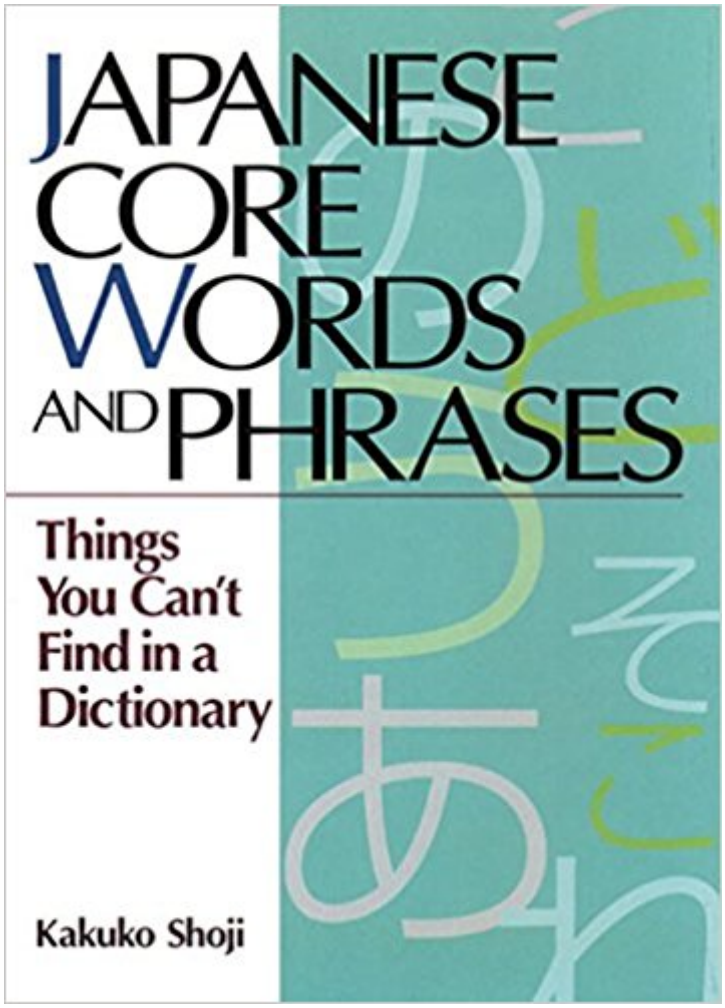
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Japanese Core Words And Phrases: Things You Can't Find In A Dictionary



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Synopsis

Some Japanese words and phrases, even though they lie at the core of the language, forever elude the student’s grasp. They are not explained satisfactorily in dictionaries or textbooks for the simple reason that they cannot be conveniently defined. Japanese Core Words and Phrases brings these recalcitrants to bay.The book is divided into two parts, each of which is arranged in alphabetical order. The first part is devoted to words indicating physical as well as psychological distanceÃ¢â ¬â •roughly equivalent to "this," "that," "that over there," and "where," but quite different in usage. Physical distance is covered in most textbooks, but psychological distanceÃ¢â ¬â •every student’s nemesisÃ¢â ¬â •is not.The second part of the book covers a variety of idiomatic expressions, many of which appear in Japanese proficiency tests. Each entry word or phrase is not simply explained but exemplified in sentence form, clarifying its meaning (in the case of many students) for the very first time.Japanese Core Words and Phrases has a great deal to offer the beginning student and much to offer the intermediate student. Little more can be asked of a book on the Japanese language.Previously published in the Power Japanese series as Core Words and Phrases: Things You Can’t Find in a Dictionary.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

KAKUKO SHOJI, a resident of Honolulu, is a longtime instructor at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. She is the author of Basic Connections: Making Your Japanese Flow and Kodansha’s Effective Japanese Usage Dictionary: A Concise Explanation of Frequently Confused Words and

Phrases.

I have been teaching myself to read Japanese the hard way, by reading Manga (Naruto) and news stories on "NHK News Easy". One thing I have been having difficulty with are phrases using the demonstratives. Within minuets of first opening this book, I was able to find the meaning of a particularly troubling statement, without which I would have completely misunderstood what Naruto’s feelings were.The writing is very clear and the explanations of the subtle differences in the nuances of similar phrases are easy to understand. The examples are tremendous, with many full dialogs that put the phrases in a clear context. They feel like things people would really say. No "See Dick. See Dick run" here. A possible down side for some (not me, I like things hard) is that some of the examples are a bit hard to understand for beginners without some thought.This book has become one of my "go to" references. I am sure that I will out grow it at some point, but for now it is invaluable.

If you are a beginner/intermediate level student be aware that this book assumes that you know all standard Kanji.Unlike ths authors Common Japanese Collocations book this one does not have furagana for the Kanji and there are a LOT of Kanji. This results in a beginning/intermediate learner being forced to read the romaji instead of reading the kana as they should be. Be prepared to be frustrated as you bounce back an forth between the romaji and kana trying to guess the pronuciation of the various Kanji.The initial word/phrase is given in kana ONLY (no romaji) with Kanji. If you don’t know the Kanji you have to look for the word/phrase in one of the example sentances (which has romaji) to even know what you are about to learn. Very time consumming and frustrating.The core content of the book is very good. If it had proper furagana (instead of romaji) to help students learn the Kanji it would rate a 5 star rating.

Extremely useful for beginning Japanese, but must have a common grasp of all the different letters and symbols in the language. This is a valuable tool for anyone who wants to learn Japanese in an easy and effective way. Once you get the grammar down, it becomes much easier to replace words with others to create effective and easily understood and correct phrases for conversation.

I really like this small textbook. Has a good deal of information in it and quite a bit of review. If your Japanese is getting rusty but not gone this is a great book to re enter conversational Japanese. It has terminology we don’t employ in our everyday use in classrooms but is probably essential in

Japan! Highly recommend.

Seems to be a lot of useful phrases and everyday conversational sentence structures that aren't covered in more 'official' Japanese primers.

I really enjoy the style of the series and the way this book particularly demonstrates an understanding of linguistic terminology and aids in second language acquisition. I wish it were a bit longer as it seems like it could have had a more general focus, that's my only legitimate complaint. Hopefully the author combines new information or a secondary focus in any following editions or follow-up books.

Keep up the good work.

Although I have studied the japanese language for some time there has been some holes in my understanding. I believe this is just the thing to help me understand the nuances- pocket phrase books just weren't cutting the mustard.

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