

Japanese is an Altaic language spoken by about 120 million people in Japan and by large Japanese communities elsewhere. There are several dialects of Japan, including the Ryu-Kyu language spoken in the Okinawa Prefecture. Despite this, the standard language (hyoozyun-go), is taught to all Japanese in Japan. Presented here is a female speaker of the standard dialect from Tokyo.

Japanese Consonants:

Stops:	p	t		k	(ʔ)
	b	d		g	
Fricatives:	ɸ	s	f		h
		z			
Affricates:		ts	tʃ		
		dz	dʒ		
Nasals:	m	n		ŋ	
Liquids:		r			
Glides:			j	w	

Length is Contrastive.

Japanese Vowels:

i	u / ū
ɛ	o
	ɔ
a	

Diphthongs:

	uj
ɛj	ɔj
aj / aw	

Vowel length is contrastive.

I. Word Lists

Pitch Accent:

1.	[hīga]	'day'
2.	[hi̇ga]	'fire'
3.	[ɛ̄ga]	'handle'
4.	[ɛ̇ga]	'picture'
5.	[nīwa]	'garden'
6.	[ni̇wa]	'two birds'
7.	[īji]	'will power'
8.	[i̇ji]	'stone'
9.	[hāfi]	'bridge'
10.	[hȧfi]	'chopsticks'
11.	[kāmi]	'paper'
12.	[kȧmi]	'god'
13.	[ʃīga]	'poem'

14.	[ʃiɡa]	'death'
15.	[ki̯taŋ]	'bright coal'
16.	[ki̯taŋ]	'scruple'
17.	[ko̯kɯ]	'harshness'
18.	[mu̯kɯ]	'peel'
19.	[mu̯kɯ]	'purity'
20.	[asa]	'linen cloth'
21.	[asa]	'morning'
22.	[ku̯ra]	'dark'
23.	[ku̯ra]	'about'
24.	[o̯kami]	'landlady'
25.	[o̯kami]	'wolf'
26.	[mi̯do̯ri]	'green'
27.	[mi̯do̯riɡo̯]	'baby'
28.	[se̯mpaku]	'ship'
29.	[se̯mpaku]	'shallowness'
30.	[se̯tsu̯bi]	'equipment'
31.	[se̯tsu̯biɡo̯]	'suffix'
32.	[mo̯ku̯ro̯mu]	'to plan'
33.	[mo̯ku̯ro̯mi]	'a plan'
34.	[sa̯]ɡe̯n]	'limits'
35.	[sa̯]ɡe̯n]	'reappearance'
36.	[ʃi̯ɡo̯kɯ]	'squeeze'
37.	[ʃi̯ɡo̯kɯ]	'very'
38.	[su̯te̯ki]	'great'
39.	[su̯te̯ki]	'stick'
40.	[to̯ma̯ru]	'stop'
41.	[to̯me̯ru]	'rich'

Long vs Short Vowels:

1.	[kibo]	'scale'
2.	[kibo:]	'hope'
3.	[ko̯e]	'voice'
4.	[ko̯:en]	'a park'
5.	[to̯:ru]	'pass'
6.	[to̯ru]	'catch'
7.	[nu̯ku]	'extract'
8.	[nu̯:]	'sew'
9.	[ni̯:ɟu:]	'second rate'
10.	[ni̯ru]	'resemble'
11.	[su̯pu̯:n]	'spoon'
12.	[su̯:pu]	'soup'
13.	[ju̯:bin]	'mail'
14.	[ju̯biwa]	'ring'
15.	[no̯riku]	'eagerness'
16.	[no̯ri:re̯ru]	'drive into'
17.	[tʃi̯:zu]	'cheeze'
18.	[tʃi̯zu]	'map'

19.	[biŋ]	'bottle'
20.	[bi:ru]	'beer'
21.	[tɔri:]	'shrine gate'
22.	[tɔri]	'bird'
23.	[ɔka:sãŋ]	'mother'
24.	[ɔka:fi:]	'amusing'
25.	[pãŋ]	'bread'
26.	[pa:sentɔ]	'percent'
27.	[ɔŋsɛŋ]	'hot spring'
28.	[ɔne:sãŋ]	'elder sister'
29.	[pe:dʒi]	'page'
30.	[geki]	'drama'

Vowel Contrasts:

1.	[ta]	'rice fields'
2.	[tada]	'only'
3.	[tʃawãŋ]	'rice bowl'
4.	[tʃæ:dɔ]	'tea ceremony'
5.	[sɔtɔ]	'outside'
6.	[gɔgɔ]	'afternoon'
7.	[kata]	'shoulder'
8.	[kɔtɔ]	'matter'
9.	[himɔ]	'string'
10.	[hima]	'leisure'
11.	[ana]	'hole'
12.	[anɔ]	'that'
13.	[gɔtʃagɔʃanɔ]	'confused'
14.	[sɛŋ]	'a thousand'
15.	[sɛk:ɛŋ]	'soap'
16.	[mɛ]	'eye'
17.	[sensɔ:]	'war'
18.	[sɛnaka]	'back'
19.	[mada]	'still'
20.	[made]	'until'
21.	[da:su]	'dozen'
22.	[deau]	'it is'
23.	[kesu]	'extinguish'
24.	[kɔ:su]	'course'
25.	[nik:i]	'diary'
26.	[itʃi]	'one'
27.	[tʃiri]	'dust'
28.	[kage]	'shadow'
29.	[kagi]	'key'
30.	[kani]	'crab'
31.	[kane]	'money'
32.	[kɛk:ɔŋ]	'marriage'
33.	[kʲikɔ:]	'climate'
34.	[bubuun]	'part'

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35.	[musuɔɔ]	'tie'
36.	[suɔɔ]	'try'
37.	[niku]	'meat'
38.	[nuuku]	'extract'
39.	[noɔ]	'ride'
40.	[noɔɔ]	'starch'
41.	[mitsu]	'three'
42.	[muɔɔ]	'six'
43.	[kazu]	'number'
44.	[kaze]	'wind'
45.	[made]	'until'
46.	[madɔ]	'window'
47.	[ɸukimasu]	'blow' (polite)
48.	[ɸokimasu]	'wipe' (polite)

Diphthongs:

1.	[me]	'eye'
2.	[mej]	'niece'
3.	[kega]	'injury'
4.	[kejɔ]	'sincerely yours'
5.	[ha]	'tooth'
6.	[haj]	'ash'
7.	[dabuɔ]	'be doubled'
8.	[daibu]	'very much'
9.	[kɔkɔ]	'here'
10.	[kɔj]	'love'
11.	[tɔ:]	'ten'
12.	[tɔj]	'far'
13.	[ɸuɔ]	'fall'
14.	[ɸuɔj]	'old'
15.	[tɕu:ɕa]	'injection'
16.	[tɕuɔɔ]	'attention'
17.	[baɔj]	'occasion'
18.	[baɔ]	'double'
19.	[ɛjko:]	'influence'
20.	[ajko:]	'charm'
21.	[ajda]	'between'
22.	[gɔkaj]	'misunderstanding'
23.	[go:kɔ:]	'total'
24.	[ka]	'question particle'
25.	[kaw]	'buy' (direct)
26.	[kajmasu]	'buy' (polite)

Long Consonants:

1.	[ana]	'hole'
2.	[an:a]	'such a'
3.	[ame]	'rain'

4.	[am:a]	'masseur'
5.	[kɔn:a]	'this sort of'
6.	[kɔna]	'powder'
7.	[manekɯ]	'invite'
8.	[man:aka]	'center'
9.	[masaɔ]	'a boy's name'
10.	[mas:aɔ]	'completely blue'
11.	[iʃa]	'doctor'
12.	[iʃ:a]	'a kind'
13.	[itsu]	'when'
14.	[its:ɯ]	'a pair'
15.	[matʃi]	'town'
16.	[matʃ:i]	'match'
17.	[itʃ:i]	'agreement'
18.	[itʃi]	'one'
19.	[dɔtʃ:i]	'which'
20.	[dɔtʃira]	'where'
21.	[hata]	'flag'
22.	[hat:a]	'he pasted it on'
23.	[mɔtɔ]	'origin'
24.	[mɔt:ɔ]	'more'
25.	[it:ɔ:]	'first class'
26.	[itɔ]	'thread'
27.	[tɔtʃi]	'land, spot'
28.	[tɔt:ɛ]	'handle'
29.	[kika]	'naturalization'
30.	[kek:a]	'result'
31.	[nikɯ]	'meat'
32.	[nik:i]	'diary'

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