Animocha – Usage Notes

Animocha is useful for people wanting to learn Japanese by watching Japanese television shows or movies. With it, you can switch between Japanese and English subtitles- or display both at the same time- and the inbuilt, conjugation-aware dictionary makes it easy to look up words as you come across them (simply select the word to look it up).

Installation

Go to https://github.com/mudbile/animocha/releases. The releases are listed with the newest release first. Click the Assets expando for the newest release, download the win64.zip archive, unzip the contents and move it to *C:\Program Files* (or wherever).

Opening a Video

To open a video file, click on the big folder button in the middle of the video area and navigate to the file. You can also drag and drop the file to open it.

Displaying Subtitles

If the video has more than one English or Japanese subtitle contained within it, you will need to select which ones to use. To load in subtitle files, click on the folder icon (for either Japanese or English) in the control panel (the bottom panel). Most text-based subtitles are supported. You will notice Japanese subtitles appear in the lower right panel, with the current line being spoken highlighted. Click the play icon next to a line to start the video from that line. Font sizes can be changed from the control panel (any valid CSS font size will work, but I recommend sticking to em units). Animocha remembers the subtitle file you used, so as long as you keep them in the same spot, you won't have to load them in manually again. If you want to erase the cached data for this video file, click the "Clear Cache" button.

Toggle subtitle visibility by clicking on the eye icons that replace the folder icons when a subtitle file has been loaded.

Sometimes a subtitle is out of sync (or becomes out of sync after the anime opening, if it was made for versions that cut out the opening). Adjust the offset by entering a number of seconds into the textboxes next to the eye icon for each language, and pressing ENTER.

You might like a black background for the subtitles- that's what the slider in the control panel is for 😉.

Keyboard Shortcuts

- Toggle Japanese and English subtitle visibility with J and E respectively.
- Navigate by subtitle line using A (beginning of this line- double-tap to go to previous line) and W (go to next line).
- Press S to open up a textbox in the dictionary panel (top right). This allows you to look up any word. This currently does not work with romanji (English alphabet), only kana and/or kanji.

Other Notes

- Open a different video file by clicking the small file icon next to the volume control in the video area.
- Highlight text with the mouse in either the subtitles on the video screen, or the subtitles in the subtitle panel on the lower right, to look up that text using the dictionary.
- Click on the divider between the right panel and the video panel and drag to resize. Similarly, within the right panel, the divider between the dictionary and the Japanese subtitles can be dragged.
- Playback will pause at the end of the current Japanese subtitle if the mouse is hovered over the subtitles.
- The dictionary will output up to three sections depending on the input: matching vocab, matching names and kanji meanings. Vocab entries will have the kanji and kana spellings, then any conjugation notes, then meaning entries. Each meaning entry will have codes like "v5r", "n", "uk", etc which encode useful information. If you're unfamiliar with these codes simply hover over them to see an unabbreviated description.
- Animocha is an Electron app. As such, its native video abilities are limited in the same way browsers are. To get around this, Animocha transcodes videos on the fly using FFmpeg. This means Animocha can play basically any video file format, but you will notice CPU overhead and, in particular, seeking to a new time will take some time as the transcoding restarts at that offset. Generally, this isn't a big deal, but if you would like to have a somewhat smoother experience, I have made it easy to convert a video to a browser-compatible (And therefore Electron native-compatible) video: click the download icon on the far right of the control (bottom) panel.

Bugs, Questions, Feature Requests

For bugs and feature requests, the best thing to do is open a GitHub issue at

> https://github.com/mudbile/animocha/issues

For everything else (including just letting me know you like it!), email me at

> eulerspill@protonmail.com