

# Japanese

## Romanization System

The modified Hepburn system of romanization as employed in *Kenkyusha's New Japanese-English Dictionary* (3rd and later editions) is used. For the syllabic nasal, *n* is always used preceding *b*, *m*, and *p*. Romanization for words of foreign (i.e., non-Japanese) origin follows the American National Standard system for the romanization of Japanese; e.g., ベトナム (Betonamu); ヴェトナム (Vetonamu).

## Word Reading

The reading of Japanese words follows standard Japanese language usage, insofar as this can be determined from standard Japanese dictionaries. A current modern reading is preferred to an obsolete one, except where the usage of standard authorities has established a particular reading for a particular name or book title. The characters 日本 are romanized as *Nihon* unless the usage of standard authorities has established a particular reading; e.g., Dai *Nippon* Teikoku, *Nippon* 'ichi, *Nippon* eitaigura, etc. If there are various readings, the reading that appears most frequently in dictionaries is used.

## Capitalization

### 1. *Personal Names:*

- (a) Capitalize each word of a personal name, except the particle *no*.  
Sugawara no Takasue no Musume                      菅原孝輝女

- (b) Capitalize title and terms of address, except when consisting of a single character or kana for *san*, *sama*, *chan*, *kun*, etc., that is hyphenated following a personal name.  
Kōbō Daishi    弘注大師  
*but* Okiku-san    お菊さん

### 2. *Place Names:* Capitalize each separately written word of a geographic name.

Yokohama	横浜
Nihon Rettō	日本列島
Yūraku-chō	有楽町
Taiheiyō	太平洋
Bōsō Hantō	房総半島
Tōyō	東洋

3. *Corporate Names*: Capitalize each separately written word of a corporate name, except particles and conjunctions.
- |                        |          |
|------------------------|----------|
| Sensō o Kirokusuru Kai | 戦争を記録する会 |
| Nihon Rikugun          | 日本陸軍     |
4. *Documents and Publications*:
- (a) Capitalize the first word of the title of a publication (book, periodical, series, etc.).
- |               |      |
|---------------|------|
| Tsurezuregusa | 徒然草  |
| Chūō kōron    | 中央公論 |
- (b) Capitalize the first word of the name of a document (law, regulation, etc.).
- |                    |         |
|--------------------|---------|
| Rōdō kumiaiō       | 労働組合    |
| Rōdō iinkai kisoku | 労働委員会規則 |
5. *Historical Events and Periods*:
- (a) Capitalize each word of the name of a historical event.
- |                      |         |
|----------------------|---------|
| Dainiji Sekai Taisen | 第二次世界大戦 |
| Niniroku Jiken       | 二・二六事件  |
| Meiji Ishin shi      | 明治維新史   |
- (b) Capitalize the first word of the name of a historical period.
- |               |      |
|---------------|------|
| Jōmon jidai   | 縄文時代 |
| Rikuchō jidai | 六朝時代 |
| Heianchō      | 平安朝  |
| Shōwaki       | 昭和期  |
6. *Peoples and Languages*: Capitalize names of peoples and languages.
- |            |       |
|------------|-------|
| Nihonjin   | 日本人   |
| Amerikajin | アメリカ人 |
| Nihongo    | 日本語   |
| Eigo       | 英語    |
7. *Religions and Sects*: Capitalize names of religions and sects.
- |             |       |
|-------------|-------|
| Bukkyō      | 佛教    |
| Kirisutokyō | キリスト教 |
| Shintō      | 神道    |
| Zenshū      | 禪宗    |
8. *Derivatives of Proper Names*: Lowercase words derived from names of places or religions, when the derived words are no longer considered to be proper names. When the derivative is formed by the suffix of a single character following a proper name, the proper name is capitalized and the suffix is lowercased and follows a hyphen. (See *Word Division*, 4. *Proper Names, Exceptions*)
- |         |     |
|---------|-----|
| nihontō | 日本刀 |
|---------|-----|

nihonshu	日本酒
nihonga	日本画
butsuma	佛画
washitsu	和室
wafuku	和服
yōshu	洋酒
kutaniyaki	九谷焼
kokutani	古九谷
kanji	漢字
kanpō	漢方
kan'yaku	漢薬
zendera	禅寺
zensō	禅僧
kirisutoshu	キリスト者
<i>but</i> Taiwan-sei	台湾製

### Punctuation

1. Transcribe a centered point ( · ) used for dividing words as a comma if it makes the meaning of romanized words clear.

Chūgoku Shikoku no mingei

中国 · 四国の民芸

Pōru Kurōderu

ポール · クローデル

Matsumoto Seichō, Yamamoto Shūgorō shū 松本清張 · 山本周五郎集

For such a center point appearing between numbers, see **Word Division, 5. Numerals**.

2. Transcribe brackets ( 「 … 」 ) used in the manner of quotation marks ( " … " ) as quotation marks.

### Word Division

1. *Sino-Japanese (on) Compounds*: A compound means a word consisting of two or more Chinese characters (kanji), or of Chinese characters and kana, or of kana alone, whether established by dictionary usage or not.

- (a) Write binary compounds as single words.

ichigen ikkō

一言一行

Rikuchō jidai

六朝時代

Nihon kokusei jiten

日本国政事典

kokumin shugi

国民主義

Indo tetsugaku shiyō

印度哲学史要

Tōyō Gakkai

東洋学会

Keiō Gijuku Daigaku Keizai Gakubu 慶応義塾大学経済学部

Tōkyō Daigaku Kyōyō Gakubu 東京大学教養学部

(b) Trinary, derived, and other compounds.

(1) Write trinary and derived compounds as single words as long as they contain no more than one binary or trinary compound.

keizaiteki	経済的
seibutsugaku	生物学
jinsaikan	人生觀
yuibutsuron	唯物論
kenkōhō	健康法
daijinbutsu	大人物
daiōjō	大往生
jibika	耳鼻科
koseibutsugaku	古生物学
hōshakaigaku	法社会学

For a word beginning with such characters as 新, 旧, etc., consult any current dictionary to determine whether it is part of a word or is a prefix to the following word or words (see *Word Division*, 3. *Prefixes, Suffixes, etc.* (a)). If it is appropriate, apply the provisions of (2) below.

shinkansen	新幹線
kyūtaisei	旧体制

(2) Write trinary pseudo-compounds formed by the addition of a single character as single words.

gōshisō	黨思想
kakusensō	核戰爭
kakukazoku	核家族
ryōseikatsu	寮生活
shinkenchiku	新建築
daijiten	大辞典
daihatsume	大発明

If, however, a single character is enclosed within brackets used as a quotation marks, transcribe the brackets as quotation marks.

"jin" shisō	「仁」思想
"kaku" ronsō	「核」論争

(c) Write single characters in succession constituting a pseudo-compound as one word.

todōfuken	都道府県
shikuchōson	市区町村
shichōson	市町村
shinōkōshō	士農工商
ishokujū	衣食住

- (d) Hyphenate grouped compounds involving phonetic changes.
- |                  |         |
|------------------|---------|
| jochū-bōkō       | 女 中 華 公 |
| bungei-dokuhon   | 文 芸 読 本 |
| gōshi-gaisha     | 合 資 会 社 |
| kabushiki-gaisha | 株 式 会 社 |
- but* In proper names, romanize as *Kabushiki Kaisha* (e.g., Nissan Jidōsha Kabushiki Kaisha).
- (e) Hyphenate one or more single-character modifiers having a common substantive.
- |                            |                 |
|----------------------------|-----------------|
| shō-chūgakkō               | 小 ・ 中 学 校       |
| shō-chū-kōtō gakkō         | 小 ・ 中 ・ 高 等 学 校 |
| shō-chūkibo kigyō          | 小 ・ 中 規 模 企 業   |
| jō-gesuidō                 | 上 ・ 下 水 道       |
| nō-san-gyoson              | 農 山 漁 村         |
| nō-kō-kōgyō                | 農 ・ 工 ・ 鉱 業     |
| bun-shi-tetsugaku          | 文 ・ 史 ・ 哲 学     |
| Meiji sanjūshichi-hachinen | 明 治 三 十 七 ・ 八 年 |

When single character modifiers form a binary or trinary compound, however, follow 1(a) or 1(b) above.

chūshō kigyō	中 小 企 業
Bunri Gakubu	文 理 学 部
rikagaku jiten	理 化 学 辞 典
dōshokubutsu jikken	動 植 物 実 験

## 2. Native Japanese (*kun* and *jūbakuyomi* or *yutōyomi*) compounds.

### (a) Nouns.

#### (1) Write compound nouns as single words.

wareware	我 々
wagahai	我 輩
kirisame	霧 雨
teashi	手 足
yamatodamashii	大 和 魂
mizusakazuki	水 盃
ukiyoe	浮 世 絵
chanoma	茶 の 間
chanoyu	茶 の 湯
kokoroarigao	心 有 顔
iyagarase	嫌 が ら せ
kogirei	小 綺 麗
rikutsudōri	理 屈 通 り

Write separately modifiers which are not part of compounds.

waga hokori	我が誇り
waga musuko	わが息子
waga machi	我が町
waga kyōdo	我が郷土

In case of doubt, prefer the separate form.

waga kuni	我 国(わが国)
waga ko	我が子
waga tomo	我友(わが友)
chichi haha	父母
ani imōto	兄妹
are kore	あれこれ

(2) Write separately a *kun* single character word modifying a compound.

onna ekaki	女 絵かき
aji jiman	味 自慢
koto gassō	琴 合奏
mizu shigen	水 資源
kome sōdō	米 騒動
otoko aite	男 相手

(b) Verbs.

(1) Write simple and compound inflected verbs, with their auxiliaries, as single words.

shihaisuru	支配する
doraibusuru	ドライブする
yomiuru	読み得る
nashienai	なし得ない
kansuru	関する
omoidasu	思い出す

(2) Write verbs separately from adverbs or inflected adjectives and verbs.

dō kangaeru	どう考える
aa shitai	ああしたい
sō suru	そうする
kō naru	こうなる
tsuyoku naru	強くなる
utsukushiku naritai	美しくなりたい
ikite ita	生きていた
kaette kuru	帰って来る
yatte miyō	やってみよう
itadaite ikimasu	載っていきます

(3) Write honorific auxiliaries or potential auxiliaries, *dekiru* and *dekinai*, separately from other parts of the verb.

ookuri itashimashō	お送り致しますしょう
odekake asobashimasu ka	お出掛け遊ばしますか
gaman dekiru ka	我慢出来るか
gaman dekimasen	我慢出来ません

(c) Adjectives. Write compound inflected adjectives as single words.

bimyōnaru	微妙なる
ikanaru	如何なる
miryokuaru	魅力ある
teikōnaki	抵抗なき
dōdōtaru	堂々たる
osorubeki	恐るべき
ayamatta sahō, ayamariyasui sahō	誤った作法・誤り易い作法

(d) Adverbs and conjunctions. Write compound adverbs and conjunctions as single words.

tokuni	特に
narabini	並に
tomoni	共に
tsuini	遂に
ikani	如何に
suguni	直ぐに
matawa	又は
aruwa	或いは

(e) Particles. Write particles separately from other words and from each other.

kōfuku <i>e no michi</i>	幸福への道
<i>E wa dare ni de mo kakeru</i>	絵は誰にでも描ける
<i>Sō iu hon o yomu no ga tanoshii</i>	そういう本を読むのが楽しい
<i>anata to watashi to</i>	あなたとわたしと
<i>kumo no ue ni</i>	雲の上に
<i>anata no tame ni</i>	あなたの為に
<i>nonki na ojisan nonki ni kamaeru</i>	香気な小父さん香気に構える
<i>yuniku na sonzai</i>	ユニークな存在

3. *Prefixes, Suffixes, etc.*

(a) Write separately a single-character prefix modifying *on* or *kun* compounds following it.

zen shushō enzetsushū	前首相演説集
ko shachō kaikoroku	故社長懐古録
shin okurigana	新送りがな
shin shokuminchi shugi	新植民地主義
kyū dōtokuritsu	旧道徳律
kyū dojin shakai	旧土人社会

Dai jinmei jiten	大人名事典
shō bungaku jiten	小文学辞典
chō senshinkoku	超先進国
chō genjitsu shugi	超現実主義
han sensō undō	反戦運動
han sensōron	反戦論
kaku jidai	各時代
kaku todōfuku	各都道府県
kaku musan seitō	各無産政党
hi bunkateki	非文化的
hi sabetu shakai	非差別社会
ichi toshokan'in	一図書館員
ichi kinen shashin	一記念写真

- (b) Hyphenate a single character modifying, or modified by, foreign words generally written in katakana.

shō-enerugi <sup>1</sup>	省エネルギー
kaku-enerugi <sup>1</sup>	核エネルギー
datsu-enerugi <sup>1</sup>	脱エネルギー
shō-ene	省エネ
enerugi <sup>1</sup> -gen	エネルギー源
karori <sup>1</sup> -hyō	カロリー表
irasutorēshon-teki	イラストレーション的

If the foreign word in katakana together with a single character is a long-established word or a corporate name, however, romanize it as one word.

Amerikajin	アメリカ人
kirisutosha	キリスト者
Saiensusha	サイエンス社
sābisugyō	サービス業

- (c) Write the suffix *tō* or *nado* (等, など), *hen* (編, 篇) used for sections of books, and *shō* (抄, 抄) for excerpts or commentaries, *kō* (考, 稿) for treatises or drafts, and *ten* (展) for exhibitions, separately from the word preceding them unless they form Sino-Japanese compounds, e.g., 前編, 私考, 草稿, 特別展

kyōdō kiken kōi <i>tō</i> no kinshi ihan	共同危険行為等の禁止違反
kyō konogoro omoidasu koto <i>nado</i>	今日この頃思い出すことなど
senzen sengo <i>hen</i>	戦前戦後編
Nihon shokunikushi <i>shō</i>	日本食肉史抄
Nihon insho <i>kō</i>	日本印書考
Shina shoshigaku <i>kō</i>	支那書誌学稿
Tōzai bijutsu kōryū 300-nen <i>ten</i>	東西美術交流300年展



- (d) Write single-character substantives modified by *on* or *kun* compounds as part of the word preceding it.

Ochiboshū	落穂集
Kokinshū	古今集
Kokin wakashū	古今和歌集
Bunka jinmeiroku	文化人名録
Nihon seifu gyōsei kikōzu	日本政府行政機構図
Nihon-Ro gaikō jūnenshi	日露外交十年史
Gakkō toshokanhō	学校図書館法
Kokubunji shryō chōsa hōkokusho	国分寺資料調査報告書
Meiji Taishō bungakushi	明治大正文学史
Kagoshima-ken fūbutsushi	鹿児島県風物誌
shizan kagakusha	自然科学者
jibi inkōka	耳鼻咽喉科
kyōdai shimaitachi	兄弟姉妹達
Rōdō Kijunkyoku	労働基準局
Asahi Shinbunsha	朝日新聞社
Nihon Bungaku Kenkyūkai	日本文学研究会

If the word romanized together with a single-character substantive becomes meaningless, hyphenate it with the word preceding it.

Nihon gunkoku-shugika	日本軍国主義下
hatten-tojōkoku	発展途上国

#### 4. Proper Names.

- (a) Write proper names and titles of books separately from modifiers or words modified by them.

Rinkān den	リンカーン伝
Niwa Fumio shū	丹羽文雄集
Genji monogatari shō	源氏物語抄
Shin jidai	清時代
Min Shin jidai	明清時代
To shi shō	杜詩抄
Nihon shi	日本史
Beikoku shi	米国史
Tōyō shiron	東洋史論

#### Exceptions:

- (1) For proper names, including corporate names, that contain other proper names, follow 1(a)-1(b), 2(a), and 3(d) above.

Edojō	江戸城
Shijōgawara	四條河原
Shōkai	蘇峰会

Onogumi 小野組  
Gendai Nihonshi Kenkyūkai 現代日本史研究会

- (2) Write names of historical periods with single-character generic terms as single words.

Shinchō 清朝  
Meiji 明治

- (3) For names of ships, write such prefixes as *maru* or *go* separately from the preceding word.

Asama Maru 浅間丸  
Hayabusa Gō はやぶさ(隼)号  
Purejidento Wiruson Gō プレジデント・ウィルソン号

- (4) Hyphenate single characters which can be suffixed to any proper names; e.g., 的, 型, 式, 流, 産, 製, 派, 系, 本, 版

Nihon-teki 日本的  
Honkon-gata 香港型  
Tanaka Chiyo-shiki 田中千代式  
Hōshō-ryū 宝生流  
Hokkaidō-san 北海道産  
Taiwan-sei 台湾製  
Tanaka-ha 田中派  
Nakasone-kei 中曾根系  
Kanda-bon 神田本  
Kanazawa Bunko-ban 金沢文庫版

- (5) Hyphenate an auxiliary to a proper name, which results in a double consonant.

Kyashi-tte yonde キャシーってよんで

- (b) Write titles and terms of address separately from personal names.

- (1) Write separately a title that precedes a personal name.

Sci Sabieru 聖サビエル

- (2) If a title or a term of address following a personal name consists of a binary or trinary compound, write it separately from the personal name.

Meiji Tennō 明治天皇  
Taiken Mon'in 待賢門院  
Kitashirakawa no Miyasama 北白川の宮様  
Nichiren Shōninsama 日蓮上人様  
Takezawa Sensei 竹沢先生

- (3) Hyphenate a title or a term of address when it consists of a single character or kana for *san*, *sama*, *chan*, *kun*, etc., and follows a personal name.

Bashō-ō 芭蕉公  
Kakushin-ni 覚信尼  
Gotoba-in 後鳥羽院

Okiku-san	お菊さん
Nakamura-kun	中村君
Tarō-chan	太郎ちゃん
Non-chan kumo ni noru	ノンちゃん雲に乗る
Sa-shi	左氏

## (c) Geographic names

## (1) Hyphenate generic terms used as part of the name of jurisdictions or streets.

Tōkyō-to	東京都
Chiyoda-ku	千代田区
Yūrakuchō	有楽町
Yamaguchi-ken	山口県
Yokohama-shi	横浜市
Ogawa-machi	小川町
Ogasawara-mura	小笠原村

*Exceptions:*

## (1) Write generic terms separately if they form Sino-

Japanese compounds.

Ogasawara sonchō	小笠原村長
Ogawa chōshi	小川町史
Chiyoda Kuritsu	千代田区立
Yokohama shisei	横浜市政
Tōkyō tomin	東京都民
Yamaguchi kenpō	山口県報

(2) Write *koku* as part of the name of a country.

Nihonkoku	日本国
Manshūkoku	満洲国
Kankoku	韓国

(3) Write *Kuni* separately if preceded by *no* in the name of a province.

Musashi no Kuni	武蔵国(武蔵の国)
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## (2) Write modifiers differentiating places of the same name as part of the name, if they are part of the name of a jurisdiction.

Higashiizu-chō	東伊豆町
Kamikitayama-mura	上北山村

If the modifiers are not part of the name of a jurisdiction, write them separately.

Minami Yamashiro	南山城
Tōnan Ajia	東南アジア

- (3) Write compound names designating merged places or containing a larger place name as single words.

Ujijamada-shi	宇治山田市
Aizuwakamatsu-shi	会津若松市

- (4) Hyphenate generic terms for stations and harbors following place names.

Tōkyō-eki	東京駅
Yokohama-kō	横浜港

If the generic terms form Sino-Japanese compounds, write them separately.

Tōkyō ekichō	東京駅長
Yokohama kōwan	横浜港湾

- (5) Write generic terms for geographic features as part of the name.

Sumidagawa	隅田川
Asamayama	浅間山
Biwako	琵琶湖
Shinanoji	信濃路
Saipantō	サイパン島

If the generic terms for Sino-Japanese compounds, write them separately.

Biwa kohan	琵琶湖畔
Asama sanroku	浅間山麓

- (d) Abbreviated Forms

- (1) Write words consisting of or containing abbreviated proper names as single words.

Nōbi Heiya	濃尾平野
Keihin kōgyō chitai	京浜工業地帯
Meishin kōsoku dōro	名神高速道路
Shin'etsusen	信越線
Ōbeijin	吹米人
ryūō gakusei	留欧学生
Eishibun	英詩文
tainichi bōeki	対日貿易
Kiki kayō	記紀歌謡

Hyphenate, however, a compound consisting of abbreviated names of countries or languages, except when the compound is normally elided.

Nichi-Ro gaikō jūnenshi	日露外交十年史
Nichi-Ei-Doku igo shōjiten	日英独医語小辞典
Sen-Man sōsho	鮮滿叢書
Nikka daijiten	日華大辞典
Nitchū kankei	日中關係

