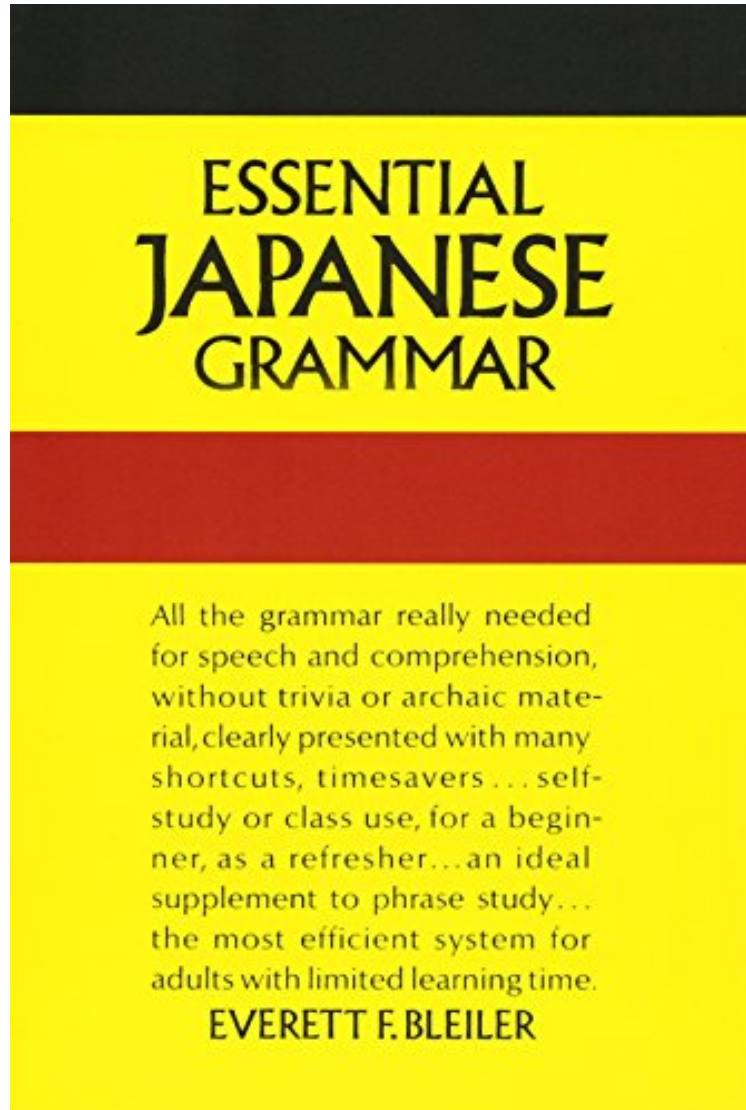


Essential Japanese Grammar: Dover Foreign Language Study Guide

Everett F. Bleiler

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Everett F. Bleiler : Essential Japanese Grammar: Dover Foreign Language Study Guide before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Essential Japanese Grammar: Dover Foreign Language Study Guide:

1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. An Excellent Synopsis of Japanese Grammar By Photo/Video Gearhead As the introduction to this book explains, this book is not intended to teach you Japanese grammar because it doesn't contain repetition exercises. However, this book does provide an excellent overview of Japanese grammar, and you can use this overview to guide your subsequent learning of the grammar via repetition exercises. For a Japanese

grammar textbook, I recommend "Japanese: A Basic Course" by Anthony Alfonso and Kazuaki Niimi. You can't buy this textbook new in the U.S., but you can order it from web sites such as Abebooks or Alibris.0 of 2 people found the following review helpful. first time buyerBy H. Nguveni have never bought anything online until i needed to get cheaper books for school. Dont expect it to be in the greatest condition. I can defently tell that my book was used and you get what you paid for.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I love this bookBy Lord Froylan's fanLet me clarify one thing about this book: it's 100% written in romanji script. It doesn't even briefly mention how kana script works and the book merely states Japanese uses 4 different script alphabets at the same time (hiragana, katakana, kanji and romanji). While many beginner aspiring Japanese speakers will feel relieved this book sticks to grammar which is in many ways the easiest part of this language, you have to understand that while this book is great in it's own right to focus on understanding the grammatical system of this amazing language, you will not be able to read it.Taking the defect of no explanation of how to read this language aside, the book is great. By merely focusing on how absurdly simple Japanese tenses are (this language doesn't even have a future tense as such!), the newbie will feel less apprehensive that Japanese is impossible to learn and will start to feel a bit less overwhelmed. The book focuses on nouns, verbs, direct indirect objects, adverbs, adjectives, turning sentences negative, clauses, some idioms and how to count in Japanese.You'd be surprised to know counting numbers in Japanese is so damn easy it brings tears to my eyes. They borrow the basic counting system from Mandarin and it's just really absurdly easy. Ichi, Ni, San, Shi/Yon, Go, Roku, Shichi/Nana, Hachi, Kyu, Ju. If you ever go to Japan, you will seldom hear people say the word Shi for the number 4. The sound is the same as the kanji for death and so you will usually hear everyone use the alternative Yon instead. Furthermore, Nana is usually preferred over Shichi for the number 7, I guess it's just easier to pronounce.Once you get to Ju (10), instead of using a random word like eleven, Japanese combines Ju with Ichi. Now we have word combos that go like: ten-one, ten-two, ten-three, etc... Get to twenty and they place a 2 before 10. 21 in Japanese is pronounced Ni-Ju-Ichi (2-10-1). Get to 100 and they use the word Hyaku. Wanna say 542 in Japanese? Just say Go-Hyaku-Yon-Ju-Ni. My problem with Japanese which is of no fault of this book is that in Japan, native speakers like to skip extra words like Hyaku and then to make matters worse, they say numbers absurdly fast. Try watching a Japanese news show at 7 am in the morning with jet lag and everyone is zipping numbers until your head spins into oblivion.Oh, but what is this? Japanese doesn't just use the borrowed Mandarin numeral system, they also have their own uniquely Japanese numbers. Do not worry, this book covers them too (the language's unique counting system still gives me a headache but they use it all of the time). Hitori, futari, sannin, etc... for humans. Ippai, nippai, sammai for # of drinks (really useful if you just want sake, sake and more sake with that tempura meal). Well, the book has an entire page full of numerical classifiers that would have made my trips to Japan easier if my damn memory would try not to forget them.I really love this book despite the blatant defects and try to read it over and over again when I can. Lest to say, my copy has a lot of coffee stains and the cover is falling off from overuse.

Although not a member of the Indo-European language family, Japanese is not too difficult grammatically for an English speaker. It is astonishingly regular in its formations exceptions and irregularities can usually be numbered on one's fingers and once the student masters a few conventions of linguistic classifications of experience, he will find that he can express most of his wants.This is the first Japanese grammar written for the adult with a limited objective in studying Japanese: to express oneself orally with reasonable accuracy; to understand simple material addressed to oneself; and to be able to analyze, understand, and enlarge material in a phrase approach.The author has limited this book to modern colloquial Japanese, and does not overburden the student with literary language, rarely used alternate forms, unnecessary abrupt forms, causatives and direct conditionals, and similar forms that might be required for a full knowledge of the written language. On the other hand, this book is not simplified Japanese, nor baby Japanese, nor kitchen Japanese. It is the full idiomatic language, with thorough treatments of the material you really need: the noun, pronoun, adjective, demonstrative words, adverb, verb, negative forms, Chinese forms, courtesy and honorific forms, idiomatic constructions, word order, relationship of ideas, syntax, etc.Emphasis has been placed upon clarity of exposition, so that the English-speaking reader can understand what is really happening in Japanese, even if he has never studied any foreign language before. For this reason, explanation rather than brute memory work is stressed, examples are given for all constructions, and both word-for-word and free translations are given, to acquaint the reader with thought processes. Hints are given on avoiding difficult constructions. Japanese is presented in the Romaji transliteration, which can be read at sight. Characters are not used.