sense of the word, but equally insulting.

The politeness levels found in Japanese frequently have no counterpart in English. This can cause problems for translators. The words *suru* and *shimasu* would both be rendered simply as "do" in English, but in Japanese there is a very clear distinction between the "politeness" levels of these two words. In a more extreme case, *shiyagaru* would also be translated simply as "do" in English, but in Japanese this word is openly offensive. To avoid confusion or embarrassment, we label our translations using the codes on the left.

Learning Japanese from manga is a good way to get a "feel" for these politeness levels. You see words used in the context of a social setting.

The danger in "picking up" Japanese is that even though most Japanese people appreciate the fact that you are interested in learning their language and will give you "slack" as a beginner, misused politeness levels can be pretty grating on the Japanese ear, even if they do not reach the point of being truly offensive.

How can I be safe? Politeness Level 3 can be used in almost any situation. Although it might not be completely natural in a very formal situation, it will not cause offense. If you want to be safe, use PL2 only with friends and avoid PL1 altogether.

These levels ere only approximations: To simplify matters, we use the word "politeness," although there are actually several dimensions involved (formality, deference, humility, refinement, etc.). While the level of respect (or lack of it) for the person spoken to or spoken about can determine which words are used, verb forms are determined largely by the formality of the situation. Thus, it is difficult to label the verb *irassharu* (informal form of an honorific verb) using this simple four-level system. In such cases we sometimes use combined tags, such as (PL4-3).

Rather than trying to develop an elaborate system which might be so confusing as to actually defeat the purpose, we feel that this system, even with its compromises, is the best way to save our readers from embarrassing situations.

PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

Pronunciation is probably one of the easier aspects of Japanese. Vowel sounds don't vary as they do in English. While English uses the five letters a,e,i,o,u to make 20 or so vowel sounds, in Japanese there are 5 vowels and 5 vowel sounds—the pronunciation is always constant. There are only a few sounds in the entire phonetic system which will be completely new to the speaker of English.

The five vowele in Japanese are written a,i,u,e,o in rōmaji (English letters). This is also the order in which they appear in the Japanese kana "alphabet." They are pronouned:

- a like the a in father, or ha ha!
- i like the i in macaroni
- u like the u in zulu
- e like the e in get, or extra
- o like the o in solo

The length of time that a vowel sound is held or sustained makes it "long" or "short" in Japanese. Don't confuse this with what are called long or short vowels in English. The long vowel in Japanese has exactly the same pronunciation as the short vowel, but it's held for twice as long. Long vowels are designated by a dash over the vowel (dōmo, okāsan), or by repeating the vowel (iimasu).

The vowels lend u are sometimes not fully sounded (as in the verb desu or the verb ending -mashita). This varies between individual speakers and there are no fixed rules.

Japanese consonant sounds are pretty close to those of English. The notable exception is the r sound, which is like a combination of the English r and l, winding up close to the d sound. If you say the name Eddie and touch the tip of your tongue lightly behind the upper front teeth, you have an approximation of the Japanese word eri ("coliar").

Doubled consonants are pronounced by pausing just slightly after the sound is formed, and then almost "spitting out" the rest of the

word. Although this phenomenon does not really occur in English, it is somewhat similar to the k sound in the word bookkeeper.

The n sound: When it is not attached to a vowel (as in na,ni,nu,ne,no), n is like a syllable in itself, and as such it receives a full "beat." When n is followed by a vowel to which it is not attached, we mark it with an apostrophe. Note the difference between the word for "no smoking," kin'en (actually four syllables: ki-n-e-n) and the word for "anniversary," kinen (three syllables: ki-ne-n).

The distinctive sound of spoken Japanese is partly due to the even stress or accent given to each syllable. This is one reason why pronunciation of Japanese is relatively easy. Although changes of pitch do occur in Japanese, in most cases there are not essential to the meaning. Beginners are probably better off to try for flat, even intonation. Rising pitch for questions and stressing words for emphasis are much the same in English.

Lesson 24 • Hai (Part 2)

In Hai (Part I), we looked at examples in which hai meant "yes" in an affirmative sense: answering a yes-or-no question (hai = a straightforward "yes"), confirming the truth/correctness of something (hai = "yes, that is correct," including the confusing case in which hai seems to mean "no"), or assenting/agreeing to do what another person had asked (hai = "yes, I will do as you ask"). In several cases, especially in the last group, the use of hai generally corresponded more closely with words like "okay/all right/sure/certainly" than with the way we use "yes" in English.

In this lesson we begin with a number of examples showing hai used to mean "I hear/ heard you." Since the English "yes" (or "yeah/uh-huh") is used in the same way to some extent, this use of hai can also be translated as "yes"—sometimes.

Since hai essentially belongs to PL3, it is the "safe" word for "yes/okay/sure," which can be used without fear of offending anyone. When you are in situations where you know it's okay to be less formal, you can replace hai with ee ("yes") or un ("yeah/un-huh") in cases like the first five examples (though it would not be appropriate when answering the phone). In the other cases this substitution is not possible.

As usual, we can't claim to have illustrated all of the uses of hai, even in a two-part lesson, but we hope you find this extended treatment helpful in understanding how to use hai more effectively and naturally.

"I hear you and I understand"

Having heard his boss tell the secretary that he will be out until about 3:00, Tanakakun decides he will go out until about 2:30. When he informs the secretary of his plans, she acknowledges his statement with a Hai - just as she did the boss's - essentially meaning "I hear you and I understand/I get the message."



© Tanaka Hiroshi / Tanaka-kun, Take Shobō

Tanaka-kun: 島田さん, ちょっと 外出 して くる から。 gaishutsu Shimada-san, chotto shite kuru kara. a little while (name) a little while outing will do/go on-and come "Miss Shimada, I'll be going out for awhile." (PL2) outing will do/go on-and come

Miss Shimada: はい。

Hai. "Okay." (PL3)

gaishutsu = "an outing" and gaishutsu suru = "go out"; the word implies a return, but adding kuru ("come") makes the return explicit.

ľm liatening" hear you and

These women have already been talking for a while, but now the woman in the first frame wants to broach a new point. As she begins, she pauses with a ne after watashi to make sure that Sakurako will pay particular attention to what she is about to say next. Sakurako confirms she is listening by saying Hai. Seeking and giving feedback like this is a standard part of truly natural Japanese speech.





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Woman: 桜子さん... 私 ね... Sakurako-san . . . Watashi (colloq.) I/me (name-hon.) "<u>Sakurako . . .</u> I (PL3)

Sakurako: はい...

'es?" (PL3)

although an English "Yes?" would probably have a rising intonation, Sakurako's hai would be spoken with essentially flat intonation.

the suffix -san added to people's names is used with first (given) names quite a bit more than English "Miss/Ms./Mr."

"Hello (I'm liatening)"

Answering the phone with a Hal can be considered a special case of the "I hear you and I'm listening" category. It may be stretching things a bit to say that Hai actually means "Hello" in such cases, since English speakers also sometimes answer the phone with "Yes?" But we can probably say that Japanese speakers use Hai as a "Hello" more often than English speakers use "Yes?" for that purpose. The subsequent Hais are simply an indication to the other party that he is (attentively) listening. This practice of providing verbal confirmation that communication is going smoothly is called aizuchi.



© Yamamoto Terry / Bow-wow, Shogakukan

Kuramoto: ハイ 倉本 です。 Hai Kuramoto desu. "Hello. Kuramoto here." (PL3)

> ハイ . . . ハイ!? Hai . . . Hai "Yes . . . Yes!?"

- · ee or un cannot normally be used instead of hai when answering the phone. They can be used just like hai for aizuchi, to continually signal "I'm still listening." Kuramoto is an aspiring manga artist, and this is a call from a publisher, so he uses the more formal *Hai*. the last *hai* could be translated as, "Huh?"—his response
- to a demanding deadline.
- in case you are wondering why he is wiping his cheek, his dog was licking his face just before the phone rang.

"I heard you and I will respond."

In these two examples, hai is not the actual response, it's just an indication that the question was understood and that a response is forthcoming. In some cases it serves as a kind of hesitation word, giving a few moments to decide how to answer.

In this first scene, Miss Sonoda wants to be admitted to college through the usual exams rather than on the strength of her performance as a track athlete. She went to a cram school for a mock exam to evaluate her chances, but the results were not encouraging.



Coach: で 園田,
De Sonoda,
and so (name)

予備校 行ってみて どう だった?
yobikō itte mite dō datta?
cram school go/went to see-and how was it?

"So Sonoda, how did things go at the cram school?" (PL2)

Sonoda: はい。 Hai. "Well..." (PL3)

> the particle e, to indicate destination, has been omitted after yobikō ("cram school").

In a large trading company, one section (headed by Kozuka) has developed a "boil in bag" pack of rice. In this scene, Ohara, from another section, is trying to get some of the product for his customers. Because of inter-section rivalry, Kozuka charges Ohara a much higher price and winds up trying to steal his customers.



© Hijiri Hideo / Naze ka Shōsuke, Shogakukan

Kozuka: どれ くらいの 量 が ほしいの か ね、大原クン。

Dore kurai no ryō ga hoshii no ka ne, Ohara-kun.
ahout how much quantity (subj.) is wanted (?) (collog.) (name-hon.)

"What kind of quantity do you want, Ohara?" (PL2)

Ohara: ハイッ。 Hai! "Well, (sir)." (PL3)

• in the next panel Ohara actually states the quantity he needs.

"I hear the bell and I'm coming"

It's customary to call out an elongated ha-i, in a raised voice, as one hurries to answer the doorbell. In fact, the raised voice and elongated vowel seem to be fairly standard in any situation where one is being called to the phone, to the front door, to another room, etc. — oftentimes even when the distance is close enough that a raised voice is not strictly necessary.



C Hoshizato Mochiru / Ribingu Gēmu, Shogakukan

Sound FX: ふーっ ふーっ

Fū! Fū!

(effect of blowing on her scraped knee, to which she has just applied an antiseptic)

Sound FX: ピンポーン

Pin pōn

Ding do-n-ng (sound of door chimes)

<u>Izumi</u>: はーい。

На—і.

"Com-i-ing." (PL2)

"I heard you and I don't want to hear any more."

Granny isn't happy about the way her grandson is going about getting married, and insists that he must at least formally register the marriage on a day designated as *taian* (大安, an "auspicious day" according to ancient Chinese divination practices). She has obviously given her grandson an earful even before this outburst, and this time he cuts her off.



Grandson: はいはいはいはい。 Hai, hai, hai, hai.

"Yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah."

Granny:

当たり前 じゃ!

Atarimae ja!

of course is

"Of course (I want you to do it on an auspicious day)!" (PL2)

式 もあげん, 新婚旅行 にもいかん, Shiki mo agen, shinkon ryokō ni mo ikan,

ceremony even not hold honeymoon on also not go

"You don't hold a ceremony, you don't take a honeymoon,..."

せめて 婚姻届 ぐらい 大安の日に 出さんと semete kon'in todoke gurai taian no hi ni dasan to at least marriage registration at least on auspicous day if don't submit

"(so) if you don't at least submit your marriage registration on an auspicious day ..."

この 一生 に一度 の 特別な kono isshō ni ichido no tokubetsu-na...

this one life in one time 's special

"then this once-in-a-lifetime special ..." (PL2)

 agen = agenai, negative of ageru ("hold [a wedding]"); ikan = ikanai, negative of iku ("go"); and dasan = dasanai, negative of dasu ("put out/ submit").

"Here" when handing something over

In this large automotive company, people go to sōmu (総務, "general affairs") to get office supplies. In this kind of situation, hai corresponds to "Here (you are)" in English.



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Clerk: はい、 マジック にボールペン。

majikku bōrupen. ni okay/here magic marker(s) and ballpoint pen(s)

"Here you are, magic markers and ballpoint

pens." (PL2)

Worker: どうも。

Dōmo.

indeed/very much
"Thanks." (PL2)

• domo, meaning "indeed/really/quite," is added to a number of expressions to make them more emphatic, but it's also used as a shortened form of those expressions. In this case, it's short for Domo arigato (gozaimasu), "Thank you very much."

To direct someone's sttention

This person standing outside the club/cabaret is called a kyaku-hiki (客引き, literally "customer-puller"). Customers are typically addressed as Okyaku-san ("[hon.] Mr./ Ms. customer"), so using this term for someone just walking down the street is a kind of "positive thinking" by the kyaku-hiki.



© Takeda & Takai / Pro Golfer Oribe Kinjiroh, Shogakukan

Kyaku-hiki: はい, お客さん、いらっしゃい。 Hai, okyaku-san, irasshai.

okay/yes (hon.) customer step in/welcome "Yes sir, right this way." (PL2)

Sign: ショークラブ あすか

Shō Kurabu Show Club Asuka

A signsl to begin

Hai can be used like "Okey, go/start," to signal when an action should begin. Often, the action to be done is indicated in a command form right after *hai*, as in this scene where a singer has come to be examined by an ear, nose, and throat specialist.



© Tsuchida Seiki / Orebushi, Shogakukan

Doctor: 特に おかしい ところ は...

Toku ni okashii tokaro wa...
especially/particularly strange/abnormal place/point as-for
"Any particular problems?" (PL2)

はい, アーン。 Hai, ān. okay (effect of wide open mouth) "Okay, open wide please." (PL2)

- okashii means "strange/unusual/abnormal," and tokoro (literally "place") is often used to mean "matter/point of concern." When speaking of health, okashii tokoro means "health problem/complaint."
- in this case the topic particle wa is all that's needed to imply the question, "Do you have ...?"
- the FX word an, representing a wide open mouth, is commonly used as a command by dentists, mothers feeding babies, and others who want you to open your mouth for some reason.

A signsl to end

Hai can also signal the end of an action. A tailor has been taking a customer's measurements for a suit. Here he uses hai to let the customer know that he is finished.



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Tailor: はい, いい でしょ。 Hai, ii desho. okay good/fine/enough probably/should be "Okay, that should do it." (PL3)



プライベートタイムでの人間関係













In the last issue we mentioned Manga Bijinesu Manā ("Manga: Business Manners") in our feature story on educational manga. In this issue we go a step further and introduce one of the actual lessons from the book.

Manga Bijinesu Manā was compiled by 朝日生命保険相互会社, ("Asahi Seimei Hoken Sōgo-Gaisha," a major Japanese insurance company) in the education department of their personal development center. The publisher, Sunmark, has a series of educational business comics.

"Business Manners" has four sections: ベーシック・マナー(Bēshikku Manā, "Basic Manners"), ビジネス社会の対人関係 (Bijinesu Shakai no Taijin Kankei, "Personal Relations in the Business World"), ことばのマナー(Kotoba no Manā, "Speech Manners"), and ビジネス冠婚葬祭 (Bijinesu Kankonsōsai, "Business Ceremonial Occasions.") The lesson we have chosen comes from the "Personal Relations" section.

TITLE:

Shokuba-gai de no tsukiai no kotsu 3
The Art of Socializing with Co-workers
Outside the Office, Part 3

Puraibēto Taimu de no Ningen Kankei Human Relations During Private Time → Personal Relationships on Your Own Time

 kotsu refers to "the trick/knack/art." It's used in the titles of many "how to" guides.

Uchida:

Oi, Ogawa, omae hikkoshishita n da tte na. "Hey, Ogawa, I hear you moved." (PL2)

Ogawa: Ee.

"Yes." (PL3)

Sound FX:

Pon (slap on shoulder)

Uchida:

Ore no uchi no sugu soba da tte iu ja nai ka. "I hear (your new place) is (practically) right next to mine." (PL2)

Sono uchi sake de mo motte asobi ni iku yo. "One of these days I'll bring some sake or something and come visit you." (PL2)

Ogawa:

Hai, zehi kite kudasai.
"Yes, by all means, please do." (PL3)

² Narration:

Sūjitsu-go

Several days later

Sound FX:

Don don

Bam bam ("pounding" on door with some force; "knocking" would be ton ton)

4 Uchida:

O! Sassoku kita zo.

"Hey! I came right over." (PL2)

Ogawa:

Irasshai, Uchida-san. Dōzo agatte kudasai. "It was good of you to come, (Mr.) Uchida. Please come on in." (PL3)

Uchida:

li heya ja nai ka. Mā ippai yarō ze.
"Nice apartment. Well, let's have a drink."
(PL2)

Sound FX:

Don

Boom (setting sake bottle down hard.)

6 Uchida:

Tokoro de kono heya kirei ni katazuite-iru na. "By the way, you keep your place really clean, don't you?" (PL2)

Sound FX:

Hikku

Hic

(continued on following page)

Ogawa:

Sonna hito imasen yo.
"I don't have anyone like that." (PL3)

Narration:

Jitsu wa Ogawa-kun wa saikin Sōmu-ka no Onuki-san to tsukiatte-ita.

Actually, Mr. Ogawa had recently been spending time with Miss Onuki, from the General Affairs Section (of his company). (PL2)

• jitsu = "truth/fact," so jitsu wa = "as for the truth" → "in fact/actually."

· tsuikiatte-ita is from the verb tsukiau ("associate/keep company with"). The word tsukiai in the title is a noun form of this word. In the case of opposite sex relationships, it implies "keeping company with/dating."

Uchida:

Sō ka-? Kakusu na yo.

"Are you sure? Don't hide anything, now." (PL2)

Ogawa:

Ĭe ie. A! Tsugimasu yo.

"No, no. Oh, let me pour for you." (PL3)

Amari, aite no puraibashii ni furenai. Don't pry into the other person's privacy. (PL2)

• kakusu = "hide (something)," and na after the non-past form of a verb means "don't . . ."

· yo in both cases is for emphasis.

• amari is followed by a negative to give the meaning "not very much": amari... furenai = literally "not touch on [it] very much" → "not pry into."

4 Sound FX:

Ko! ko! (clicking of heels against floor)

Sound FX:

Ko! ko! (clicking of heels against floor)

Uchida:

Sōmu-ka no Onuki-san tte kawaii na. "Miss Onuki from the General Affairs Section is cute, isn't she?" (PL2)

Ogawa:

Ē?! S-sō desu ne.

"Huh?! Yes, she is, isn't she?" (PL3)

Ore, atakku shiyō ko nā. De he he he. "Maybe I'll make a move on her. (vulgar laugh)" (PL2)

· atakku is a katakana rendering of English "attack." In male/female relationships atakku suru is used to mean "make a move on." Shiyō is the form of suru showing will/intent.

Ogawa:

<u> На</u>...

"Uhh ..." (PL3)

• hā is a very uncertain sounding hai, indicating that he's at a loss as to how to respond.















(continued from previous page)

Ogawa:

Šō de mo nai desu yo.

"Not particularly." (PL3)

7 Uchida:

Iya, otoko no hitori-gurashi to wa omoen.
"No, really, I can't believe it's (the apartment of) a single man living by himself." (PL2)

Kanojo ni de mo sōji shite moratte-ru n daro!

"You have your girlfriend or somebody clean it for you, don't you." (PL2)

Ogawa:

Tondemonai.

"Don't be ridiculous." (PL2)

 omoen is an abrupt form of omoenai, negative of omoeru ("can think/believe").













Sound FX:

 $K\bar{a}n$ (sound of bat hitting ball)

Sound FX:

 $W\bar{a} w\bar{a}$ (roar of crowd)

Television Voice:

Utta-

"He hit it!" (PL2)

Sound FX:

Don don

Bam bam (pounding on door)

Hai, donata?

"Yes, who is it?" (PL3)

 donata is a more polite equivalent of dare ("who"). His question feels informal because he has omitted desu ka, but using donata makes it still quite polite - a good policy to follow when you don't know who it might be.

Uchida:

Ore da yo. Mata nanika kuwasete kure yo. "It's me. Feed me something, again, will vou?"

→ "It's me again. Got anything good to eat?" (PL2)

- kuwasete is the -te form of kuwaseru (make/let/ cause to eat"), from kuu ("eat," mostly masculine) → kuwaseru = "feed"
- kure after the -te form of a verb makes a request or gentle command: "(do it) please/(do it), will you?"

4 Uchida:

Ga ha ha ha (boisterous laugh)

Sound FX:

Don don

Bam bam

(pounding on door)

6 Uchida:

Sā, kyō mo nomu zo.

"All right, let's knock back a few again today." (PL2)

Onuki:

Dō shita no? Genki nai wa ne.

"What's wrong? You don't look well." (PL3)

Īya, saikin sake no nomisugi de . . .

"Well, I've been drinking too much recently." (PL2)

- $d\bar{o}$ is "how/what" and shita is the plain/abrupt past form of suru ("do"), so $d\bar{o}$ shita is literally "what did you do?" But the expression is often used idiomatically to mean "what's wrong/what's the matter/what's the trouble?"
- genki refers to a state of "good health/energy/spirits, and genki (ga) nai means "not have good health/energy" → "not be well/be unwell."
 iya is literally "no," but it is also used as a kind of pause or hesitation word, like "well." Onuki-san's iya in the next frame is a different
- word, meaning "disagreeable/unpleasant": she disapproves of his over-drinking.

 *nomisugi is a noun meaning "over-drinking," and de is a continuing form of desu ("am/is/are"), so nomisugi de is like saying "I am over-drinking and ..." He doesn't need to finish the sentence because it's understood; he's not feeling well.

1 <u>Onuki</u>:

Iya ne, Ogawa-san. Tokoro de raishū no nichiyō wa mata asobi ni itte ii?

"That's terrible, Mr. Ogawa. By the way, is it okay if I visit you again next Sunday?" (PL2)

Ogawa:

Un, matte-ru yo.

"Sure, I'll be waiting for you." (PL2)

Onuki:

Ya da-!

"Oh, yu-u-uk." (PL2)

<u>Ogawa</u>;

Honto, honto. Ha ha ha ha.

"It's true, it's true. (laugh)" (PL2)

 $\frac{2}{\text{Sound FX}}$:

Don don

Bam bam (pounding on door)

Sound FX:

Giku! (effect of stiffening with fear)

4 Uchida:

Asobi ni kita yo.

"I came to visit." (PL2)

Ogawa:

Suimasen, kyō wa kyaku ga kite ite . . .

"I'm sorry, (but) today I have a guest, and ..." (PL3)

💾 Uchida:

Nan da? Kanojo ka?

"What? (Oh,) your girlfriend?" (PL2)

<u>Ogawa</u>:

Īe, mā, sō na n desu.

"Er, well, yes, that's right." (PL3)

Uchida:

Shōkai shiro yo. Kao gurai ogamasero yo. "Introduce me. At least let me see her face/

meet her." (PL2)

Bijin ka? Oi.

"Is she pretty? Hey!" (PL2)

Ogawa:

 \overline{I} ya, so- sore wa . . .

"Uhh, th-that's ..." (PL3)

Lesson:

Shagai de mo setsudo o wakimaeta tsukiai o

Even outside the office, (maintain) relationships that follow standards (of etiquette).

Shagai de no tsukiai mo, ii ningen kankei o tsukuru ue de wa hitsuyō.

Socializing outside the office is also necessary from the standpoint of establishing good personal relationsinps.

Shikashi, aite no puraibashii o okasu yō na tsukiai wa

genkin. Setsudo wa wakimaeru. But doing things that violate the other person's privacy is to be strictly avoided. Exercise restraint.

Aite no uchi o tazuneru baai, kanarazu jizen ni ryōshō o ete kara ni suru koto. Totsuzen ni oshikakete wa, aite ga meiwaku suru.

If you visit the other person's home, always do it after getting his consent beforehand. If you barge in suddenly,















4. 社外でも節度をわきまえた付き合いを

しかし、 まえる。 は必要。 する。)相手の家を訪ねる場合、 りあからさまにするの を忘れずに。 はいいが、あまり甘えす 食事をごちそうになるの らにすること。突然に拝 必ず事前に了承を得てか 合いは厳禁。 シーをおかすような付き 社外での付き合 考えものである。たとえ ではない。しかし、 社内恋愛自体は悪 は材料を買っていくなど ぎてはいけない。 たまに しかけては、 では節度をもっ 婚約中であっても、 して、相手に対する 人間関係をつくる上で 相手のプライバ 相手が迷惑 節度はわ かこと ŧ ぁ

he will be inconvenienced/annoyed/put out.

Shokuji o gochisō ni naru no wa ii ga, amari amae sugite wa ikenai. Tama ni zairyō o katte iku nado shite, aite ni taisuru hairyo o wasurezu ni.

It's fine to receive meals, but don't presume upon the other person too much. Don't forget to return the favor by occasionally buying and taking along some food.

Shanai ren'ai jitai wa warui koto de wa nai. Shikashi, amari akarasama ni suru no wa kangaemono de aru. Tatoe, kon'yakuchū de atte mo. shanai de wa setsudo o motte.

Opposite sex relationships among coworkers in themselves are not a bad thing. Being too open, however, is to be frowned upon. Even those who are engaged to be married (should conduct themselves) with restraint while at work.

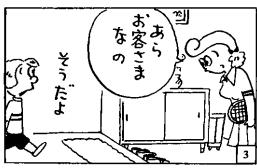
Sarari-kun

动号四十











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Guest 1: ボク は 最初 から Boku wa saisho kara Vme as-for start from

営業畑 で やってきました。
eigyō-batake de yatte kimashita
sales field in came doing

"I've been in the sales field from the very start." (PL3)

- boku is a word for "I/me" used by males, mostly by younger men and boys.
- saisho = "the very start/beginning"
- eigyō means "business/operations," but the the eigyō-bu (bu = "department") of a company is invariably the department in charge of sales.
- -batake is from hatake (in combinations, ha changes to ba for euphony), and literally means "field" (a field or orchard other than a rice paddy) in the agricultural sense, but, like the English word "field," it's used figuratively to mean "department/line of work."
- yatte is the -te form of yaru, an informal word for "do." Adding kimashita, or its PL2 equivalent kuru ("come"), to the -te form of a verb means something like "I've come up to the present doing..."

2

Guest 2: オレは 経理畑 で二十年...

Ore wa keiri-batake de nijū-nen...

I/me as-for accounting field in 20 years

"I've been in the accounting field for twenty years." (PL2)

 ore is another masculine word for "I/me." It sounds more informal and abrupt (or even rough) than boku.

3

Wife: あら、お客さま なの?
Ara, okyaku-sama na no?
(exclam.) guest(s) (?)

"Oh, do we have guests?" (PL2)

Child: そうだよ。 Sō da yo.

"That's right." (PL2)

- ara is a feminine "oh."
- kyaku = "guest/visitor," and both the prefix o- and suffix -sama are for politeness.
- na no shows she is seeking an explanation (for the shoes she sees lined np in the entryway).

4

Child: お百姓さん が 二人。 Ohyakushō-san ga futari. farmer(s) (subj.) two "Two farmers." (PL2)

hyakushō = "farmer." The prefix o- and suffix -san once again show respect. -san can imply a slightly lower level of respect than -sama, but the difference here is probably just the different speaking styles of a grown woman and a child.

ミドリさん Midori-san

ダンナは特別 帰買チ 2 £ 3 つ かたコ 7 つ Γı







by 秋月 りす Akizuki Risu

1

Title: ダンナ は 特別 Danna wa tokubetsu master/husband as-for special Hubby is Special

danna ("master/husband") without the suffix -san feels quite informal.

Friend: チョコ 買った し か? 帰る ka? katta shi Choko kaeru chocolate bought and/so return/go back ?

"We bought the chocolate, so shall we go back?"

(PL2)

Midori-san: ちょっと まって。

Chotto matte a little wait (please) "Wait a sec." (PL2)

since they are still dressed in their uniforms, kaeru here refers to "going back" to the office rather than going home.

matte is from matsu ("wait") and is essentially an informal abbreviation of matte kudasai ("please wait").

Friend: ダンナ用 だ な。んふふっ

Danna-yō da na. N fu fu! for husband is right? (giggle)

"For your hubby, I bet. (giggle)" (PL2)

そー。 Midori-san: Sō.

"That's right." (PL2)

the suffix $-y\bar{o}$ means "for/for the purpose of."

na is an informal equivalent of ne, which expects agreement/confirmation. It's generally used more by men, and sounds very informal when used by women. The friend's reference to Midori-san's husband as danna also implies that she and Midori-san are on very relaxed terms.

> **Friend**: しかし 高級品 買った わねェ。4千円? Shikashi kōkyūhin katta wa nē. Yonsen-en?

high-class bought (fem. colloq.) 4000 yen "(But) you sure bought an expensive kind.

¥4000?" (PL2)

安物 は 食べさせられない わ。 主人に Midori-san: Shujin ni yasumono wa tabesaserarenai

(fem. col.) husband to cheap item as-for can't make eat "I can't make my husband eat some el-cheapo brand." (PL2)

shikashi (literally "but/however") at the beginning of an exclamation of surprise mainly serves to emphasize the exclamation.

katta is the plain/abrupt past form of kau ("buy").

tabesaserarenai is from taberu ("eat") → tabesaseru ("make/let eat") → tabesaserareru ("can make eat") - tabesaserarenai ("can't make eat").

> は 自分 が 食べるんじゃないの? Friend: 3分の2

ga taberu nja nai no? Sanbun no ni wa jibun as-for oneself (subj.) eat isn't it the case that? "(But) aren't you going to eat at least two-thirds

of them yourself?" (PL2)

Midori-san: まーねー。 Mā nē.

"Well, yeah." (PL2)

sanbun no ni is literally "two out of three parts/divisions." Wa here serves

to add emphasis and imply "at least (that much)." $m\bar{a}$ ne works like a a vague "Yeah, sort of/I suppose so/you've got me there" when forced to acknowledge something you would prefer not to have to acknowledge.

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ミドリさん Midori-san









が Title: 君 一番 Kimi ga Ichiban you (subj.) first/best

You're the best → I Like You/Yours the Best

· kimi is an informal word for "you," used to address an equal or subordinate. Strictly speaking, it must be followed by no to become "your! yours," but frame two makes it clear that a double meaning is intended.

ichiban (literally "first/number one") here implies a word like suki ("like/fond of") or ii ("good/fine") or oishii ("good/tasty") and means "most": "most good/tasty" → "best."

Midori-san: じゃ 私 からも。コホン

Ja, watashi kara mo. Kohon
well I/me from also (light cough/clearing of throat)
"Well, then, from me, too. Ahem."

"I'd like to give you some chocolate, too. Ahem." (PL2)

Husband: ありがとう。

Arigatō.

"Thank you." (PL2)

it is Valentine's Day evening, and her husband would have received chocolates from the women in his office during the day.

くれた チョコ が 一番 おいしい。 Husband: 君 の Kimi no kureta choko ga ichiban oishii. you (subj.) gave me chocolate (subj.) most delicious "The chocolates you gave me taste best." (PL2)

FX: もぐ

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Mogu (effect of chewing)

no here is the same as ga, marking the subject of kureta, the plain/abrupt past form of kureru ("give [to me]"). Kimi no (or ga) kureta is a complete thought/sentence ("you gave to me") modifying choko ("chocolate[s]"). Ga often changes to no in modifying clauses.

Midori-san: あ あらっ A- ara! Ya dadisagreeable/embarrassing is O- oh! "O-oh, I'm embarrassed." (PL2)

ara is a feminine interjection showing surprise.

ya da is a contraction of iya da, meaning "is disagreeable/unpleasant/embarrassing." In this case she is "embarrassed" because she thinks he is being sweet/romantic to her, so it's actually an exclamation of delight. Using iya da in a case like this is like saying "I can't stand it/Don't say that/Not really" when the speaker's real meaning is quite the opposite.

Husband: へーえ, 外国製 なのかー。道理 で ねー。 gaikokusei na no ka-. Dôri de ne-. foreign made (explan.-?) reason by (colloq.) "Oh, they're foreign-made. It standa to reason."

→ "Oh, they're imported. No wonder." (PL2) うまい はず だね. これ。 Umai hazu da ne, kore.

good/tasty expectation is, isn't it this/these "They ought to be good." (PL2)

FX: ずでっ

Husband:

Zude! (slapstick effect of keeling over)

the question indicated by ka is strictly rhetorical.

umai is an informal, mostly masculine word for "tasty/delicious."

hazu is a noun referring to "normal expectations," the way something should/ought to be.

the husband's syntax is inverted, Kore would come first in normal order.

ミドリさん Midori-san









Title: その後 Sono go

later/afterwards **Afterwards**

<u>Salaryman 1</u>: チョコレートの お礼 に お茶でも おごる よ。

no o-rei ni o-cha de mo ogoru yo. Chokorēto for thanks as tea or something treat (emph.) chocolate "As a thank-you for the chocolate, I'll treat you

to tea or something." (PL2)

Midori-san: わーい。

"Yippee!" (PL2)

de mo, "or something," is often added to invitations or suggestions to add a touch of polite vagueness.

お返し。ハンカチ だ けど。 Salaryman 2: これ

Kore o-kaeshi. Hankachi da kedo. this/these return gift handkerchief is but

"This is a return gift. It's (just) a handkerchief,

but ... " (PL2)

Midori-san: すいませーん。

Suimase-n

"Tha-a-nk you." (PL2)

kaeshi is a noun form of kaesu ("return/give back"), and o-kaeshi refers to a "return gift/favor" (always requires the honorific o- for this use). kedo ("but") is used here only to "soften" the ending of the sentence.

suimasen is a colloquial sumimasen, which can mean either "sorry/excuse me" or "thank you" depending on the context.

<u>Salaryman 3</u>: 昼メシ おごる よ。

Hirumeshi ogoru will treat you (emph.)

"I'll buy you lunch." (PL2)

Midori-san: きゃー

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4

Kyā (sqeal of delight)

hiru means "noon" and meshi is an informal "rice/meal" - "lunch."

千円 だったから Midori-san: 支出 は

sen-en datta wa Shishutsu

expense/outlay as-for 1000 yen was

わね。 は とった モト totta wa ne. moto capital/principal as-for took/earned/recovered (fem. emph.)

"My outlay was ¥1000, so I got my money back."

(PL2)

って これだ から... Friend: 主婦

Shufu tte kore da kara... housewives (quote) this is/are because

"Because housewives are this way (they are unpleasant/galling)."

"This is the trouble with married women..." (PL2)

datta is the plain/abrupt past form of da ("is/are").

totta is the plain/abrupt past form of toru ("take/get"), and moto o toru/ totta means "recover/recovered the principal/investment."

tte is a colloquial equivalent of the quotative phrase to iu no wa, which

is often just a fancy wa ("as for").

in the stereotypical salaryman household, it is the housewife who is in charge of the purse strings, and housewives are known for being sticklers at getting good value for their money. The friend is apparently single.

田中くん Tanaka-kun

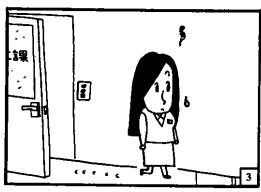
by タナカヒロシ Tanaka Hiroshi

1

チョコレート









Title: チョコレート
Chokorēto → Chocolate

Tanaka-kun: ウーム ... バレンタインデー 1. いう $Dmu\dots$ Barentain de da to iu Mmm Valentine's Day is (quote) say のに まだ こない と 一枚 は. no ni mada ichimai mo konai to wa . . . even though still/yet one sheet even not come (quote) as-for "Mmm . . . Even though it's Valentine's Day, I still haven't gotten a single bar of chocolate." (PL2)

- -mai is the counter suffix for thin, flat things, including chocolate bars.
 Chocolates not in bar form would be counted with -ko.
- konai is the negative form of kuru ("come"). Ichi + mo + negative makes
 a phrase meaning "not a single," so ichimai mo konai literally means "not
 a single sheet/bar comes" "not a single chocolate comes (to me)."
- to wa makes the entire preceding sentence into the topic of an unspoken exclamation of chagrin, so the Japanese is literally like "As for me not getting a single bar of chocolate, (how disappointing/pathetic!)"

Salaryman: わるいけどこの 電卓 設計 二課 の Warui kedo kono dentaku Sekkei Ni-ka no

bad/sorry but this calculator design section 2 of 田中くん に 返してきて くれない?!

Tanaka-kun ni kaeshite kite kurenai?!
(name-hon.) to return-and-come won't you (please)

"Sorry, but could you go return this to Tanakakun in Design Section Two?" (PL2)

返す の 忘れてた。 Kaesu no wasurete-ta.

return (nom.) had forgotten
"I'd forgotten to return it." (PL2)

<u>OL</u>: ハイ! *Hai!* "Sure!" (PL3)

- warui kedo, literally "it is bad (of me to ask) but," is often used when asking a favor, like the expression, "I'm sorry to trouble you, but . . ."
- kaeshite is the -te form of kaesu ("return/give back") and kite is the -te form of kuru ("come"). The -te form plus kuru, literally "do (the action) and come," here is like English "go do (the action)."
- -te kurenai (from kureru, "give [to me]") spoken with the rising intonation of a question makes an informal request or gentle command, "won't you (please) do (the action) for me?"
- no turns kaesu ("return/give back") into a noun. The particle o, to mark that noun as direct object, has been omitted.
- wasurete-(i)ta is the past form of wasurete-iru, from wasureru ("forget").

Tanaka-kun: うー...かたい チョコレートだ なー。

U... katai chokorēto da nā.

"Rrr... this sure is hard chocolate." (PL2)

Second OL: そっと しといて あげよ。

Sotto shitoite ageyo.
quietly/softly do-and-leave will give/do for
"I think I'll just leave him alone." (PL2)

- sotto shitoite is a contraction of sotto shite oite, from sotto shite oku, an expression meaning "leave alone/undisturbed."
- ageyo is a short ageyō, the form of ageru ("give") showing will/intent.
 Ageru after the -te form of a verb means "do (the action) for him/her."

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カノジョ









Title: カノジョ

Kanojo

Girlfriends

kanojo is actually a pronoun meaning "she/her," but it is also used colloquially as a common noun meaning "girlfriend."

Friend: これ カノジョ に あんでもらった

Kore kanojo ande moratta ni girlfriend from knit-and-received

なんだ。 セーター

sētā na n da. sweater (explan.) is

"This is a sweater my girlfriend knit for me."

(PL2)

Tanaka-kun: ふーん

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 $F\bar{u}n$ (informal expression of understanding/interest)

• wa to mark the topic has been omitted after kore ("this").

ande is the -te form of amu ("knit/weave"), and moratta is the plain/abrupt past form of morau ("receive"). Moratta after the -te form of a verb implies one has received the benefit of the action; "(the action) was done for me." Kanojo ni ande moratta is a complete thought/sentence ("my girlfriend knit for me") modifying sētā (from English "sweater").

na n (contraction of na no) shows he is making an explanation.

Tanaka-kun: これ 自分 で あんだセーター なん だ。
Kore jibun de anda sētā na n da.

this oneself by knit (explan.) is sweater

"This is a sweater I knit myself." (PL2)

Friend: 器用

だなー。 da nā. Kiyō

skillful/good with hands are (emph.)

"You must be good with your hands." (PL2)

jibun de anda is a complete thought/sentence ("I knit [it] myself") modifying sētā.

kiyō refers to "cleverness/skillfulness/dexterity," but it is an underhanded compliment rather than a genuine one in this case.

Friend: これ カノジョ に もらった

ni moratta Kore kanojo this girlfriend from received

バレンタインチョコ なん だ。

barentain choko na n da.

Valentine's chocolate (explan.) is

"This is some Valentine's chocolate my girlfriend gave me." (PL2)

choko is an abbreviation of chokorēto ("chocolate"). Kanojo ni moratta is a complete thought/sentence ("[I] received from my girlfriend") modifying barentain choko ("Valentine's chocolate").

Tanaka-kun: これ 自分 で 買った バレンタインチョコ なん だ。

Kore jibun de katta barentain choko na n da, this self by bought Valentine's chocolate (expln.) is "This is some Valentine's chocolate I bought my-

self." (PL2)

Friend: 度胸

あるなー。

Dokyō aru nā.

nerve/guts/boldness have (emph.)

"You sure have guts." (PL2)

jibun de katta is a complete thought/sentence ("[I] bought [it] myself") modifying barentain choko.



Ueda Masashi's

フリテンミ Furiten-kun



Title: 盆栽 Bonsai Bonsai

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• the kanji for bonsai mean "tray" and "cultivation," and the word refers to the cultivation of dwarf trees in shallow pots/trays — a traditional, and still quite popular, hobby/art in Japan — as well as to the dwarf trees themselves. The object is to train/shape the trees to look like miniature versions of a larger tree that has some distinctive feature or appeal. Bonsai can live hundreds of years when given the proper care, and are passed down from generation to generation as family heirlooms.



Neighbor: いやー 盆栽 も いい です なー。

Iya, bonsai mo ii desu nā. (interj.) bonsai also good/fine is (emph.) "Yes indeed, bonsai, too, is/are very fine."

→ "Yes indeed, bonsai is a fine pursuit!" (PL3)

Neighbor: すばらしい。
Subarashii.

wonderful/marvelous/splendid

"(They're) wonderful!" (PL2)

 iya (or iyā) literally means "no," but it is also used as an exclamation of approval/admiration ("Oh, yes/my oh my/yes indeed") at the beginning of affirmative statements.

• na is a mostly masculine equivalent of ne, in this case adding emphasis.



occasionally that kind of one/thing (obj.) see if/when "When (on occasion) I see things like that..."

• to after a verb has a conditional "if/when" meaning.

かきまたのかられたが、

Sign: バイオ 研究所
Baio Kenkyū-jo
research center

Biotech Research Center

Neighbor: 自分の研究 に

jibun no kenkyū ni oneself 's research abont

ぎもん が わく

gimon ga waku ne. questions/doubts (subj.) arise (colloq.)

"... questions arise regarding my own research."

→ "... I start questioning my own research."

(PL2)

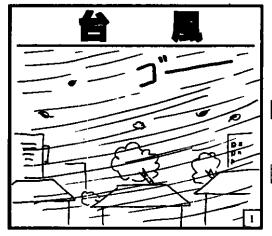
- kenkyū = "research," and -jo (literally "place") is a suffix used in the names of a wide variety of agencies, offices, centers, laboratories, etc.
- jibun = "oneself," or "me/myself," "he/himself," "you/yourself," "they/ themselves," etc., depending on the context. Jibun no makes it possessive: "my/his/your/their/etc."
- when speaking to others, ne indicates that agreement/confirmation is expected from the listener; when speaking to oneself, as here, it can be thought of as a kind of self-check/confirmation: "yes, it really is so."
- waku literally means "boil np/flow out."

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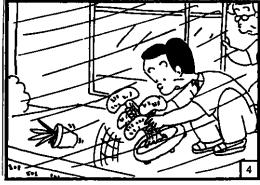
Ueda Masashi's

フリテンシ Furiten-kun









<u>Title</u>: 台風

Taifū

Typhoon

Sound FX: \exists —

Go—

(effect of howling wind)

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Furiten-kun: なに? うち の 松の木 が たおれた?!

Nani? Uchi no matsu no ki ga taoreta?!
what? our house 's pine tree (subj.) fell over
"What? Our pine tree got blown over?!" (PL2)

uchi literally means "within/inside," but in many cases is used to mean "our house/shop/company." Uchi no means "of/belonging to our house/shop/company," or simply, "our."

taoreta is the plain/abrupt past form of taoreru ("fall over/collapse"). In
colloquial speech the question particle ka is often dropped, and the question is indicated just by intonation.

Furiten-kun: 樹令 100年 の 松の木 が
Jurei hyaku-nen no matsu no ki ga
tree age 100 years of pine tree (subj.)
たおれたそう なんで 帰ります。
taoreta sō na n de kaerimasu
fell over (hearsay) (expl.) will go home
"I heard our hundred-year-old pine tree got
blown over, so I'm going home." (PL3)

Boss: ほんと か? そりゃ 大変 だ な。

Honto ka? Sorya taihen da na.
truth (?) as for that serious/grave is (colloq.)
"Really? That's terrible." (PL2)

帰れ (帰れ 帰れ)。 Kaere kaere kaere. go home go home go home "Go home (go home, go home)." (PL2)

- jurei (more properly written 樹齡) combines kanji meaning "tree" and "age" to make a word for referring to the age of a tree.
- sō (da/desu) after a verb indicates that the speaker has heard from someone else that the action has taken/will take place. Na n(o) de is an explanatory form, so ... sō na n de means "because I hear/I'm told that ..."
- kaerimasu is the PL3 form of kaeru ("return home" can be either "come home" or "go home"), and kaere is the plain/shrupt command form of the same verb (can only be "go home").
- hontō ("truth") is very commonly shortened to honto in colloquial speech.
 Honto ka = "is it the truth" → "is it true?" → "really?"
- sorya is a contraction of sore wa ("as for that").
- taihen da can be used as an exclamation on any occasion involving something troublesome/undesirable/catastrophic for the speaker. It can also be used as an expression of sympathy by bystanders, especially with the addition of ne/na taihen da ne/na = lit. "that is serious/grave, isn't it?"
- the two angled marks after kaere indicate repeats, so the boss actually says kaere three times.



Note: This episode of *Crayon Shin-chan* is a good example of how Japanese wives handle the finances and control the purse strings of the household.

| | Narration: | Aru asa One morning | aru before a noun means "a certain /one -". ttara is a contraction of quotative to plus it- |
|---|-----------------|---|--|
| | Mother: | Dame ttara dame!! no/won't do (quote)-if no/won't do "When I say 'No,' I mean 'No'!!" (PL2) | tara, a conditional "if/wben" form of iu ("say"). de ii is an expression meaning " is |
| | <u>Father</u> : | Tanomu yo—, ichiman-en de ii kara—. ask/beg (emph.) ¥10,000 limited to is good so "¥10,000 would be enough, so ple-a-se, I'm begging you." (PL2) | enough/adequate." The sentence is in inverted syntax. Normal order would be <i>Ichiman-en de ii kara, tanomu yo.</i> The wavy lines indicate that he is drawing out the words with a pleading tone. |
| _ | Sound FX: | Kuka— (breathing of sleeping child) | • nara ("if you mean") often marks the topic, |
| 2 | <u>Mother</u> : | Kongetsu no o-kozukoi nara ageta hazu desu kedo. this month's allowance if it is gave should be but "I believe I (already) gave you this month's allowance." (PL3) | like wa, "as-for": kongetsu no o-kozukai nara = "as for this month's allowance." • hazu da after the past form of a verb means "should have (happened)" or "(it happened), I believe/I'm quite sure." |
| | <u>Father:</u> | Dakara kinō nonjatte mō sukkarakan na no yo—, that's why yesterday drank already penniless (explan) (emph) "That's why I'm telling you, I went drinking yesterday and I'm already stone broke." (PL2) | • nonjatte is a contraction of nonde shimatte, from nomu ("drink") and shimau ("end/finish/put away"). Shimau after the -te form of another verb implies the action is regrettable. |
| 3 | Mother: | Nan de maitsuki kichin-ta jibun no o-kozukai no why each month properly one's own allowance 's | • sumaserarenai is the negative form of sumaserareru ("can finish/make do"), which is the |
| | | han'i-nai de sumaserarenai no? within bounds of can't make do (explan?) "Why is it that you can't stay within the bounds of your allowance each month?" (PL2) | potential form of sumasu ("finish/make do"). asking a question with no shows she wants an explanation, and he uses no at the end of his answer because he is offering an explanation. tsukiai refers to "socializing/maintaining so- |
| | <u>Father:</u> | Otoko ni wa tsukiai tte mon ga atte, men to/for as-for socializing thing called (subj.) there is-and yotei dōri nya ikanai no!! plan according to not go (explan.) | cial relationships" of all kinds. • tte mon is a contraction of to iu mono, literally "a thing called." • nya is a contraction of ni wa. Wa makes yotei |
| | | "We men have to maintain social relationships, and things don't (always) go according to plan." (PL2) | dōri ni the topic of the statement ikanai ("does not go") →"does not go according to plan." |
| 4 | Mother: | that kind of loose/slack place (subj.) (name) | sō yū = sō iu = "that kind of" tokoro is literally "place," but the word is often |
| | | ni mo warui eikyō ataeru no yo!! to also bad influence has/exerts (explan.) (emph.) "That kind of slackness is what has a bad influence on Shinnosuke." (PL2) | used after adjectives or other modifiers to mean "part/aspect." • the particle o, to mark the direct object, has been omitted after eikyō ("influence"). |
| | Shin-chan: | Sō da, sō da. Ashi kusai zo. that way is that way is feet smell (emph.) | the particle ga, to mark the subject, has been omitted after ashi ("foot/feet"). zo is a rough, masculine particle for emphasis. |
| 5 | Eathor | "That's right, that's right. Your feet stink." (PL2) Omae no shitsuke ga natte-nai kara da. | omae is a fairly rough, masculine word for |
| 기 | rather. | your training/discipline (subj.) be lousy/poor because is "It's because you haven't raised him right." (PL2) | "you." Husbands often call their wives omae. • shitsuke can refer either to the act/art of "rais- |
| | Shin-chan: | Mune mo nai zo. chest also not exist (emph.) "And you're flat-chested, too." (PL2) | ing/disciplining a child," or to the "manners" the child gains in the process. • natte-(i)nai is an idiomatic expression meaning "is no good/a failure." |
| 6 | Father: | Mō ii. Kaisha itte kuru. already good/enough company/work will go-and come "Enough of this, already!! I'm going to work." (PL2) | kaisha is literally "company," but is often used when Americans would say "work/the office." itte kuru (or its PL3 form, itte kimasu) literally |
| | Mother: | Itterasshai "Goodbye." (PL2) | means "I will go and come," and is the stan- dard "goodbye" used by a person leaving home for work, school, an errand, etc. <i>Itterasshai</i> (or |
| | | $Gy\bar{u}$ — (squeezing/pinching effect) | itte irasshai: literally "go and come") is the corresponding "goodbye" used by those stay- |
| Į | Shin-chan: | $A\bar{e}$ \rightarrow "Ai-aiiii" (PL2) | ing behind. |



7 11 Narration: Ichijikan-go One hour later Sound FX: Tururururu Rrinnng (electronic) -go after a time word means that much time "later." 8 Taisetsu-na shorui wasureta. Suman ga important papers forgot sorry but kaisha made todokete kurenai ka. company as far as deliver won't you please? "I forgot some important documents. 12 Sorry to trouble you, but could you bring them to the office?" (PL2) Mother: E?! Wakatta, Ima kara iku 13 what? understood now from go (fem. colloq.) "What? Okay, I'll come right away." • suman is a contraction of sumanai, the PL2 equivalent of the apology sumimasen. • todokete is from todokeru ("deliver"). Kure ("give to me") or kurenai ka ("won't you give to me") following the -te form of a verb makes a request or gentle command, "(please) do for me." wakatta is the plain/abrupt past form of wakaru ("understand"), but as a response to a request/command it means "yes/okay/I will." 14 9 Mother: Papa no kaisha ni iku kara shitaku shite. Daddy 's company to go so get ready "We're going to Daddy's office, so get ready." (PL2) Shin-chan: Ho—i. "Oka-a-ay." (PL2) shitaku shite is the -te form of shitaku suru ("prepare for/ get ready to"). The -te form here is being used as a short form of the request, shitaku shite kudasai, "please get ready.' ho—i is a variation of hai ("yes/okay"). 10 Mother: Ttaku Papa ttara o-doji (exasperation) Daddy (quote)-if (hon.)-bungler na n da kara. (explan.) is so "Good grief, Daddy's such a bungler." 13 (PL2) **FX**: Pata pata Pat pat FX: Nuri nuri Paint paint Shin-chan: Honto yo nētruth (emph.) (colloq.)
"It's so true." (PL2) • ttaku is a contraction of mattaku (literally "completely/ entirely"), which is often used as an expression of exasttara is a contraction of to ittara, a conditional "if/when" form of to iu ("say . . ."), so it literally means "if I speak

of ... "In colloquial speech, ttara is sometimes used in

place of wa to mark the topic, usually with a feeling of

disapproval/beratement.

Shin-chan: O-kao aratte kita. (hon.)-face washed-and came "I went and washed my face." (PL2) Rettsu ra gō. Mother: Yoshi. okay/all right let's go "Okay, let's go." (PL2) • aratte is the -te form of arau ("wash"), and kita is the plain/abrupt past form of kuru ("come"). The expression te kuru/kita is like the English "go/went and (do/did)." rettsu gō is how "Let's go" comes out in katakana, but an extra ra is sometimes inserted as a flourish. Sign: Futaba Shōji **Futaba Enterprises** Recept'nist: Irasshaimase "Hello." (PL3-4) On Desk: Uketsuke Receptionist Shin-chan: Nimei desu. two persons is "A party of two." (PL3) Mother: Famirii resutoran ja nai tte is not (quote) (emph.) family restaurant "It's not a family restaurant." (PL2) Mother: Eigyō Ni-ka no Nohara ni sales section two of (name) to/for todokemono na n desu ga. item to deliver (explan.) is but "I have something to deliver to (Mr.) Nohara hi Sales Section Two (but) . . . " (PL2) "In that case, please take the elevator there to the fifth floor." (PL2) Japanese wives refer to their husbands by their last names, without any titles, in formal situations where American wives might say "Mr. -" or "my husband."

todoke- is from todokeru ("deliver") and -mono as a suffix to a noun or verb means "an item associated with (that object/action).' Shin-chan: O! Okashi ga ippai aru. hey/wow! sweets (subj.) lots exist "Wow! There're lots of goodies here!" (PL2) **FX**: Gasa goso (rustling sounds) Recept'nist: A! So sore wa... ah/oh th that/those is/are "Oh, no, th- those're . . . " Mother: Kora, kora! (interj.) (interj.) "Hey! Stop that!" (PL2) On Desk: Uketsuke Receptionist okashi refers to all kinds of sweets and snack foods -

candy, cookies, cakes, pastries, crackers, chips, etc.

kora is an interjection for scolding, and is spoken like a sharp "Hey!/Halt!" to get the offender's attention.



16 Narration: Eigyō Ni-ka Sales Section Two Mother: Sumimasen. Nohara ni excuse me (name) to todokemono na n desu ga. item for delivery (explan) is but "Excuse me. I have something to deliver to Nohara." (PL3) OL: A, Kakari-chā no . . . Oh, group leader 's "Oh, Mr. Nohara's ... " the OL implies okusama ("wife" - polite) at the end of her sentence. 17 Shin-chan: Furu-nyōbō desu. old lady "... Öld lady." (PL2) Mother: O-damari!! (hon.)-be quiet/shut up Doko de oboete kun no. sonna kotoba where at learn-and-come ? that kind of word "Be quiet! Where (in the world) do you learn words like that?" (PL2) OL: Nohara Kakari-chō-!! Kakari-chō no (name) group leader [=title] group leader's furu-nyōbo... iya, okusama ga. no/I mean wife (subj.) old lady "Mr. Nohara! Your old lady . . . I mean, your wife (has come)." (PL3-4 implied) Shin-chan essentially finishes the OL's sentence, but uses quite a different word from what she would have used. Furu- is the prefix form of furui ("old"), and $ny\bar{o}b\bar{o}$ is an informal word for "wife," so furu-nyōbō is literally "uld wife." Being just as informal as, and perhaps slightly more negative than, the English substitution of "old lady" for "wife," it is not really an appropriate expression to use in a setting like this. o-damari is short for o-damari-nasai, a gentle command form of damaru ("become quiet/fall silent"). O- is the honorific prefix, which many adults use liberally as a kind of diminutive when speaking with small children. kun is a contraction of kuru ("come"); oboete kuru refers to "learning something and bringing it home." 18 **Father**: \mathcal{O} , suman, suman. Tasukatta-... (interj.) thanks thanks saved "Oh, thanks, thanks, you saved me." (PL2) Mō sugu de hirumeshi da. Issho ni kuō, in a short while lunch is let's eat together "It's almost lunch. Let's eat together." (PL2)

Chotto ōsetsu-shitsu de matte-te.

suman (see frame 8) is also used informally as "thank

hiru = "noon" and meshi = "rice/meal" (informal), so

kuō is the form of kuu ("eat," informal) showing intent.

room." (PL2)

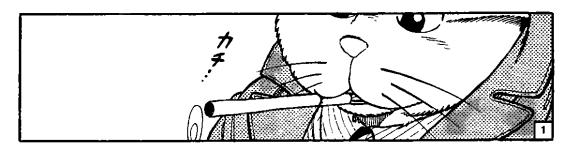
you."

hirumeshi = "lunch,"

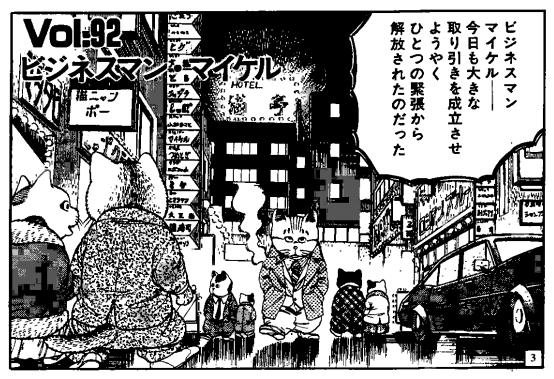
a little reception room in (please) wait "Wait for me awhile in our reception

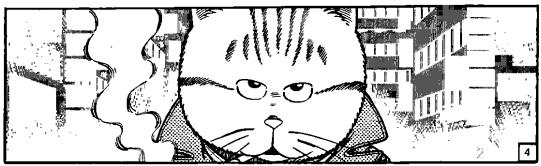
19 S. Chief: Nohara-kun. Kochira no bijin (name-hon.) this direction's beautiful woman wa donata ka ne? as-for who is it? "Nohara, who is this beautiful woman?" (PL2) Father: Tsuma desu. "She's my wife." (PL3) Mother: Itsumo shujin ga always husband (subj.) o-sewa ni nattemasu-. kindness/favor is receiving "You're always so kind to my husband." • itsumo (- ga) o-sewa ni natte-(i)masu is a polite greeting used when meeting an associate of one's family member. 20 Shin-chan: Tōchan, kono erasō-na Daddy this looks/acts important hito wa donata ka ne? person as-for who is it?

"Who's this person who acts so important, Dad?" (PL2) Father: Awawawa (effect of being in a panic and at a loss for words) the adjective eraso na usually implies that the person looks/ acts more important than he/she really is. asking questions with ka ne is masculine; it's mostly reserved for superiors speaking to subordinates, which makes it a contributing factor in the father's panic. 21 S. Chief: Kachō no ojisan da. Wa ha ha ha. section chief (=) uncle/man am (laugh) "I'm your daddy's boss. (laugh)" (PL2) Shin-chan: Itsumo o-sewa shite-masu. always kindness/favor is doing/giving "(Dad is) always so kind to you." (PL2) Father: Natte-masu!! "He is (always kind to Dad)!" (PL2) Mother: A-, shusse ga--.. ah/oh advancement (subj.) "Ohh, (there go his chances for) advancement ... " (PL2) 23 Mother: Papa isshō-kenmei o-shigoto shite-ru ne. devotedly (hon.)-job doing right? "Dad's working hard, isn't he?" (PL2) Shin-chan: Un. Tōchan kakko ii. uh-huh Dad appearance/bearing good "Uh-huh, he looks really impressive." (PL2) 24 Mother: Hai, mudazukai shinaide ne. here wasteful use don't do okay? "Here. Don't waste it, okay?" (PL2) Father: E?! Niman-en mo... huh?/what? ¥20,000 as much as "What? Twenty thousand?" (PL2) Shin-chan: Yokatta na, Tōchan. was good wasn't it Dad "Isn't that nice, Dad?" (PL2)









This month's selection from What's Michael?, first appearing in Mangajin No. 2, fits this issue's theme so well we couldn't resist including it. Long-time readers will be happy to see we've updated the format and added more notes.

1

Sound FX: カチ ...

Kachi

Click (sound of his cigarette lighter)

kachi is used for "clicking" sounds, such as the striking of a cigarette lighter or the sound of a latch or lock closing (kachitto shimaru).

3

Title: ビジネスマン・マイケル

Bijinesuman

Maikeru

Businessman Michael

eigyō means "business/trade," and the word 営業マン eigyōman is sometimes heard, but the all-katakana bijinesuman is probably more common, perhaps because it seems more international.

Narration:

ビジネスマン マイケル―

Bijinesuman Maikeru-Businessman Michael:

今日 も 大きな 取り引き を 成立させ kyō mo ōki-na torihiki today also big transaction seiritsu sase

transaction (obj.) completed-and Again today he completed a big deal, and ... (PL2)

ようやく ひとつの 緊張 から 解放された のだった。 kaihō sareta no datta võvaku hitotsu no kinchō kara finally stress from was liberated/freed (explan.) a single was finally freed from one (source of) tension. (PL2)

ōki-na is an alternate form of the adjective ōkii ("big/large").

seiritsu is a noun meaning "materialization/completion," and seiritsu suru is its verb form, "materialize/
come into existence/be completed." Seiritsu sase is a continuing form of seiritsu saseru ("cause to materialize/be completed," or simply "establish/complete"), so it is like "completed (something) and ..." kaihō is a noun meaning "liberation/freedom," and kaihō suru is its verb form, "liberate/free" \rightarrow kaihō sareru = "be liberated/freed" \rightarrow kaihō sareta = "was liberated/freed."

yōyaku is a more formal/"literary" equivalent of yatto ("finally/at long last").

narration is typically written using the plain/abrupt (PL2) verb forms. Adding no datta (explanatory no plus the plain /abrupt past form of da, "is/are") gives a somewhat heightened "literary" feel. No datta could be thought of literally as "it was that ...," or "the situation was that"

Signs: (All of the shop names are cat-related words. Here are a few, in no particular order.)

マタタビ ヒゲ

Hige <u>Whiskers</u> しっぽ Shippo Tail

カフェバーマイケル Kafe Bā Maikeru Cafe Bar Michael

つめとぎ Tsume-togi Claw-Sharpener

キャバレロシアンブルー

ミケ

Kyabare Roshian Burū

Mike

Cabaret Russian Blue

Tortoise-Shell

猫寿司

Matatabi

Catnip

HOTEL 猫亭

CLUB 猫ニャンポー

Neko-zushi Cat Sushi

Hoteru neka tei **Hotel Cat-Pavilion** Kurabu Neko nyan pō Club Cat's Meow

mike in kanji is 三毛, literally "three (types of) hair," referring to the pattern of fur on a tortoise-shell cat, known as mikeneko in Japanese.

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What's Michael? 5 Kyaku-hiki: ねえ 兄さん兄さん かわいい 娘 いる 「ウニャウニャ」。 Į, クラブ Nē nii-san nii-san. Kawaii iru Kurabu "Unya Unya." yo. hey/say older brother cute girls exist/have (emph.) Club Meow Meow "Hey, buddy, buddy. We've got cute girls. Club Meow Meow." Michael: ん "<u>Uhm . . . "</u> nii-san is a familiar form of onii-san ("older brother"), often used as a generic term of address for young men in their upper teens and twenties (roughly). ko can refer to any child when written 子, but 娘 ko (or musume) specifically means "daughter/girl"; かわいい子 kawaii ko can refer to any "cute child," but かわいい娘 kawaii ko has the feeling of "cute chick(s)." kyaku-hiki (客引き, kyaku = "customer," hiki from the verb hiku = "draw in/attract") are the energetic, almost hyperactive young men who stand outside clubs luring customers inside. 6 た... Michael: 俺 は 忙しい ん wa isogashii Ore n daas-for busy (explan.) am "<u>I'm busy ...</u>" (PL2) 言わないで!! ペルシャ や チンチラ の 若い 娘 そう Kvaku-hiki: が そろってんだ ょ。 ya chinchira no wakai ko Sō iwanaide!! Perusha ga sorotte yo. Persian(s) and Chinchilla(s) of young girls (subj.) be ready like that don't say/speak (explan.) (emph.) "Don't say that! We have a whole collection of young Persians and Chinchillas (ready to serve you)." (PL2) 前金 1万円 Ç あと 一切 は なし!! Maekin ichiman-en de ato nashi wa issai 10,000 yen with remainder as-for entirely not exist/have advance payment "Pay ¥10,000 in advance, and there are absolutely no (charges) beyond that!!" (PL2) the final kudasai has been dropped from iwanaide kudasai ("please don't say . . .") sorotte n da is a contraction of sorotte-iru no da, from the verb sorou, meaning "be present/gathered/matching (in a set/group)." Sorotte-iru often implies "are present/gathered and ready (for some purpose)." issai means "all/entirely" so with a negative like nashi (from nai) it becomes "not at all/absolutely none." 8 Kyaku-hiki: ほらあの店 なん だ けど さ。 かわいい 娘 つけます ぜ!!/ ね!! Hora ano mise na n da kedo sa. Kawaii ko tsukemasu ze!! that shop (explan.) is but (collog.) cute girls will attach (emph.) okay?/come on "Look, it's that place over there. I'll fix you up with a cute girl!! Come on!!" (PL2) mise can refer to any kind of shop, restaurant, or bar. na n is a contraction of na no, the form the explanatory no takes after nouns. kedo is literally "but,"—here it's being used simply to avoid bringing the sentence to an abrupt end. The particle sa is used to emphasize information or soften the tone. tsukemasu is the PL3 form of tsukeru ("attach/provide"), but ze, a rough/masculine particle for emphasis, keeps the politeness level at PL2. ne at the end of a sentence expects/asks for agreement/consent, and when it's tagged on after the sentence like this it has an emphatic feeling of coaxing/prompting/urging. 9 Kyaku-hiki: どうぞ いらっしゃいませ〜!!

Dōzo irasshaimase~

"Please, come in (right this way)!" (PL4)

dozo means "please" in the sense of granting permission or a favor ("please go ahead/feel free to . . . ") rather than of asking a favor.

irasshai is actually a command form of the PL4 verb irassharu ("come"), but because irassharu is inherently honorific, this command form can be used to welcome customers into a shop. The ending -mase (a command form of the PL3 verb ending -masu) serves to make the word softer sounding. The -e in -mase has been elongated to show a sing-song tone.

10

FX: ニコ . . .

(effect of cheerful smile)

Hostess: いらっしゃいませ~

Irasshaimase~ "Welcome." (PL4)

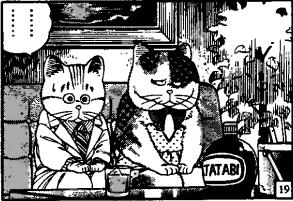
niko-niko is an adverb meaning "with a smile," and niko-niko suru is a common term for "to smile."



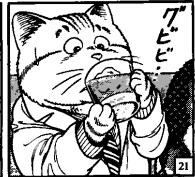
12 Kyaku-hiki: は~い 1名様 ご案内~!! Ha~i ichimei-sama go-anna~i!! OK/yes one person-(hon.) (hon.)-guidance/showing the way "OK, a party of one to be shown in!" (PL4) Cashier: 前金 -万円 です。 Maekin de ichiman-en desu. advance payment by means of 10,000 yen "That'll be ¥10,000, in advance." (PL3) Michael: うむ... Umu "<u>Uhuh . . .</u>" hai in this case serves essentially as a signal that something needs to be done/started. ichimei is more formal than hitori, but the meaning is still "one person"; -sama makes it honorific.

annai is a noun meaning "guidance/information," but here it implies a form of the verb annai suru meaning "guide/lead/show the way." Go- is an honorific prefix. 13 Laura: チンチラ の ローラで~す。/ マタタビ酒 の 水割り しいしい かしら? Chinchira no Rora de~su. / Matatabi-shu no mizuwari de ii kashira chinchilla (=) Laura am catnip liquor of water-dilution with good/OK I wonder if "I'm Laura, the Chinchilla. I wonder if a catnip-whiskey and water will be OK?" (PL2) <u>Michael</u>: うん... "Yeah ..." Un 酒, read sake by itself and -shu in combinations, essentially means "alcoholic beverage." mizuwari is a combination of mizu ("water") and wari, from the verb 割る waru, "dilute/divide/cut." ... de ii (lit. "is good/okay with") is an expression meaning "... is adequate/acceptable/okay," and kashira is a mostly feminine "I wonder if ..." She is essentially asking what she should fix for him: "Will it be/shall I make you (a catnip-whiskey and water)?" 14 Michael: 君 いくつ? Kimi ikutsu? you how old "<u>How old are you?</u>" (PL2) Laura: 生後 8ヵ月 Seigo hakkagetsu de~su. after birth eight months after birth eight months am "I'm eight months old." (PL3) kimi is an informal/abrupt word for "you" used only by males to their peers or subordinates. Michael is not only older, he is also the customer, so he can use kimi. 15 で... Laura: あ... ちょっとごめんなさい ね!! わたし 他に 用 が あるん gomen-nasai chotto ne!! Watashi hoka ni уō ga aru n de . . . (interj.) a little excuse me (colloq.) I/me other business/matter (subj.) have/
"Ah...excuse me just a minute!! There's something (else) I have to do..." other business/matter (subj.) have/exists because/so すぐ かわり 0 女の子 が 来ます から。 kawari no onna no ko ga kimasu kara. soon/right away substitute (=) girl (subj.) will come because/so "Another girl will come right away." (PL3) <u>Michael</u>: うむ... Umu "Okay" hoka ni ... aru can mean either "... exists somewhere else" or "[I] have other ... " Yō can refer to almost any matter/business that one must attended to → "something I have to do." n de is a contraction of no de. Both no de and kara mean "because/since/so," but here they simply serve to "soften" the ends of the sentences. • kawari is from the verb 代わる kawaru, meaning "take the place of/substitute for." 17 **Catherine**: いらっしゃいませ〜。 as mentioned above, irasshaimase is literally an honor-Irasshaimase~. ific command meaning "come/do come in," but note that "Welcome." (PL4) the new "hostess" uses it to welcome Michael to the club even though he is already sitting down and has a Michael: ん... drink in his paw. N "Hm . . ." 18 Catherine: カトリーヌ でぇ~す。 Katoriinu dē~su. "I'm Catherine." (PL3)



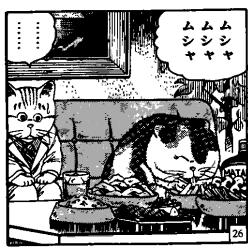














20

Catherine: さあ おひとつ どうぞ。

Sā o-hitotsu dōzo.

"Well, please have one (a drink)."

Michael: U ...

Mu . . .

".... "Mmm

- $s\bar{a}$ is often used like "well now/all right/come on" when urging the listener to do something.
- hitotsu is an all-purpose "counter" meaning "one (object/thing)." The prefix o- is honorific.

21

グビビ ... Sound FX:

Gubibi (sound of Michael nervously gulping his drink.)

the effect of gubiri gubiri (nomu) implies small gulps or sips, while gui gui (nomu) would be more like 'quaff/drink in large gulps.'

22

あら おつよい のね~。/ すてき!! Catherine:

no ne~ / o-tsuyoi Ara Suteki

wonderful (exclam.) (hon.)- strong aren't you

"My, you're a strong drinker, aren't you. How charming!" (PL2)

tsuyoi literally means "strong," so she's literally saying "You're strong, aren't you." The "polite" use of the honorific o- prefix has a decidedly feminine touch.

23

Catherine: わたし ъ なにか いただいていい かしら。

itadaite ii Watashi mo nanika kashira also something may eat I wonder if

"I wonder if I could have something, too?" (PL2)

う うん... Michael:

un

"Uh, sure . . . "

- itadaite is the -te form of itadaku, literally meaning "receive" and used as a humble word for "eat."
- -te ii (or -te mo ii) is the standard phrase for giving permission, "you may . . . /feel free to . . . ," ' but *kashira* makes it a question asking for permission, "I wonder if I could . . ./would it be okay if . . . '

24

すみませ~ん。 Catherine:

Sumimase~n.

"Excuruse me." (PL3) (calling the waiter)

Sound FX: シュバッ

Shuba! (the "poof/swoosh" of a large flame bursting from the lighter to signal the waiter)

Waiter: は~い!!

Ha~i!!

"Coming!!"

25

Catherine:

まぐろの 刺し身と 鳥 のササミ の 卵 まぶし と なまり節 とニボシ ٤ Maguro no sashimi to tori no sasami no tamago mabushi to namari-bushi to niboshi of sashimi & chicken's filet of/with egg coating & half-dried bonito & dried sardines & tuna ちくわ とチーズと カニカマボコ と あとドライフードを 1皿`ちょうだい。 chikuwa to chiizu to kani-kamaboko to ato roasted fish paste & cheese & crab steamed fish paste & after dorai fūdo o hito-sara chōdai. dry food (obj.) 1 plate please give me "Let me have tuna sashimi, egged chicken breast filet, half-dried bonito, dried sardines, chikuwa, cheese, crab kamaboko, and also one plate of dry food." (PL3)

Waiter: はい。

Hai.

"Coming right up!!"

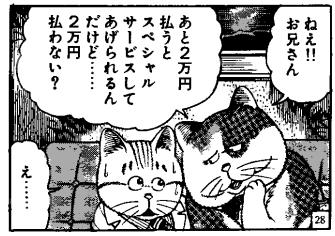
- the connector to ("and") is used between all the individual items, and ato ("subsequent/following/next") is used before the final item, as if it were an afterthought.
- chikuwa and kamaboko are both made from surimi, a paste made from fish flesh, increasingly familiar to American palates in the form of imitation crab sticks. Surimi appears in scores of different forms in Japanese cooking.

26

Sound FX: ムシャ ムシャムシャ

Musha musha musha

Munch munch (effect of eating voraciously)





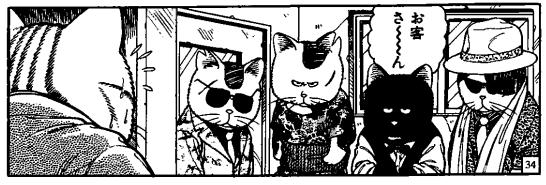












27 Catherine: ゲプ... Gepu Burp 28 Catherine: ねえ!! お兄さん あと 2万円 払う と ato niman-en harau to Nē!! Onii-san, say (hon.)-brother/mister more 20,000 yen pay "Say, Mister, if you pay ¥20,000 more ..." (PL2) スペシャル サービス して あげられる だけど... 2万円 払わない? sābisu shite dakedo... ni-man-en harawanai? supesharu agerareru nspecial service do/give can give (explan,) but ¥20,000 "I can give you our 'special service'... Won't you pay ¥20,000?" (PL2) won't pay? Michael: え... "Huh . . . ?" E while the male kyakuhiki ("tout") outside the bar called Michael niisan, Catherine puts the honorific o- on for a more polite (and feminine) touch, so here it feels more like "mister" than "buddy." the particle to after a verb (harau = "pay") makes it conditional — "if/when you pay . . ."

agerareru is the potential ("can/able to") form of ageru ("give"). A form of ageru after the -te form of a verb means "do (the action) for you/someone." 29 Michael: いや... そろそろ 帰る kaeru Iya, soro-soro yo. leave/go home (emph.) soon "No thanks ... I have to be going." (PL2) soro-soro literally means "slowly/gradually/by and by," but it's frequently used in situations like this to mean "It's about time for (me to leave)." kaeru is literally "go/come home" but it's often used to mean simply "leave (the office/shop/meeting/etc.)." 30 あら そおお? Catherine: soō? Ara "Oh, really?" (PL2, ara is generally feminine speech) 31 Catherine: お客様 お帰り よ~!! O-kyaku-sama o-kaeri da yo~ (hon.)-guest (hon.)- leaving/going home is (emph.) "Customer leaving!!" (PL2 — but using some PL4 forms) Walter: ^~ い。 He~i. (corrupted form of Hai) referring to Michael and his action with the honorific prefix o- and suffix -sama is PL4 speech, to show proper respect for the customer, but the ending is informal (PL2) because she is speaking to a waiter. The emphatic yo is elongated because she is calling out in a loud voice. 32 いただきます。 Cashier: 12万円 Jūniman-en itadakimasu. "That will be ¥120,000." (PL3-4) Michael: え... "Huh . . . ?" \boldsymbol{E} • itadakimasu is the PL3 form of itadaku, a polite word for "receive (from a superior)." 33 Michael: さっき 追加料金 なし って いった じゃないか!! ja nai ka Sakki tsuika ryōkin nashi itta tte before/a while ago additional fees/charges none (quote) said isn't it the case that "You said before there would be no additional charges!!" (PL2) tte is a colloquial to, for quoting; it comes after what was said and before the verb itta (plain/abrupt past form of iu = "say"ja nai ka is literally a question, but it's often used rhetorically to make a strong assertion/accusation. 34 Cashier: お客さ~ん。 O-kyaku-sa~n. "Mister (customer)."

kyaku alone means "customer" or "guest." When members of a business are actually addressing a customer,

they use the honorific prefix o-, and the suffix -san or the more polite -sama.



37

Narration: ビジネスマン マイケル は / あり金 全部 ほったくられた。/ そのかわり...
Bijinesuman Maikeru wa arigane zenbu bottakurareta. Sono kawari...

Bijinesuman Maikeru wa arigane zenbu bottakurareta. Sono kawari businessman Michael as-for money on hand all ripped off in replacement of that Michael the businessman had all of his money ripped off. In return . . .

ari is from the verb aru which literally means "be/exist," but often implies "be/exist in one's possession," and -gane is from kane ("money"; k changes to g for euphony), so arigane = "money in one's possession/money on hand."

bottakurareta is a slang word meaning "was taken/ripped off," the past form of bottakurareru ("get taken/ripped off"), from bottakuru ("take/rip off").

kawari is from the verb kawaru = "replace/substitute for"; sono kawari = "in replacement of that/to replace that" → "in exchange/in return."

39

Sign: 〜医院 毛皮科 ノミ科
-i'in Kegawa-ka Nomi-ka

-Clinic Fur Specialist Flea Specialist.

 kegawa alone means "fur." The suffix -ka is used to designate departments/specializations of study and medical practice. For example, hifu = "skin," and hifu-ka = "dermatology."

40

Narration: ノミ を もらってきて しまっていた の だった。

nomi o moratte kite shimatte-ita no datta. flea(s) (obj.) received-and-came (regret) (emph.) it was that ...he had caught fleas. (PL2)

moratte is the -te form of morau ("receive"). The -te form of a verb has no tense of its own; its tense is determined by the tense of the sentence as a whole.

• kite is the -te form of kuru ("come"). A form of kuru after the -te form of a verb often means "do (the action)

and come," so moratte kuru = "receive and come" - "come back with."

shimatte-ita is from shimau ("end/finish/put away"). A form of shimau after the -te form of a verb implies the action is regrettable/undesirable, so shimatte-ita = "had regrettably done." Moratte kite shimatte-ita = "had regrettably/to his great chagrin come back with."

• no is the explanatory no and data is the plain/abrupt past form of da ("is/are" — the PL2 equivalent of desu), so it can be thought of literally as "it was that ...," or "the situation was that" As with the narration at the beginning, no data is not strictly necessary, but it gives a somewhat heightened "literary" feel.

41

Husband: てな 夢 でも みてる の だろうか。

Te na yume de mo mite-ru no darō ka. (quote) dream or something is seeing (explan.) I wonder if 'I wonder if he's having a dream like that." (PL2)

te na is a colloquial equivalent of the quotative to iu yō na, in which to iu refers back to the entire preceding story, and yō na makes that entire story into an adjective modifying yume ("dream").
mite-ru is a contraction of mite-iru ("is/are seeing/viewing"), from miru ("see/view"). The usual phrase for

mite-ru is a contraction of mite-iru ("is/are seeing/viewing"), from miru ("see/view"). The usual phrase for
"having a dream" is yume o mite-iru, but using de mo instead of o gives the feeling of "having a dream or
something."

Wife: みてる わけ ない でしょ, そんな 夢!!

Mite-ru wake nai desho, sonna yume!!
is seeing situation not exist probably/surely that kind of dream

"You know there's no way he'd be having that kind of dream!!"

• in this usage, wake means "situation/case/circumstances." Mite-(i)ru wake (ga) nai could be thought of as "The situation of (his) seeing (such a dream) does (could) not exist."

desho (or deshō) essentially makes a conjecture, "probably/surely," but in this use it has the feeling of "(Surely) you know very well that..."

the syntax is inverted. Normal order would be Sonna yume (o) mite-(i)ru wake nai desho.

Michael:

ウーン ウーン *Un Un* "<u>Ooh, ooh!"</u>



To introduce our feature manga, *Odaiji-ni* (page 72), and help you appreciate its subtleties, here is some background on haiku, and the pop culture of the Edo period.

The Evolution of Haiku

by Bob Leutner

The haiku known to English readers is a small, quiet thing. It may or may not (usually not) fall into the Japanese form of seventeen syllables, and how strictly it follows other, less obvious Japanese conventions varies widely among its practitioners. But it almost always presents itself as the distillation of a private moment of observation or revelation, and it is a kind of poetry that for several generations now has been a good fit with modern ideas of the poet as a reflective soul doing the work of poetry in solitude. It also looks like a liberated kind of poetry, free to jump in any direction the mind leads and free of confining rules about rhyme, rhythm, and diction.

But haiku in its original setting negates almost everything that seems to characterize it in its transplanted home. The word itself carries clues: what we call haiku was originally a hokku (発句), the opening verse of a series of "comic" (haikai 俳諧) linked versed (renga 連歌). It stood alone only until a second verse, this time of 14 syllables, was composed as the beginning of a chain of verses of alternating 17- and 14-syllable length, a chain usually of 36 or 100 verses. Each verse contained one or more "links" to the preceding one, by sharing imagery or setting, for instance, or in a punning use of language. The intended effect was of a series of overlapping 31-syllable poems, each able to stand alone, but still embedded in a tightly-linked chain. Remarkably, such chains were usually written by a group of poets, each following another's verse with one that not only worked with it to form a single two-part poem but also left openings and suggestions that would allow a third verse to follow on seamlessly.

In its most serious form, the practice of renga linked verse demanded a lot of

its poets, including encyclopedic knowledge of classical Japanese poetry and prose and full mastery of a long list of special rules about how links between verses could be made, which images or specific words could be used at certain points in the chain, and so on. Comic haikai linked verse came into being as a complement to that very difficult art form, first as an amusement (usually accompanied by food and much drink) for serious poets, but later-when incomes and literacy rates rose in the early 1600s—as a poetry particularly snited to writers and readers who were not steeped in the classical tradition. How truly "comic" this poetry was depended on its origin, since by the late seventeenth century, the time of Matsuo Basho, the best known of all its masters, there were many different schools of haikai. Some took haikai every bit as seriously as anyone had taken renga, keeping its comic impulse well under control (if not suppressing it entirely) with an arcane book of rules of composition. Others valued spontaneity and flash. Ihara Saikaku, for instance, who chronicled seventeenthcentury town life in fiction, turned haikai into show business madness in marathon solo compositions of linked verse. He retired from the field undefeated after reciting a chsin of over 20,000 verses at such speed his scribe gave up trying to write them down. (Bashō is generally described as striking a mean between such extremes.)

So haiku was not necessarily the serious, spiritually significant statement it often seems to be when it is transplanted. Nor was it a poetry of solitary contemplation—it came into being in a very social, very competitive setting that required both a nimble wit and considerable sensitivity to other people—your fellow poets who trusted you to give them verses they could work with as your turn passed. The

best haiku verses either in Japanese or in translation have an air of the spontaneous, the fortuitous moment observed, or just the right word popping into consciousness. They seem artless, and that is one reason why the form attracts amateurs. But what has been preserved as the best of the genre is ironically quite different, because the modern free-standing haiku divorced from the practice of linked verse is a direct descendant of the hokku opening verses of haikai sequences, and the hokku was the one verse in the chain that was most determined by rules, setting, and circumstance. By the rules, it had to refer to the season when the poets were gathered, it should make some note, however oblique, of the occasion for the gathering and of the physical location, and (like all verses in the series) include a haigon (俳言), a word that in one way or another was "non-standard," either slangy, earthier than the usual poetic language, or even just a Chinese loan word. This long list of requirements came on top of the formal requirements (syllable count among them) and the need for a congenial openness to the verse that must follow.

Above all, haiku was a social poetry. It shares that characteristic in particular with other, less known kinds of poetry of the Edo period, among them senryū (川柳), a truly comic development out of the supposedly comic haiku and kyoka (狂歌), "mad verse," a comic mutant version of the old 31-syllable tanka (短歌) that generated a complicated web of clubs and factions in Edo late in the 1700s. No matter the genre of poetry, the poet of the Edo period as popularly conceived was no withdrawn scribbler but a familiar, sociable figure practicing his art in public.

Bob Leutner teaches Japanese at the University of Iowa, and specializes in literature of the Edo/Tokugawa period.

The Haiku Translation Controversy



Haiku composed in English don't have to conform to the 5-7-5 structure of Japanese haiku. But what about English translations of Japanese haiku? Kodaira Takashi and Alfred Marks, co-translators of MANGAJIN's new book, *The Essence of Modern Haiku*, chose to maintain the 5-7-5. Here, Alfred Marks talks about the problems and possibilities in translating Japanese haiku into English.

Many hardy souls have set out in quest of the perfect translation; the bones of the unsuccessful lie along the trail. The trophies of those who reached the goal decorate walls and bookshelves. The name of Edward Fitzgerald comes to mind—he who translated (or adapted) The Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam so successfully that it became a classic in English as well as Persian. And no one who has read Arthur Waley's The Tale of Genji has any doubt about the achievement Waley wrought in rendering Genji Monogatari (源氏物語) in English. Of smaller scope is Eduard Bauernfeld's justly renowned translation of the Shakespeare song best known as "Who is Sylvia?" That translation is so precise in its metrics that Schubert was able to compose a great lieder around it, one that can be sung to Shakespeare's English or Bauernfeld's German.

Translation of any kind is not easy. The translation of poetry is perhaps most difficult of all. The form to be taken in the new language is often a sticking point, but the combination of meaning with form is the stuff art is made of, and translation is an open opportunity for poets of all levels to pick up at least reflected glory.

Japanese prosody has been dominated throughout its recorded history by the use of alternating lines of 5 and 7 syllables. Three such lines produce the 17 syllables of the haiku. Neither the 5-7 pattern nor that of the 17 syllables is absolute and irrefragable. Both patterns are dominant enough, however, that just about all Japanese haiku poets have them in their heads as they compose, even when they vary from it, and particularly when they thumb their noses at it. It is the tune they dance to or rail against.

Frank Livingstone Huntley, in 1952, summarized the three main ingredients of the poems of Bashō: "(1) structural form— a Japanese poem should never be translated into a driblet of

prose; (2) an opposition between the two poles of a philosophical dilemma; and (3) the seizing of an image... on which the resolution suddenly turns." Those three ingredients may be useful in looking at some approaches to translating haiku.

R. H. Blyth, one of the great names in instruction in the art of haiku, says of the 5-7-5 pattern which characterizes haiku: "This form is of a peculiar potency... a wave-like character of flow, suspense and ebb, it is symmetrical, yet in odd numbers.

Blyth, however, makes no effort to translate consistently into a 5-7-5 pattern. His translations of haiku, which number in the hundreds, perhaps thousands, tend to be three-line literal translations which contain at least two of the ingredients Huntley listed, as with these translations from Shiki:

人形を きざむ小店や 菊の花
Ningyō o kizamu komise ya kiku no hana
A small shop
Carving dolls,—
Chrysanthemums.

寺見えて 小道の曲がる 野菊哉 Tera miete komichi no magaru nogiku kana

> At the bend of the road, The temple in sight,— Wild chrysanthemums.

居酒屋の 喧嘩むしだす 朧月 Izakaya no kenka mushidasu oboro-zuki

> The quarrel In the ale-hause, Revived by the hazy moon.

(continued on page 24)

The word fūryū appearing in the title and throughout the manga story *Odaiji ni* basically means "elegance/refinement/ taste." Originally, the word referred to elegance/refinement of manners, with tradition as the standard, but over the centuries it expanded to cover matters of aesthetic taste, with contemporary fashion and novelty as the standard. This shift was brought on in large part by the heavy emphasis placed on aesthetics in the imperial court of the Heian period (794-1185).

During the Edo period (1603-1867), the time of this story, a flurry of new cultural activity arose among the townsman class, centering in particular on the colorful and lively pleasure quarters but also including such restrained arts as the composition of haiku. On the one hand, $f\bar{u}ry\bar{u}$ now referred

to the diversions of the pleasure quarters and whatever was fashionable and up-to-date there—whatever was "hip," we might say today—while on the other hand it referred to the "elegant" pursuit of various aesthetic/cultural activities as diversions from the everyday concerns of making a living. Thus the characters in this story speak of "doing" $f\bar{u}ry\bar{u}-f\bar{u}ry\bar{u}$ (o) suru—when they set out to enjoy the beauty of the freshly fallen snow and compose haiku.

As is always the case with matters of taste and fashion, what was considered $f\bar{u}ry\bar{u}$ one day would be passé the next, or what one person thought elegant would seem merely an affectation to another. The best attitude was, no doubt, to take it all in a light spirit—like the characters in our story.

-Wayne Lammers, Trans. Ed.



おだいじに • O-daiji ni 1 作 通油町 つたや In Box: 文武九 道退 -人足袋 南仙好 Bunbuku Michinoku Hitori-tabi Nansensu saku Tōriabura-chō Tsutava (place name) (publisher/bookseller name) (boiling FX) (place name) one person trip (author name) written by Bubble-bubble, a Solitary Journey Through Michinoku, by Nansensu (Tōriabura-chō: Tsutaya) this is the title page of a kibyōshi ("yellow cover [book]") that the main character of this story is writing. Kibyōshi were published during the Edo period (1603-1867) and are generally considered to be the precursors of modern manga. bunbuku is essentially a variant of the FX word for the bubbling of boiling water, bukubuku. It comes from the famous Bunbuku Chagama, a "tea kettle," said to always remain full no matter how much water was taken from it, that was owned by a monk reputed to be a tanuki ("racoon dog") in disguise. Used in a title like this, the word bunbuku immediately tells us the story is about a tanuki, but it does not actually refer to a tanuki. Michinoku is the old name for the eastern half of northern Honshu, from modern Fukushima to Aomori. Nansensu is a kanji rendering of the English word "nonsense." It was common for kibyōshi writers to take humourous pen names that involved puns and word plays, but, of course, a pen name based on English would not have been possible during the Edo period when $kiby\bar{o}shi$ were actually written (starting around 1775). 2 は むかし, に ポン吉 という 片田舎 Narration: katainaka ni Ponkichi to iu Ima wa mukashi, mono (name) (quote) person/character existed. now as-for long ago remote countryside in Long, long ago, a character named Ponkichi lived in the remote countryside. の 楽しみ 片手 に、世 に出て 思うままに 浮世 Jizake ni, yo ni dete omou mama ni ukiyo hitotaru no tanoshimi o katate local sake one keg one hand/arm in world to go out as one pleases floating world 's pleasures (obj.) 思いたち、まず 江戸 ع のかたへと きわめん kiwamen to omoitachi, mazu Edo no kata e to kokorozashik will study/experience thoroughly (quote) resolve to do-and first (place name)'s direction to (quote) set his aim no kata e to kokorozashikeru. kiwamen With a keg of the local brew in one hand, he decided to go out into the world and experience the pleasures of the floating world, and, for starters, set his sights on Edo. Ponkichi: この酒 売ってそれを 元手 に 魚売り はじめよふ。 Kono sake utte sore o motode ni sakana-uri 0 hajimeyō. this sake sell-and that (obj.) capital with fish-vending (obj.) will start "I'll sell this sake and use the profits as capital to start a fish-selling business." (PL2) ima wa mukashi, lit. "now is long ago," is a conventional formula often used to begin stories of long ago. mono written with the kanji 者 usually refers to a person, and using it to refer to a tanuki is part of treating the tanuki as a human character. The sign on his kimono is his name, Ponkichi. ari ni keri is a classical equivalent of atta, past tense of aru ("be/exist"). Classical ari was not reserved for inanimate things like modern aru, so it can correspond to modern iru ("be/exist" for animate things). 浮世 ukiyo (lit., "floating world") refers to the world we live in, implying that it is an insubstantial world, which, precisely because it is so insubstantial and fleeting, should be taken lightly and enjoyed to the fullest. kiwamen is a classical form of kiwameyo, from kiwameru ("study/experience thoroughly") showing intent. Edo is modern-day Tokyo. kakarozashikeru is a classical equivalent of kakarozashita, past form of kokorozasu ("set aims/sights on"). はじめよふ is an old spelling of はじめよう hajimeyō, the form of hajimeru ("begin/start") showing will/intent. The word is pronounced the same regardless of the spelling. Old spellings often have 13 where in current spelling you would expect to find わ, ひ for い, ふ for う, へ for え, and ほ or を for お. 3 そよ風 つれられ ポン吉 うとうと 夢 みける。 Narration: K yume mikeru. Sovokaze ni tsurerare Ponkichi uto-uto light breeze by taken/carried along (name) drowsily dream saw/had Lulled by a light breeze, Ponkichi drifted into a dream. これは これは なんとイキのよい初 がつを。 十両 とって つかわそふ。 Customer: iki no yoi hatsu- gatsuo. Jūryō Kore wa kore wa nan to totte tsukawasō. this as-for this as-for (emph.) fresh first bonito ten-(monetary unit) take up-and will give you "Well, well, what a <u>fresh-looking first-catch bonito this is! I'll give you ten *ryō* for it."</u> Ponkichi: ありがた山の宝ちん丹。 Arigatayama no hōchintan. "I am most gratefully thankful." (PL2)

- mikeru is a classical past form of miru ("see/watch"); yume mikeru = yume (o) mita ("saw/had a dream").
- the symbol that looks like an extra large \(\lambda \) ku in the original text is a repeat mark, repeating kore wa.
- iki no (or ga) ii/yoi is used of fish to mean "is/looks fresh."
- roughly speaking, one $ry\bar{o}$ would buy enough rice to feed one person for a year.
- tsukawasō is the form of tsukawasu ("give/present/bestow") showing will/intent.
- adding -yama ("mountain") to arigata(i) is a rhetorical flourish that gained popularity during the Edo period. It was
 also popular to add a further flourish, often, but not always, a word associated with yama. Hōchintan was apparently one of the common flourishes.



おだいじに・ O-daiji ni (continued from previous page) 4 繁盛し, 築きあげ, ポン吉 毎晩 Narration: それを 機 に 商売 富 仑 ni shōbai haniō shi. kizukiage. Ponkichi maiban Sore o ki tomi o that (obj.) occasion/beginning as business flourished-and wealth (obj.) built up-and (name) every night へ かよひ. 極楽とんぼ Ł なりにけり no gotoku Yoshiwara kayoi. gokuraku tonbo to nari ni keri. (name of pleasure quarter) to commuted-and happy-go-lucky fellow (quote) like/nearly became With that as the beginning, his business flourished and he built up his wealth, and Ponkichi started going nearly every night to Yoshiwara, becoming a happy-go-lucky fellow. (PL2) Ponkichi: アリャアリャ Arya arya "Hev. hev." (called out between verses of a song as he dances) ... no gotoku is the adverb form of ... no gotoshi ("is like"); like the expression ... no yō ni, it essentially turns the preceding noun into an adverb. Maiban = "every night" and maiban no gotoku = "like every night/nearly ev-かよび is the old spelling of かよい kayoi, a continuing form of kayou ("commute/go back and forth [to]"). 5 が 思い浮かばない ねェ。 話 オチ Nansensu: はて 困った。 Hate komatta. Hanashi no ochi omoi-ukabanai ga nē. (interj.) be troubled story 's punch line/ending (subj.) doesn't come to mind "Hmm, this is a problem. I can't think of a good ending." (PL2) 6 しようがない。気分 転換 に ちょいと 伝沢 先生 を 誘って散歩してきましょう。 Nansensu: choito Dentaku Sensei o sasotte sanpo shite kimashō. Shiyō ga nai. Kibun tenkan ni can't be helped mood change for/as a little (name) (title) (obj.) invite-and will go for a walk "I give up. For a change of mood I think I'll invite Dr. Dentaku and go for a walk." (PL2) shiyō ga nai (or shō ga nai) = shikata ga nai, lit. "there is nothing one can do" → "it can't be helped." choito = chotto = "a little" 7 クリストフ・クリタ Title: おだいじに 第5話 風流 仲間 O-daiji ni Dai Go Wa *Fūryū* Nakama Christophe Kourita take good care No. 5 Story elegance/taste/refinement friends/companions (name) Take Good Care Companions in Elegance, (by) Christophe Kourita Story 5: Sign: せんじ茶 Senji-cha Steeped Tea o-daiji ni is an expression used with people who are ill/injured: "take good care of yourself (and get well soon)." senji-cha (or sencha) generally refers to a specific kind of tea today, but the term literally means "steeped tea," distinguishing teas prepared by steeping leaves in hot water from those prepared by mixing tea powder in hot wa-8 これは の 南仙好 先生。 Dentaku: 黄表紙 Kore wa kibyōshi no Nansensu Sensei. as-for yellow cover of (name) (title) "Well, if it isn't Mr. Nansensu, the kibyōshi master." (PL3) ٤ Nansensu: いっしょに 雪見 でも 思いまして。 Issho ni ni de mo omoimashite. vukimi to snow-scene viewing [go/come] to or something/perhaps (quote) think/thought-and together "I thought perhaps you'd like to come snow-viewing with me." (PL3) • kore wa is literally "as for this." but it's used like the English idiomatic expression, "Well, if it isn't ..." ... de mo = "or something," so yukimi ni de mo is literally "[go] to snow-viewing or something," but be isn't really leaving the destination/activity open. In cases like this de mo is more like "maybe/perhaps" in English. 9 Dentaku: なるほど 風流 するには もってこいです な。 suru ni wa mottekoi Naruhodo fūryū desu na. indeed/as you say elegance/taste/refinement for doing ideal/perfect isn't it is "Indeed, it's ideal for doing some elegance, isn't it?" → "Oh, yes, it's the perfect time for some elegant diversion, isn't it." (PL3 informal) Wife: 合羽 を 着てらっしゃい。

Kappa

rain cape/coat (obj.)

"Wear your raincape." (PL4)

kiterasshai

wear-and-go

kiterasshai is a contraction of kite irasshai, the -te form of kiru ("wear/don") plus the PL4 irasshai ("go").



| 10 | Nansensu: | 「黒犬 を 提灯 にする 雪 の 道」 Kuroinu o chōchin ni suru yuki no michi. black dog (obj.) lantern make it snow of road/street/path "Making a black dog a lantern (bearer): a path of snow." "She makes a black dog / her lantern / on a snowy path." (a 5-7-5 haiku) | ni suru has several idiomatic meanings, including "make it [something]." Chōchin ni suru = "make it a lantern (bearer)" haiku syntax is looser than normal, and often deliberately ambiguous. Kuroinu o chōchin ni suru is a complete thought ("make the black dog a lantern") that could modify yuki no michi ("path |
|----|-------------------|--|---|
| | <u>Dentaku</u> : | うまい! <i>Umai!</i> good/skillful Excellent! " (PL2) | of snow"), or, by inverted syntax, yuki no michi becomes the subject: i.e., the snowy path makes the black dog stand out as the night makes a lantern stand out. |
| 11 | Nansensu: | おっ、見て下さい、先生、これを! O!、 mite kudasai、 Sensei, kore o! oh/hey look please (title) this (obj.) "Hey, Doctor, take a look at this." (PL2) | • mite is the -te form of miru ("look"); -te form plus kudasai makes a polite request. The inverted and fragmented syntax adds to the feeling of exclamation. Normal order would be Sensei, kore o mite kudasai. |
| 12 | Nansensu: | この たどたどしい 足取り に杖 の あと Kono tadotadoshii ashidori ni tsue no ato this/these unsteady footsteps and cane 's trace/print "These unsteady footprints and cane marks" これ は 和尚 の です よ。 Kore wa Oshō no desu yo. this/these as-for Buddhist priest 's is/are (emph.) "These are the Reverend's." (PL3) | ashidori = "manner of walking/gait," → (in this case) "footprints." ni, like to, serves as "and" between two nouns. oshō is a common noun meaning "Buddhist priest." In Japanese, titles are often used in place of names, so we are capitalizing it as a proper noun. Oshō no is short for Oshō no ashiato, "the Reverend's footprints." |
| 13 | <u>Dentaku</u> : | なるほど 和尚 も 雪見 Naruhodo, Oshō mo yukimi indeed/I see priest also snow-scene viewing で 風流 か。 de fūryū ka. with/by means of elegant diversion ? "So the Reverend is also finding elegant diversion in snow-viewing, is he?" (PL2) | naruhodo expresses one's understanding of what one has heard or observed: "aha/I see/indeed/ really." atchi means "that direction/over that way/over there" and no hō means "in the direction of," so atchi and atchi no hō are essentially the same. |
| | Nansenşu: | あっち の 方 です ヨ。 Atchi no hō desu yo. that direction of direction is (emph.) "He's (gone) over that way." (PL3) | tomatte-(i)ru ("have stopped/are stopped") is from tomaru ("cease/stop"). tondeku is a contraction of tonde iku, the -te form of tobu ("leap/fly") plus iku ("go") → "fly and go/go flying" → "fly away." |
| 14 | <u>Dentaku</u> : | あれ!? 足跡 が 止まってる。 Are!? Ashiato ga tomatte-ru. hunh?/what? footprints (subj.) are stopped " <u>That's odd. The footprints stop here.</u> " (PL2) | hazu is a noun referring to "normal expectations," so hazu plus a negative means "don't normally expect" aru = "have/has/exists," and mai after a verb makes a negative conjecture ("surely is not/does |
| | <u>Nansensu</u> : | 飛んでく はず あるまい に。 Tondeku hazu aru mai ni. fly-and-go normal expectation surely does not exist even though "He can't very well have flown away." (PL2) | not") so aru mai is essentially equivalent to nai deshō, "surely/probably does not exist." • ni here functions like noni, "even though/in spite of the fact that." |
| 15 | <u>Oshō</u> : | おーい。助けてくれ一つ。 O—i. Tasukete kure—! Hey/I say help me "He-e-ey! He-e-lp!" (PL2) | tasukete is the -te form of tasukeru ("rescue/assist"), and kure after the -te form of a verb makes a request or gentle command ("[please] do for me." When calling for help, men usually say tasukete kure—! Women generally shorten it to |
| 16 | <u>Dentaku</u> : | こん中だ! Kon naka da! this inside is | tasukete—! |
| | Nansensu: | "He's inside this (pile of snow)!" (PL2) まったく おかしな 風流 も あったもんだ。 Mattaku okashi-na füryū mo atta mon da. truly/completely strange/odd elegance also existed (exclam.) "What a strange elegant diversion!" (PL2) | kon is a contraction of kono ("this/these"). okashi-na is an alternate form of okashii ("strange/odd/funny"). atta is the plain/abrupt past form of aru ("have/has/exist"). mon da is a contraction of mono da, which at the |
| | Sound FX: | バサッパサッ Basa! basa! (light "thudding" of snow being swept aside) | end of a sentence can make an exclamation. |



| 17 | <u>Oshō</u> : | ぷはっ! Puha! (effect of gasping for breath) | • yatte-n is a contraction of yatte-iru no ("is/are doing"), from yaru ("do") plus | |
|----|---|--|--|--|
| 18 | | ku: なに やってん ですか、和尚? Nani yatte-n desu ka, Oshō? what are doing-(explan.) is it priest "What are you doing, Reverend?" (PL3) | the particle no, which shows that he is asking for an explanation. omotta is the plain/abrupt past form of omou ("think"). The quotative expression ka to omou/omotta means "I think/thought surely" | |
| | Oshō: ホッ! 死ぬ か と 思った。メガネ メガネ。 Ho! Shinu ka to omotta. Megane, megane. whew! die ? (quote) thought glasses glasses "Whew! I thought I would die. My glasses, my glasses." | | • nan = nani ("what") and ja is an equiva- lent of da ("is/are") used mostly by older men, so nan ja is literally "what is it?/ what's this?"; but the expression is of- | |
| 19 | <u>Oshō</u> : | なんじゃ,伝沢 に 南仙好 先生 じゃないか。 Nan ja, Dentaku ni Nansensu Sensei ja nai ka. what is/are (name) and (name) (title) isn't it? "Well, well, if it isn't Dr. Dentaku and Master Nansensu." (PL2) | ten used like English "oh/well" or "well, well." • ja nai ka is a contraction of de wa nai ka, "isn't it ?" The question here is | |
| | <u>Oshō</u> : | さっき この木に ぷつかって 雪 が 落ちてきたのじゃ。 Sakki kono ki ni butsukatte yuki ga ochite kita no ja. a while ago this tree to bumped into-and snow (subj.) came falling (explan.) "I bumped into this tree awhile ago and the snow came falling down on me." (PL2) | strictly rhetorical. butsukatte is the -te form of butsukaru ("bump/run/crash into"). ochite is the -te form of ochiru ("fall [from/off of something]"). Kita is the plain/abrupt past form of kuru ("come"). A form of kuru is often used after the - | |
| 20 | <u>Oshō</u> : | 最近 また 目 が 悪くなった みたいで Saikin mata me ga waruku natta mitai de recently again/more eyes (subj.) became bad is like/seems-and "My eyes seem to have gotten worse again lately" (PL2) | te form of verb when the action is directed toward the speaker. • no ja (= no da) shows that he is making an explanation. | |
| | | なにか よい 薬 は ない かのう, 伝沢 先生? Nani ka yoi kusuri wa nai ka nō, Dentaku Sensei? something good medicine as-for not exist I wonder? (name) (title) "I wonder if there isn't some good medicine, Dr. Dentaku?" → "Isn't there some good medicine you could recommend for me, Dr. Dentaku?" (PL2) | waruku is the adverb form of waru ("bad") and natta is the past form of naru ("become"); waruku natta = "became bad" and mata waruku natta = "became worse." ka nō is equivalent to ka na ("I won | |
| | Nansensu: | 私 は 南仙好 です。 Watashi wa Nansensu desu. " I'm Nansensu." (PL3) | der?/perhaps?"). Both are mostly mas- culine; the feminine equivalent is kashira. | |
| 21 | <u>Oshō</u> : | 「だんまりで 幕 を あけたる雪 の 山」(a haiku) Danmari de maku o aketaru yuki no yama silent scene in/on curtain (obj.) opened snow of mountain "On a silent scene / the curtain opens: / a snowy mountain." | danmari means "silence" and is also the term for referring to a "silent scene" in theater. Such silent scenes are well known devices in Kabuki. | |
| | <u>Nansensu</u> : | 和尚, ありゃあ屋根ですよ。 Oshō, aryō yane desu yo. priest as for that roof is (emph.) "That's a roof, Reverend." (PL3) | aketaru is a classical equivalent of aketa, the past form of akeru ("open"). aryā is a contraction of are wa, "as for that." | |
| 22 | <u>Oshō</u> : | しっ! 耳を すませて ごらんなさい! Shi! Mimi o sumasete goran-nasai! shih ears (obj.) clear see what happens "Shhh! Listen!" (PL2-3) なんの 鳴き声 でしょう? Nan no nakigoe deshō? what of cry/call is it, I wonder? "I wonder what's making that cry?" (PL3) | mimi = "ears" and mimi o sumaseru means to "strain/perk up one's ears." goran-nasai is a command, "look." After the -te form of a verb, goran (nasai) means "try doing [the action]/do [action] and see what happens." nakigoe is from naku ("cry/call," for an animal or insect) and koe ("voice"; k changes to g for euphony). | |
| 23 | <u>Nansensu</u> : | 伝沢 先生, やっぱりちょっと寒い んじゃないですか? Dentaku Sensei, yappari chotto samui n ja nai desu ka? (name) (title) after all a little cold (expln) isn't it/aren't you? "Dr. Dentaku, aren't you a little cold after all?" (PL3) | • deshō after a question word makes a conjectural question ("I wonder what ?/What do you suppose ?"). | |
| | <u>Dentaku</u> : | Nanani o iu. Sukoshi atsui kurai ja. wh- what (obj.) say a little hot almost am "What are you saying? I'm a little hot, almost." (PL2) | yappari is a colloquial yahari ("after all as [one might have] expected"). nani o iu in response to a statement often has the feeling of "Nonsense!" kurai after certain adjectives means "al- | |
| | <u>FX</u> : | カタカタ カタカタン Kata kata kata katan (a rattling effect, from their shivering) | most." | |



| 24 | Man: | みろ よ。こんな 寒い 中 | • miro = abrupt command form of miru ("look") |
|----|-------------------|---|---|
| | | Miro yo. Konna samui naka look (emph.) this much cold within/inside | de for marking the location of an action is omitted after naka ("within/inside"). kidotte-(i)ru is from the verb kidoru ("affect a |
| | | 風流 を 気取ってる バカ が いる ぜ。 fūryū o kidotte-ru baka ga iru ze. | pose/assume airs"). |
| | | elegance (obj.) are affecting fools/idiots (subj) exist (emph) "Look at that. There're some fools affecting elegant di- | • konna samui naka (de) fūryū o kidotte-ru is a complete thought ("affecting elegance in this |
| İ | | version in this cold." (PL2) | much cold") modifying baka ("fools/idiots"). • ze is a rough masculine particle for emphasis. |
| | | やせがまん も いいとこ だ。 | yasegaman refers to an effort to hide/endure without showing one's hardship/suffering. |
| | | Yasegaman mo ii toko da. strained endurance (emph.) considerable extent is | • ii is basically "good/fine," but in certain idioms it means "considerable"; toko is a contraction of |
| | | "Their straining to endure has reached an extreme." → "If that doesn't take the prize for trying to keep a | tokoro, literally "place" but here referring more |
| | | stiff upper lip!" (PL2) | abstractiy to "extent." The informal expression mo ii toko(ro) da means the condition/ac- |
| | Woman: | さあ, はやく 帰って Sā, hayaku kaette | tion referred to is of a "considerable extent" — i.e., "excessive/extreme." |
| | | okay/come on quickly go home-and | • sā is often used like "well now/come on" to prepare oneself for action or to urge the listener |
| | | あったか〜い コタツ に 入りましょ。 attaka—i kotatsu ni hairimasho. | to action. Sasā, below, is a variation. • a kotatsu is a low frame with a firepan or heat- |
| 1 | | warm quilt frame/table to let's enter "Come on, let's hurry home and get under the wa-a- | ing element under it and a quilt draped over it, |
| | | arm kotatsu." (PL3 informal) | usually with a square board placed on top as a tabletop (though a board was less likely to be |
| 25 | Dentaku: | なに が やせがまん な もんか, ちくしょうめ! | used in the Edo period than it is now). • hairimasho (or hairimashō) is a PL3 form of |
| | | Nani ga yasegaman na mon ka, chikushō-me! what (subj.) strained endurance is/are by no means? (explet.) | hairu ("enter/get under") showing will/intent. |
| | | "We're not just trying to keep a stiff upper lip, the jerk!" (PL1) | • nani ga na mon(o) ka is an expression that strongly/roughly challenges the validity of the |
| | Nansensu: | おっ! あそこで たき火 を してる! | other person's statement. • chikushō is literally "beast" but is often used as |
| | | O! Asoko de takibi o shite-ru! oh/hey over there at bonfire (obj.) are doing | an expletive of chagrin: "Damn!" Adding the pejorative suffix -me makes it more of a "dirty |
| | | "Hey, they've got a fire going over there!" (PL2) | name" — "the/you damn jerk!" • shite-(i) ru is from suru ("do"). |
| 26 | <u>Dentaku</u> : | 雪 にたき火 と は こりゃ また 風流 じゃ! Yuki ni takibi to wa korya mata fūryū ja! | Sinc-(i) in is non-sura (do). |
| | | snow in bonfire (quote) as-for as-for-this again/also elegance is "A bonfire in the snow — now that's elegant, too!" (PL2) | • korya is a contraction of kore wa ("as for this"). |
| 27 | Nananan | 相変らず だ ねェ。 | • doko ja? = doko da? = "Where is it?" Asking a |
| | <u>mansensu</u> : | Aikawarazu da nē. | question with da has a rough, masculine feeling. Asking a question with ja does not sound |
| | | unchanged is (colloq.) "He's the same as ever." (PL2) | as rough, but it is mostly reserved for older |
| | <u>Oshō</u> : | どこじゃ? たき火 は どこじゃ? | men, |
| | | Doko ja Takibi wa doko ja? where is? bonfire as-for where is? | • attamarasete kure is from atatamaru ("[something/someone] warms up") → atatamaraseru = |
| , | | "Where Is it? Where's the bonfire?" (PL2) | "cause/allow [someone] to warm up" → atatamarasete kure = "(please) let me warm |
| 28 | Dentaku: | ちょいと あったまらせてくれ。 Choito attamarasete kure. | up." Kure after the -te form of a verb makes a request or gentle command. |
| | | a little allow to warm myself (please) "Let me warm myself a bit, will you?" (PL2) | • <i>ippē</i> is a slang equivalent of <i>ippai</i> ("one drink"). <i>Ichi</i> ("one") + <i>hai</i> (the counter for |
| | Man: | 2 2 2 2 | cups/drinks) changes to <i>ippai</i> when combined. |
| | | O, issho ni ippei yori-nē. sure/okay together one cup/drink do/have | • yari-nē is a slang equivalent of yari-na, which is short for yari-nasai, a gentle command form |
| | | "Sure, have a drink with us." (PL2) | of yaru ("do"). |
| 29 | Nansensu: | | • -zake (from sake) attached to a word describing |
| | | aha/I see snow-viewing sake with elegance (quote) came up? | an activity refers to enjoying sake while doing that activity. |
| | | "Aha, so they've come up with the elegant diversion of drinking sake in the snow, have they?" (PL2) | • to kita is the past tense of to kuru (quotative to + "come"), an expression meaning |
| | Man: | | "come out/come up with" |
| | | Sasā, gū— tto yari-nē! okay/come on (one big gulp FX) (quote) do | |
| | | "Come on, bottoms up!" (PL2) | |



30 • ikeru, the potential ("can/able to") form of iku Dentaku: プハァーッ ("go"), is often used as slang for "can do," and Puha-! kuchi (literally "mouth") is used colloquially to "Ahhh." (satisfied expulsion of breath) mean "kind/type," which would seem to give ikeru kuchi the meaning of "the can-do type"; but ikeru kuchi specifically refers to someone |31| who can drink/hold his liquor → "a real 1st Man: おっ. いける クチ だ ね。 drinker." ikeru kuchi da ne. OI• hora is an interjection used to get the listener to Oh/hey can go/do type are (colloq.) notice/pay attention to something, like "here/ → "Hey, you're a real drinker, aren't you!" (PL2) look/see/watch." • kore, like hora, is used to get one's listener to もっとやりねェ! ほら。 notice/pay attention to something, but it can of-Sā, motto yari-nē! Hora. ten carry a mildly admonishing/scolding tone as well/come on more do "Come on, have some more! Here." (PL2) well. jiisan is an informal word for addressing or re-これ じいさん, こぼれてン ゾ。 2nd Man: ferring to an old man. The honoritic o- is koborete-n Kore Jiisan, added when needing to be more polite/formal. (interj.) Gramps/old man-(hon.) is spilling itsushika is an expression like itsu no ma ni ka, "Watch it, there, Gramps, it's spilling." (PL2) implying "at some point in time/when one was not aware." The particle ni, often used for marking a point in time ("at -"), is added in this 32 case for rhythmical purposes. 割れたる 「いつ に しか 雪見酒 で Dentaku: waretaru is a classical equivalent of wareta, yuki de waretaru yukimizake. plain/abrupt past form of wareru ("be divided/ ni shika what time at (emph.)? snow with split/diluted snow-viewing sake diluted/mixed"). "At what moment / was it diluted by snow? — / snow-· date-ni is an adverb meaning "[do] for show/as viewing sake." (a haiku) an empty affectation." yatte-nai is a contraction of yatte-inai, negative だてに 先生 やってない ね! Nansensu: of yatte-iru ("is/are doing") from the informal Date ni sensei yatte-nai word for "do," yaru. Sensei (o) yaru = "do a for show doctor are not doing are you? doctor/doctoring" → "be a doctor." "You're not a doctor for nothing, are you?" (PL2) • nan jai is a colloquial/slang equivalent of nan dai, a less abrupt/"softer" version of the informal/rough nan da ("what is it?") 33 • sonna = "that kind of" and sonna no = "that 1st Man: なんじゃい。 そんなの 風流 ちゅうのか。 が kind of thing" Nan jai. Sonna no fūryū chū no ka. ga chū is a contraction of the quotative to iu that kind of thing (subj.) elegance (quote) (explan.-?) what is it? ("what is called"). "What? That's what's called furyu?" (PL2) son nara is a contraction of sore ("that") plus the conditional nara ("if [it is]"). そんなら オラ達 に b できらァ な。 · ora is a variation of ore, a rough, masculine Son nara ora-tachi ni mo dekirā na. word for "I/me." Adding -tachi makes it plural, we [masc.] to also/even if it is that can do (collog. emph.) 'we/us." "If that's it, we can do it, too." dekirā na is a masculine slang contraction of → "Even we could do that." (PL2) dekiru wa na, "can do" plus colloquial empha-2nd Man: ヨッ! sis. Men can use wa in informal speech without sounding especially feminine, especially if a Yo! mostly masculine particle like na is added. (interj.) "Sure thing!" (PL2) Contractions based on wa are generally reserved for male speakers only. 34 • akete is the -te form of akeru ("open"). • ichiban is literally "number one," but when it 「口 あけて だれ が 一番 くらう か 雪見酒」 1st Man: directly modifies a verb it means "most/to the Kuchi akete dare ga ichiban kurau ka yukimizake. greatest degree.' ? snow-viewing sake mouth open-and who (subj.) most drink kurau is an informal word for "eat/drink." "Open your mouth / and let's see who can drink the • his haiku has neither the proper 5-7-5 rhythm most: / snow-viewing sake." (an attempted haiku) nor elegant turn of phrase, so he has achieved か。 nothing more than a drinker's doggerel verse. 2nd Man: 負けて たまる • makete is the -te form of makeru ("lose/be Makete tamaru ka. bested"). lose/be defeated-and can bear/endure the -te form of a verb plus tamaru ka is literally "Can I bear losing?"

→ "There's no way I'm gonna let you win!" (PL2)

a question ("Can I bear/endure [doing . . . ?]"),

but it actually serves as a strong declaration/challenge: "I'll never [do...]/There's no way I'll [do...]/Damned if I'll [do...]."



| 35 | <u>Dentaku</u> : | ありがとよ! Arigato yo thank you (emph.) | • shortening the last vowel in <i>arigatō</i> ("thank | |
|----|------------------|--|---|--|
| | Nansensu: | " <u>Many thanks!</u> " (PL2) また な。 酒見雪 イヤ 酒雪見 Mata na. Sakemiyuki iyo sakeyukimi | you") gives it an informal sound, and the emphatic yo is also informal. | |
| | | again (colloq.) sake-view-snow no sake-snow-view アアレ? 見酒雪 A are? Mizakeyuki h- hunh? view-sake-snow | are? is an interjection of surprise/bewilderment when something is wrong or does not go as ex- pected. | |
| | | "See ya' later. Sake-viewing snow No, sake-snowing view H-hunh? Viewing-sake snow " (PL2) | | |
| 36 | Nansensu: | アーッ, もう 風流 は おしまい だ。 A—!, mō fūryū wa o-shimai da. arghh now/already elegance as-for ended/finished is "Arghh! Enough with elegant diversion." (PL2) | • o-shimai is the honorific prefix o- plus the noun form of shimau ("end/finish/put away"). | |
| 37 | <u>Dentaku</u> : | どうだ! 酔い が さめたか! Dō da? Yoi ga sameta ka? how is it? intoxication (subj.) woken up? "How's this? Did you sober up?" (PL2) | yoi = "intoxication/inebriation," and sameta is the plain/abrupt past form of sameru ("wake up"). Yoi ga sameru is an expression for the e | |
| | Nansensu: | ひえっ! Hie! " <mark>Yikes!"</mark> | fects of intoxication wearing off: "become so- ber." | |
| 38 | Nansensu: | やった な, ヘボ 医者 め! Yatta na, hebo isha -me! did didn't you quack doctor (insult) "You asked for it, you quack!" (PL1) | yatta is the plain/abrupt past form of yaru ("do"), and na is the informal and mostly masculine equivalent of ne, so yatta na is literally "You did it, didn't you?" In actual use, these | |
| | Sound FX: | バシャツ! Basha! Splat (effect of snowball smashing into his face) | can be fighting words: "Now you've done it!/ You're asking for it!" -me after a word referring to a person shows contempt/derision. | |
| 39 | Boy: | おい、源吾郎、あそこ で 雪合戦 Oi、 Gengorō、 asoko de yukigassen hey (name) over there at snowball fight してん の おめェ の おやじ じゃねェか? shite-n no omē no oyaji ja nē ka? is doing one/person you 's father/old man isn't it? "Hey, Gengorō, isn't that your old man having a snowball fight over there?" (PL2) | yukigassen is literally "snow battle" — yuki = "snow" and kassen = "battle/face-off/contest" (k changes to g for euphony). Yukigassen (o) suru = "do/have a snowball fight." shiten is a contraction of shite-iru ("is/are doing"), from suru ("do"). no in this case can be thought of as substituting for hito ("person"). The complete thought | |
| | <u>Gengorō</u> : | | asoko de yukigassen shite-iru ("is having a snowball fight over there") is its modifier. omē is a slang version of omae, an informal/rough masculine word for "you." The vowel combinations ae and ai (see ja nē ka, below) can change to ē or ei in certain dialects and | |
| 40 | Nansensu: | あっ! A! oh/yikes "Yikes!" (PL2) | masculine slang. • oyaji is an informal word for "father." In adult speech it's usually reserved for one's own father, and oyaji-san is used for someone else's father. The word remains quite informal even | |
| 41 | <u>Dentaku</u> : | おーい,大丈夫 か? O—i, daijōbu ka? hey!/yo ho! all right/safe ? "Hey, are you all right?" (PL2) | with the honorific -san, though, so it should be used with caution. • ja nē ka = ja nai ka = "isn't it?" | |
| | Nansensu: | アタタタ Atatata "Ow-ow-ouch." (PL2) | atata is a colloquial variation of itai ("is painful/hurts") used as an exclamation: "Ouch!/ Ow!" Other typical variations of the exclamation itai! are ita!, itata!, aita!, and aitata! — with additional -tas added in proportion to the | |
| 42 | Nansensu: | おっ、そうか! これだ! O!, sō ka! Kore da! oh/hey is it so this is it | degree/duration of pain. • $s\bar{o}$ ka is literally a question ("Is it so/is that | |
| | | "Hey, that's it! This is (the answer)!" (PL2) | right?"), but it's also used as an exclamation of sudden realization ("That's it!/Oh, right!). | |



43 Narration: 瞑想 に ふけりし ポン吉. につまずきけり。 石 Meisō ni fukerishi Ponkichi, ishi ni tsumazukikeri. stone/rock on tripped/stumbled meditations/daydreams in was lost (name) The daydreaming Ponkichi tripped on a rock. (PL2) Ponkichi: アレ Are are (interj.) (interj.) "Oopsie doopsie" (PL2) fukerishi is a classical equivalent of fuketta, the plain/abrupt past form of fukeru ("lose oneself in/be absorbed in"). Meisō ni fukerishi is a complete thought/sentence ("was lost in daydreams") modifying Ponkichi: "Ponkichi who was lost in daydreams" - "the daydreaming Ponkichi." tsumazukikeri is a classical equivalent of tsumazuita, plain/abrupt past form of tsumazuku ("trip/stumble"). 44 かな 初 がつを. Narration: ああ, は yume wa yume kana hatsu- gatsuo, bonito Ahh/alas dream as-for dream alas first Ahh, the dream of first bonito was alas but a dream ... (PL2) 長者様 吉原 も 今では 縁なき ものとなりにける。 mo Yoshiwara mo ima de wa en naki mono to nari ni keru. chōja-sama rich person/millionaire-(hon.) also (place name) also as for now without connection/hope thing became (emph.) "and now both millionaire and Yoshiwara became things with which he had no connection." → and now both millionaire and Yoshiwara slipped hopelessly beyond his reach. (PL2) kana is an exclamation, "What . . . !/How . . . !/Alas!" chāja refers to a person of great wealth without specifying the amount of his/her wealth. Chōja-sama is like saying "Mr. Rich Man/Millionaire." en naki is a classical equivalent of en ga nai, a complete thought/sentence modifying mono ("things"). En essentially refers to "connections/bonds of fate/karma," so en ga aru = "to be linked by fate" and en ga nai = "have no links of fate" → "have no hope of attaining/reaching." ... to nari ni keru is similar to modern ... ni natta ("became") plus no da (used primarily for emphasis). 45 Nansensu: $\wedge \wedge \lambda$. これ です よ, 最後の オチ 11! saigo no ochi wa! Hehen. kore desu yo, is (emph.) last/final funny twist/ending as-for (laugh/chuckle) this "Ha haa, this is it. This is the funny twist at the end." (PL2) ochi refers to a "punchline/humorous twist" at the end of a joke or funny story. The syntax is inverted. Normal order would be Saigo no ochi wa kore desu vo. 46 <u>Nansensu</u>: オイラ, すげェ ハジ かいた だから ん ナ! haii kaita da kara na! n awful/terrible shame/ignominy brought upon myself (explan.) because (emph.) "(Because) the situation is that I brought terrible ignominy upon myself!" → "Boy, did I make a fool of myself!" (PL2) Nansensu: なァに. いろいろ ある 風流 にも もんだ。 iro-iro Nāni. fūryū ni mo mon da. aru what/it's nothing elegant diversions even in/among many kinds exist is common/standard "But so what, even elegant diversions come in many kinds." (PL2) Vendor: あまぁーざぁーけぇ こざぁけぇー Amā--zā--kē kozākē--sweet sake overnight sake "Amazake, kozake." (PL2) • sugē is a slang version of sugoi ("awful/terrible/dreadful/incredible"). haji (o) kaita is the plain/abrupt past form of haji o kaku, "bring shame/ignominy/embarrassment upon oneself." nani is an elongated nani ("what"), which is sometimes used as an interjection when denying/belittling/shrugging off some problem/difficulty. mono da after a non-past verb implies that the action or situation indicated by the verb is "common/standard/the way things are or should be." amazake and kozake are different names for the same sweet beverage made from malted rice by fermenting it at about 130-40° overnight, turning most of the starches into sugars. Amazake-uri, or "amazake vendors," plied the streets during the Edo period, carrying a pole on their shoulder with a box hanging from each end — one containing the amazake on its warmer; the other, bowls for drinking it. The drink was especially popular during the win-



ter because of its warmth.

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| | From Calvin and I | Hobbes, p. 30 | 昼メシ | hirumeshi | lunch (masc.) |
|--------------|---|-------------------------------|--------------|----------------|-------------------------------|
| 衿 | | collar | お小遣い | o-kozukai | allowance |
| | eri | | 女房 | nyōbō | wife |
| 関心 | kanshin | interest | お菓子 | okashi | sweets/snacks |
| 目玉 | medama | eyeball | 奥さま | okusama | wife |
| 網膜 | mōmaku | retina | 応接室 | ōsetsu-shitsu | reception room |
| | From Basic Japa | anese n 34 | しつけ | shitsuke | training/discipline |
| | Tiom <u>basic sup</u> | unese, p.54 | 書類 | shorui | papers |
| 婚姻届 | kon'in todoke | marriage registration | 主人 | shujin | husband |
| マジック | majikku | magic marker(s) | スッカラカン | sukkarakan | penniless/broke |
| おかしい | okashii | strange/abnormal | 大切な | taisetsu-na | important |
| 量 | ryō | quantity | つきあい | tsukiai | socializing |
| 式 | shiki | ceremony | 妻 | tsuma | wife |
| 新婚旅行 | shinkon ryokō | honeymoon | | uketsuke | receptionist |
| 大安 | taian | auspicious day (Buddhist) | 予定 | yotei | plan |
| 特別な | tokubetsu-na | special | | • | • |
| 予備校 | yobikō | cram/prep school | <u> </u> | From What's I | <u> Michael?, p. 58</u> |
| | • | | 払う | harau | man (v.) |
| Fre | om <i>Manga Busines</i> | <i>s Manners</i> , p. 40 | | | pay (v.) |
| 引っ越しす。 | Z 196 -11 | (develling office etc.) | 皮膚 | hifu | skin |
| | | move (dwelling, office, etc.) | 皮膚科 | hifu-ka | dermatology |
| 隠す | kakusu | hide (something) | 忙しい | isogashii | busy |
| 食う | kuu | eat | 解放する | kaihō suru | liberate/free |
| 人間関係 | ningen kankei | human relations | 前金 | maekin | advance payment |
| 掃除する | sõji suru | clean (v.) | マタタビ | matatabi | catnip |
| 数日 | sūjitsu | several days | 三毛 | mike | tortoise shell (pattern) |
| つぐ | tsugu | pour/fill | ニコニコする | niko-niko suru | smile (v.) |
| | From Sarari-k | zun n 11 | ノミ | nomi | flea(s) |
| | TTOIN Savari-A | un, p. ++ | 卵 | tamago | egg |
| 営業畑 | eigyō-batake | sales field | 追加料金 | tsuika ryōkin | additional fees/charges |
| 畑 | hatake | field | つける | tsukeru | attach/provide |
| 百姓 | hyakushō | farmer | 夢 | yume | dream (n.) |
| 経理 | keiri | accounting | 2 | • | • |
| | From <i>Midori-s</i> | - | | · | <i>iji-ni</i> , p. 72 |
| | 110111111111111111111111111111111111111 | <u>5411, p. 15</u> | 上跡 | ashiato | footprints |
| ダンナ | danna | master/husband (informal) | 足取り | ashidori | footsteps |
| 外国製 | gaikusei | foreign-made | あたたまる | atatamaru | warm up/become warm |
| 高級品 | kōkyūhin | high-class item | ぶつかる | butsukaru | bump/crash into |
| お返し | o-kaeshi | return gift | 風流 | fũryū | elegance/taste/refinement |
| 支出 | shishutsu | expense/outlay | 繁盛する | hanjō suru | flourish/prosper |
| | | - | ヘボ医者 | hebo isha | quack (doctor) |
| | From Tanaka- | <u>kun, p. 48</u> | 地酒 | jizake | local sake |
| あむ | amu | knit/weave | 片田舎 | katainaka | remote countryside |
| 電卓 | dentaku | calculator | 気取る | kidoru | affect a pose/assume airs |
| 度胸 | dokyō | nerve/guts/boldness | X 収る 築く | kizuku | build up/construct |
| 器用 | kiyō | skillful/good with hands | 光へ こぽれる | koboreru | (something) spills/drops (v.) |
| DB / 13 | RIYO | skinius good with hustes | 志す | kokorozasu | |
| | From Furiten- | kun, p. 50 | 心 むかし | mukashi | set aims/sights on |
| 盆栽 | bonsai | bonsai | | nakama | long ago |
| 疑問 | | | 仲間 | | friends/companions |
| 研究 | gimon | questions/doubts | そよ風 | soyokaze | light breeze |
| 切先 松の木 | kenkyū | research | たどたどしい | tadotadoshii | unsteady |
| なの不すばらしい | matsu no ki | pine tree | たき火 | takibi | bonfire |
| | subarashii | wonderful/marvelous | 助ける | tasukeru | rescue/assist |
| 台風 | taifū | typhoon | 飛ぶ | tobu | leap/fly |
| たおれる | taoreru | fall over/collapse | 富 | tomi | wealth |
| | From Crayon Shir | n-chan, p. 52 | 杖 | tsue | cane |
| 2 4 > | · | - | つかわす | tsukawasu | give/present/bestow |
| 洗う | arau | wash | 割れる | wareru | be divided/diluted/mixed |
| 美人 | bijin | beautiful woman | 屋根 | yane | roof |
| 影響 | eikyō | influence | 雪合戦 | yukigassen | snowball fight |
| | | | | | |

The Vocabulary Summary is taken from material appearing in this issue of Mangajin. It's not always possible to give the complete range of meanings for a word in this limited space, so our "definitions" are based on the usage of the word in a particular story.