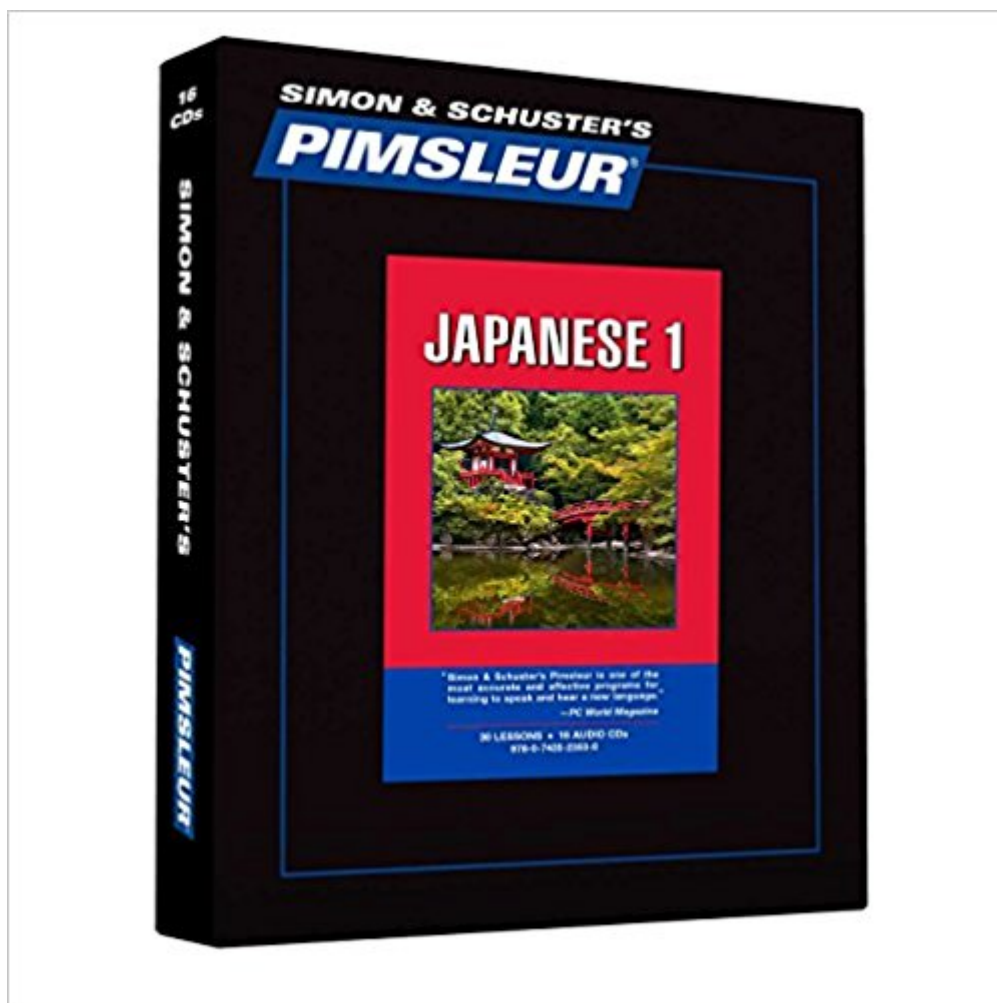




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Pimsleur Japanese Level 1 CD: Learn To Speak And Understand Japanese With Pimsleur Language Programs (Comprehensive)



Synopsis

The Easiest and Fastest Way to Learn Japanese Whether you want to travel, communicate with friends or colleagues, reconnect with family, or just understand more of what's going on in the world around you, learning Japanese will expand your horizons and immeasurably enrich your life. The best part is that it doesn't have to be difficult or take years to master. Thirty minutes a day is all it takes, and we get you speaking right from the first day. Pimsleur courses use a scientifically-proven method that puts you in control of your learning. If you've tried other language learning methods but found they simply didn't stick, then you owe it to yourself to give Pimsleur a try. Why Pimsleur? - Quick + Easy - Only 30 minutes a day. - Portable + Flexible - Core lessons can be done anytime, anywhere, and easily fit into your busy life. - Proven Method - Works when other methods fail. - Self-Paced - Go fast or go slow - it's up to you. - Based in Science - Developed using proven research on memory and learning. - Cost-effective - Less expensive than classes or immersion, and features all native speakers. - Genius - Triggers your brain's natural aptitude to learn. - Works for everyone - Recommended for ages 13 and above.

What's Included? - 30, 30-minute audio lessons - 60 minutes of recorded Culture Notes to provide you some insight into Japanese culture - in total, 16 hours of audio, all featuring native speakers - a Culture Notes Booklet and a User's Guide

What You'll Learn In the first 10 lessons, you'll cover the basics: saying hello, asking for or giving information, scheduling a meal or a meeting, asking for or giving basic directions, and much more. You'll be able to handle minimum courtesy requirements, understand much of what you hear, and be understood at a beginning level, but with near-native pronunciation skills. In the next 10 lessons, you'll build on what you've learned. Expand your menu, increase your scheduling abilities from general to specific, start to deal with currency and exchanging money, refine your conversations and add over a hundred new vocabulary items. You'll understand more of what you hear, and be able to participate with speech that is smoother and more confident. In the final 10 lessons, you'll be speaking and understanding at an intermediate level. In this phase, more directions are given in the target language, which moves your learning to a whole new plane. Lessons include shopping, visiting friends, going to a restaurant, plans for the evening, car trips, and talking about family. You'll be able to speak comfortably about things that happened in the past and make plans for the future. One hour of recorded Cultural Notes are included at the end of Lesson 30. These Notes are designed to provide you with some insight into Japanese culture. A Culture Notes booklet is also included in PDF format.

The Pimsleur Method We make no secret of what makes this powerful method work so well. Paul Pimsleur spent his career researching and perfecting the precise elements anyone can use to learn a language quickly and easily. Here are a few of his “secrets”:

- The Principle of Anticipation In the nanosecond between a cue and your response, your brain has to work to come up with the right word. Having to do this boosts retention, and cements the word in your mind.
- Core Vocabulary Words, phrases, and sentences are selected for their usefulness in everyday conversation. We don’t overwhelm you with too much, but steadily increase your ability with every lesson.
- Graduated Interval Recall Reminders of new words and structures come up at the exact interval for maximum retention and storage into your long-term memory.
- Organic Learning You work on multiple aspects of the language simultaneously. We integrate grammar, vocabulary, rhythm, melody, and intonation into every lesson, which allows you to experience the language as a living, expressive form of human culture.
- Learning in Context Research has shown that learning new words in context dramatically accelerates your ability to remember. Every scene in every Pimsleur lesson is set inside a conversation between two people. There are no drills, and no memorization necessary for success.
- Active Participation The Pimsleur Method + active learner participation = success. This method works with every language and every learner who follows it. You gain the power to recall and use what you know, and to add new words easily, exactly as you do in English.

The Japanese Language Japanese is spoken by about 130 million people, 122 million of whom are in Japan. There are also speakers in the Ryukyu Islands, Korea, Taiwan, parts of the United States, and Brazil. Japanese has many “registers” or levels of politeness. Pimsleur’s Japanese courses will teach you how to speak at a polite register, which is appropriate in virtually any situation you are likely to encounter in Japan.

Tech Talk - CDs are formatted for playing in all CD players, including car players, and users can copy files for use in iTunes or Windows Media Player.

Book Information

Series: Comprehensive (Book 1)

Audio CD

Publisher: Pimsleur; 3 edition (October 1, 2002)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0743523539

ISBN-13: 978-0743523530

Product Dimensions: 12.5 x 1 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.6 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars 72 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #765,936 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #11 in [Books > Books on CD > Languages > Language Instruction > Japanese](#) #245 in [Books > Textbooks > Humanities > Foreign Languages > Japanese](#) #628 in [Books > Books on CD > Nonfiction](#)

Customer Reviews

Dr. Paul Pimsleur devoted his life to language teaching and testing and was one of the world's leading experts in applied linguistics. After years of experience and research, Dr. Pimsleur developed The Pimsleur Method based on two key principles: the Principle of Anticipation and a scientific principle of memory training that he called "Graduated Interval Recall." This Method has been applied to the many levels and languages of the Pimsleur Programs.

I work for a Japanese company and often find myself in a room with mostly of Japanese only speakers. Within the first 10 lessons I am finding myself able to follow parts of conversations by knowing the context and a few basic phrases. Feedback from my co-workers is that much of my pronunciation is correct, just a few differences here and there.

Pimsleur is ideal for someone who drives a lot and wants to take advantage of the time in the car. Pimsleur is entirely audio; there is no text. If you complete Pimsleur 1, you'll be able to speak very limited, basic Japanese. You'll recognize phrases here and there when in Japan, especially the commonly used ones like welcome, good morning, and thank you. You'll learn pronunciation, and so you'll be able to use a phrase book in combination with your very limited Japanese to do things like reserve seats on trains or order at a restaurant. (I cannot imagine using a phrase book without having studied some Japanese as your pronunciation would be all wrong.) You'll learn your numbers. You will not be able to carry on a conversation with anyone Japanese unless they are extremely patient and willing you discuss one of the few subjects in which you've learned a few words. In my opinion, that's OK - what more can you expect in a month or two? I studied all of Pimsleur 1 and half of Pimsleur 2 before going on a 10 day vacation to Japan. I derived great pleasure from the small bit of Japanese I knew, and I was constantly looking for opportunities to use it. You do not need to know Japanese, as there is English everywhere, but it's fun. Getting through this course is not easy. I had no previous Japanese experience, and after the first two or three

lessons, I had to listen to each lesson at least twice at 100% concentration to get to the 80% correct level they recommend before moving on to the next lesson. It is tough. There are no cognates, so there's lots of memorization. In my opinion, it's critical to spend no more than 2 days on a lesson, as you'll start to forget stuff that's reviewed in the previous lessons if you don't move at a reasonable clip. That means an absolute minimum of 30 fully concentrated minutes per day, and you'll be much better off if you spend an hour per day working on it. If you commute 30 minutes each way, you're set. I've also used Pimsleur Spanish, and I found Pimsleur Japanese much more difficult due to the lack of cognates. If you're not sure if this is for you, spend the \$15 to buy Pimsleur Basic Japanese. This is the first 10 lessons of Japanese 1. Here's how it works: 1.) Basic Japanese: Lessons 1- 102.) Conversational Japanese: Lessons 1 - 15, Lessons 1 - 10 are the same as Basic Japanese 3.) Japanese 1: Lessons 1 - 30, Lessons 1 - 15 are the same as Conversational Japanese

I find this method highly effective with its conversational approach, escalating complexity, distributed repetition and more. It is highly effective, never boring, and engages parts of your brain that no other method does (and I've used a whole lot of other methods). This is perfect for interactive learners, verbal learners, and auditory learners. Visual learners will find this less effective without some kind of supplementary material. Incidentally, the packaging is great, which is important with the kind of investment you put into the system.

This Japanese language program consists of 30 lessons that are roughly 30 minutes long. The first lesson consists of learning a few words. The beginning of the second lesson starts off with reviewing the words you learned in the previous and then learning some new words for the rest of the lesson. This is how each lesson works after that. The amount that you review does increase as you continue in order to form complete sentences. It is recommended that you only complete 1 lesson a day. You may have to go over some lessons more than once as well so there is a chance that you might repeat some of the lessons for a few days before you can move on to the next. By the end of this set, you are able to greet people, introduce yourself and others, order drinks or food, count, and form complete sentences all in Japanese. The sentences will be short ones though (or at least I feel like they are). Overall, this language program will not give you an exceptional grasp of the Japanese language but it is a good start. As of now, there are 3 levels of the Japanese language program from Pimsleur. The second level picks up where this one ends and works the same way as the first and the third level continues from the second.

I started with the Basic Programme, which I was really pleased with, so I moved on to the full Course 1. What I like best (as an English as a Foreign Language teacher) is the amount of time given over to revision and repetition. This means the pace of learning is just right - no "Be fluent in 10 mins" rubbish. The quality of the recordings is outstanding. I have quite a few other Japanese courses (books and cd's) each with their merits and faults. For me, it is essential to have a variety of courses approaching the same topics from a slightly different angle. However, the Pimsleur Course is head and shoulders above the rest.

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