

聞き取りの練習

Listen and Learn—Build vocabulary through listening and reading

- 1) Audio file at full (normal) speed
- 2) Audio file at slower speed
- 3) PDFs of the text with and without furigana
- 4) Glossary & vocabulary explained

While these lessons are designed for intermediate to advanced students, beginners can get a lot out of it as well.

BEGINNER LEVEL

Review the vocabulary in the glossary and go through the text with furigana. Then try listening to the slower audio file while reading from the text.

INTERMEDIATE LEVEL

Try the audio file at normal speed alone, then listen to the slower speed with the text in front of you before turning to the glossary.

ADVANCED LEVEL

If you want to concentrate on improving your listening, try the normal audio file without the text. Otherwise you may want read the text before hearing the pronunciation to test your kanji pronunciation ability.

Please send us your comments and suggestions for future subjects.



こいのぼり



ごがつ いつか

71

5月5日は、「こどもの日」です。

ひ むかし たんご せっく
この日は、昔から「端午の節句」と
おとこ こ けんこう せいちょう いわ

いわれ、男の子の健康と成長を祝う ^{ひ いえ なか}

日とされています。家の中には よろいかぶと むしゃにんぎょう かざ

鎧兜 や 武者人形が飾られ、た

庭にはこいのぼりが立てられました こい かわ なが さか のぼ

。鯉は、川の流れに逆らって上る ちからづよ さかな にほん しゅっせうお

力強い 魚で、日本では「出世魚」 ょ ^{えんぎ}

と呼ばれ、縁起のよいものとされて _{そだ}

います。鯉のように力強く育ってほ ^{ねが}こ

しいという願いが込められていると _{かんが}

考えられています。また、この日に かしわもち この た

は柏餅やちまきが好んで食べられまかしたは、は、こっつ

す。これは、柏の葉で包んだあんこい もち ささ は ま もち む ひ ま もち む ひ ま ま ま ま ま ま もち む ま ま ま な な ま な な で 巻いた餅を蒸 かし

したお菓子です。

つつんだり tsutsundari wrapped (and such) 笹の葉 sasa no ha bamboo leaves (bamboo leaves)

巻いたもち *maita mochi* Mochi wrapped with むした *mushita* steamed お菓子 *okashi* candy

Glossary

5月5日*gogatsu itsuka* May 5th こどもの日*kodomo no hi* Children's day この日は*kono hi wa* as for that day 昔から*mukashi kara* from a long time 端午の節句 *tango no sekku* another name for May 5th

といわれ to iware is called 男の子 otoko no ko boy 健康 kenkou health

成長 *seichou* growth

祝う日 *iwau hi* day to celebrate 家の中 *ie no naka* inside a house 鎧兜 *yoroikabuto* samurai armor/helment 武者人形 *musha ningyou* warrior doll 飾られ *kazarare* displayed

庭 *niwa* garden

鯉のぼり koinobori Carp kite/flag 立てられました tateraremashita is stood up, erected

鯉 koi Koi fish, carp

川の流れに kawa no nagare ni flow of river 逆らって上る sakaratte noboru climb against (flow of water)

力強い魚 *chikara zuyoi sakana* strong fish 日本 *nihon* Japan

出世魚 *shusse uo* successful fish [*shusse* means to succeed, advance in life] と呼ばれ *to yobare* is called

縁起のよいもの engi no yoi mono lucky 育ってほしい sodatte hoshii want to be raised という願いが込められている to iu negai ga komerareteiru make such a wish と考えられています to kangaerareteimasu it is thought...

また mata also

柏餅 *kashiwa mochi* Mochi (rice cake) wrapped in oak leaf

ちまき *chimaki* Mochi wrapped in bamboo leaves

好んで kononde liked, to be fond of 食べられます taberaremasu is eaten 柏の葉 Kashiwa no ha oak leaf あんこ anko bean jam/paste 入り iri added (anko)

もち mochi Mochi, rice cake



Translation Notes

- 1) こどもの日 was once just for boys (hence the 鯉のぼり) but to be fair to the girls, it was changed to こともの日. There is still a day specifically for girls on March Third (3-3, also called 桃の節句 *momo no sekku*) called ひな祭り (doll festival)
- 2) 端午の節句 is May fifth (5-5) while the girls' 桃の節句 is March third (3-3)
- 3) とされています or といわれ and similar passive phrases are often used to explain cultural traditions. This is similar to the English "they said..."
- 4) Notice the trailing い in 力強い which tells us the reading will be the 訓読み. The つよい adds a ten-ten to become ちから**づ**よい
- 5) 縁起のよいもの (or 縁起がよい) is a set phrase meaning "lucky" and usually deals with being superstitious; 縁起の悪いもの would be the opposite. 縁起をかつぐ is "to be superstitious"
- 6) 願いを込める is a set phrase/idiom meaning "to make a wish". The fulfillment of a wish is 願いがかなう "dreams come true"
- 7) Chchan45 from the Japanese Page.com mentioned this important point: Also、learners of Japanese should be informed that the following kanji are not in commonly used (i.e. they are outside 常用漢字).

鯉(こい) 餅(もち) 鎧兜(よろいかぶと) 柏(かしわ) 粽(ちまき)



鯉のぼり are displayed outside houses that have young boys. Usually it is 3 or more Koi (carp) kites attached to a pole or string. As the wind blows the koi climb in the wind.

Questions: Answer the following after listening and/or reading the script	
1)	What day is こどもの日?
2)	What is celebrated on that day?
3)	What are traditional decorations for the day?
4)	Why are koi a symbol of strength and success?
5)	What are two types of leaves used to wrap mochi?