

VOICED AND HALF-VOICED SOUNDS

ga as "ga" in "garden" but shorter

が	が												
---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

gi as "gee" in "geese" but shorter

ぎ	ぎ												
---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

gu as "goo" in "goose" but shorter

ぐ	ぐ												
---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

ge as "ge" in "get"

げ	げ												
---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

go as "go" in "gore" but shorter

ご	ご												
---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

za as "za" in "bizarre" but shorter

ざ	ざ												
---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

ji as "jee" in "jeep" but shorter

じ	じ												
---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

zu as "zoo" but shorter

ず	ず												
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ze as "ze" in "zest"

ぜ	ぜ												
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zo as "zo" in "Azores" but shorter

ぞ	ぞ												
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da as "da" in "dark" but shorter

だ	だ												
---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

ji as "jee" in "jeep" but shorter

ぢ	ぢ												
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zu as "zoo" but shorter

づ	づ												
---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

de as "de" in "desk"

て	て												
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do as "doo" in "door" but shorter

と	と												
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ba as "ba" in "bark" but shorter *pa* as "pa" in "park" but shorter

ば	ば						ぱ						
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bi as "bea" in "beak" but shorter *pi* as "pea" in "peak" but shorter

び	び						ぴ						
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bu as "boo" in "boot" but shorter *pu* as "poo" in "pool" but shorter

ぶ	ぶ						ぷ						
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be as "be" in "beg"

pe as "pe" in "peg"

べ	べ						ぺ						
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bo as "bo" in "bore" but shorter *po* as "po" in "pork" but shorter

ぼ	ぼ						ぽ						
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REVIEW OF VOICED AND HALF-VOICED SOUNDS

obi

waist sash for kimono

お	び	お	び								
---	---	---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

fude

writing brush

ふ	で	ふ	で								
---	---	---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Zen

Zen

ぜ	ん	ぜ	ん								
---	---	---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

soba

buckwheat noodles; side

そ	ば	そ	ば								
---	---	---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

biwa

lute; loquat

び	わ	び	わ								
---	---	---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

geta

wooden clogs

げ	た	げ	た								
---	---	---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Obon

Buddhist festival

お	ぼ	ん	お	ぼ	ん						
---	---	---	---	---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--

Kabuki

Kabuki drama

か	ぶ	き	か	ぶ	き						
---	---	---	---	---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--

ojigi

bow (head)

お	じ	ぎ	お	じ	ぎ						
---	---	---	---	---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--

sanpo

walk, stroll

さ	ん	ぽ	さ	ん	ぽ						
---	---	---	---	---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--

monpe

old-style work pants

も	ん	ぺ										
---	---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

keigo

polite language

けいご

mikado

old word for emperor

みかと

manga

cartoon

まんが

mikuji

written oracle

みくじ

yakuza

gangster

やくざ

nigiri

rice ball

にぎり

tengu

long-nosed goblin

てんぐ

hanaji

nosebleed

はなぢ

mizuwari

whisky and water

みずわり

zonjiru

know, believe

ぞんじる

daibutsu

large statue of Buddha

だいぶつ

kamikaze kamikaze

か み か ぜ

origami origami

お り が み

senpai senior

せ ん ぱ い

bonsai bonsai

ぼ ん さ い

ikebana ikebana

い け ば な

enpitsu pencil

え ん ぴ つ

yokozuna sumo grand champion

よ こ づ な

tempura tempura

て ん ぷ ら

senbei rice cracker

せ ん べ い

hanafuda flower cards (game)

は な ふ だ

Fujisan Mt. Fuji

ふ じ さ ん

REVIEW OF DOUBLE VOWELS AND CONSONANTS

ā (aa)

like that; Oh!

あ あ

ii

good

い い

ē (ee)

yes

え え

kū

sky, void, nothingness

く う

kau

eat

く う

tō

ten

と お

tō

tower, pagoda

と う

tu

ask

と う

kappa

mythical creature

か っ ぱ

shikki

lacquerware

し っ き

sumō

sumo

す も う

zōri

sandals

ぞ	う	り												
---	---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

sūji

numeral

す	う	じ												
---	---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

yūgen

tranquil beauty

ゆ	う	げ	ん											
---	---	---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

gakkō

school

が	っ	こ	う											
---	---	---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

kōyō

red leaves

こ	う	よ	う											
---	---	---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

ōkii

big

お	お	き	い											
---	---	---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

kendō

kendo

け	ん	ど	う											
---	---	---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

jingū

shrine

じ	ん	ぐ	う											
---	---	---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

fūrin

wind chime

ふ	う	り	ん											
---	---	---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

shintō

Shinto

し	ん	と	う											
---	---	---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

kūkō

airport

く	う	こ	う											
---	---	---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

COMBINED SOUNDS KYA—RYO / きゃ — りょ

kya

き	ゃ		

kyu

き	ゅ		

kyo

き	ょ		

sha

し	ゃ		

shu

し	ゅ		

sho

し	ょ		

cha

ち	ゃ		

chu

ち	ゅ		

cho

ち	ょ		

nya

に	ゃ		

nyu

に	ゅ		

nyo

に	ょ		

hya

ひ	ゃ		

hyu

ひ	ゅ		

hyo

ひ	ょ		

mya

み	ゃ		

myu

み	ゅ		

myo

み	ょ		

rya

り	ゃ		

ryu

り	ゅ		

ryo

り	ょ		

VOICED COMBINED SOUNDS GYA—BYO / ぎゃ—ひょ

gya

ぎ	ゃ		

gyu

ぎ	ゅ		

gyo

ぎ	ょ		

ja

じ	ゃ		

ju

じ	ゅ		

jo

じ	ょ		

cha

ち	ゃ		

chu

ち	ゅ		

cho

ち	ょ		

bya

び	ゃ		

byu

び	ゅ		

byo

び	ょ		

HALF-VOICED COMBINED SOUNDS PYA—PYO / ぴゃ—ひょ

pya

ぴ	ゃ		

pyu

ぴ	ゅ		

pyo

ぴ	ょ		

REVIEW OF COMBINED SOUNDS

kyaku

guest, visitor

きゃく

shōji

sliding screen

しょうじ

byōbu

folding screen

びょうぶ

jinja

shrine

じんじゃ

chanoyu

tea ceremony

ちやのゆ

geisha

geisha

げいしゃ

shodō

calligraphy

しやどう

yakyū

baseball

やきゅう

enryo

reserve, restraint

えんりょ

myōji

family name

みょうじ

kingyo

goldfish

きんぎょ

nyūshi

entrance examination

にゅし

Jukyō

Confucianism

じゅきょう

chōchin

paper lantern

ちょうちん

hyōzan

iceberg

ひょうざん

ryūgaku

overseas study

りゅうがく

kōjō

factory

こうじょう

jūdō

judo

じゅうどう

Bukkyō

Buddhism

ぶっきょう

shōgun

shogun

しょうぐん

nyōbō

wife

にょうぼう

happyō

announcement

はっぴょう

REVIEW THROUGH PLACE NAMES AND PERIOD NAMES

Nara

place, period 710 - 794

な	ら																
---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Edo

place, period 1603 - 1868

え	ど																
---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Kōbe

place

こ	う	べ															
---	---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Yayoi

period c. 250 B.C. - c. A.D. 250

や	よ	い															
---	---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Ginza

place

ぎ	ん	ざ															
---	---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Hakone

place

は	こ	ね															
---	---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Meiji

period 1868 - 1912

め	い	じ															
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Nagoya

place

な	ご	や															
---	---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Matsushima place

ま	つ	し	ま														
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Heian

period 794 - 1185

へ	い	あ	ん														
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Shōwa

period 1926 - 1989

し	ょ	う	わ														
---	---	---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Nikkō place

にっこう

Sapporo place

さっぽろ

Ōsaka place

おおさか

Kyōto place

きょうと

Muromachi period 1392 - 1573

むろまち

Heisei period 1989 -

へいせい

Kamakura period 1185 - 1333

かまくら

Honshū place

ほんしゅう

Taishō period 1912 - 1926

たいしょう

Jōmon period c. 8000 - c. 250 B.C.

じょうもん

Tōkyō place

とうきょう

GENERAL REVIEW

Nō

Noh

のう

sabi

elegant simplicity; rust

さび

semi

cicada

せみ

giri

duty, honor

ぎり

tako

kite; octopus

たこ

hakama

divided skirt

はかま

urushi

lacquer

うるし

honne

one's real intent

ほんね

kokeshi

stylized wooden doll

こけし

haniwa

clay figurine

はにわ

udon

wheat noodles

うどん

kotatsu

brazier, footwarmer

こたつ

amae

childlike dependence

あまえ

Ebisu

name of god of wealth

えびす

miai

interview for marriage

みあい

tōfu

tofu

とうふ

seibo

year-end gift

せいぼ

shibumi

astringency

しぶみ

aware

pathos

aware

gohan

meal, cooked rice

ごはん

gagaku

ancient court music

ががく

noren

shop curtain

のれん

haori

short coat

は お り

meishi

name card

め い し

odori

dance

お ど り

kaisha

company

か い し ゃ

menboku

reputation, "face"

め ん ぼ く

shinju

pearl

し ん じ ゅ

mugicha

barley tea

む ぎ ち ゃ

tennō

emperor

て ん の う

shōgi

Japanese chess

し ょ う き

onsen

hot spring

お ん せ ん

misoshiru

miso soup

み そ し る

ninja

ninja

に	ん	じ	ゃ												
---	---	---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

tokonoma

decorative alcove

と	こ	の	ま												
---	---	---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

soroban

abacus

そ	ろ	ば	ん												
---	---	---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

bunraku

puppet theater

ぶ	ん	ら	く												
---	---	---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

bentō

box lunch

べ	ん	と	う												
---	---	---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

dantai

group

だ	ん	た	い												
---	---	---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

shamisen

samisen

し	ゃ	み	せ	ん											
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Shōgatsu

New Year

し	ょ	う	が	つ											
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shakuhachi

flute

し	ゃ	く	は	ち											
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koinobori

carp streamer

こ	い	の	ぼ	り											
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janken

"scissors-paper-stone" game

じ	ゃ	ん	け	ん											
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