

LESSON NOTES

Absolute Beginner S2 #1

Counting Down to the New Year in Japan

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KANJI

1. (COUNTING DOWN FOR THE NEW YEAR) 10、9、8、7、6、5、4、3、2、1 ...。
あけましておめでとうございます!
:

KANA

1. (COUNTING DOWN FOR THE NEW YEAR) じゅう、きゅう、はち、なな、ろく、ご、よん、さん、に、いち...。
あけましておめでとうございます!
:

ROMANIZATION

1. (COUNTING DOWN FOR THE NEW YEAR) Jū, kyū, hachi, nana, roku, gō, yon, san, ni, ichi....
Akemashite omedetō gozaimasu.
:

ENGLISH

1. (COUNTING DOWN FOR THE NEW YEAR) Ten, nine, eight, seven, six, five, four, three, two, one...
Happy New Year!
:

VOCABULARY

| Kanji | Kana | Romaji | English |
|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| おめでとう。 | おめでとう。 | Omedetō. | Congratulations. (informal) |
| あけましておめでと うございます。 | あけましておめでと うございます。 | Akemashite omedetō gozaimasu. | Happy New Year. (formal) |
| おめでとうございま す。 | おめでとうございま す。 | Omedetō gozaimasu | Congratulations. (formal) |
| あけましておめでと う。 | あけましておめでと う。 | Akemashite omedetō. | Happy New Year. (informal) |

SAMPLE SENTENCES

| | |
|--|---|
| <p>たんじょうびおめでとう。 <i>Tanjōbi omedetō.</i></p> <p>Happy birthday.(informal)</p> | <p>みなさん、あけましておめでとうございま す。 <i>Mina-san, akemashite omedetō gozaimasu.</i></p> <p>Happy new year, everyone.</p> |
| <p>たんじょうび おめでとうございます。 <i>Tanjōbi omedetō gozaimasu.</i></p> <p>Happy birthday.(formal)</p> | <p>あけましておめでとう。 <i>Akemashite omedetō.</i></p> <p>Happy new year.</p> |

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

Akemashite Omedetō Gozaimasu (あけまして おめでとう ございます)

Akemashite is from the verb *akemasu*, meaning "to open," and *omedetō gozaimasu* is a polite phrase that means "congratulations." We use the phrase *akemashite omedetō gozaimasu* to celebrate the "opening," or start, of a new year. Though it corresponds to "Happy New Year!" in English, unlike the English, you can say *akemashite omedetō gozaimasu* only after a new year has come, even if it's one second after midnight-not before!

Please also note that in informal situations, we leave *gozaimasu* out.

For Example:

1. "Happy New Year!"
Informal: *Akemashite omedetō!*
Formal: *Akemashite omedetō gozaimasu.*

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is Mastering the Numbers from Zero to Ten.

あけましておめでとうございます!

Jū, kyū, hachi, nana, roku, gō, yon, san, ni, ichi,...

"Ten, nine, eight, seven, six, five, four, three, two, one..."

In this lesson, you'll learn how to count from zero to ten in Japanese!

Numbers in Japanese

Let's take a look at the numbers from zero through ten in Japanese.

Numbers from zero through ten:

| "Number" | <i>Japanese</i> | <i>Alternative Pronunciation</i> |
|----------|-----------------|----------------------------------|
| "zero" | <i>zero</i> | <i>rei</i> |
| "one" | <i>ichi</i> | |
| "two" | <i>ni</i> | |
| "three" | <i>san</i> | |
| "four" | <i>yon</i> | <i>shi</i> |
| "five" | <i>go</i> | |
| "six" | <i>roku</i> | |
| "seven" | <i>nana</i> | <i>shichi</i> |
| "eight" | <i>hachi</i> | |
| "nine" | <i>kyū</i> | <i>ku</i> |

We use the alternative pronunciations for certain numbers with time units or counters. However, in this lesson, let's just focus on the simple way of saying numbers.

Practice

Translate the following Japanese numbers into English!

1. *san*
2. *nana*
3. *jū*

Now, how do you say following numbers in Japanese?

1. "four"
2. "nine"
3. "one"

Answers:

1. *san* = "three"
 2. *nana* = "seven"
 3. *jū* = "ten"
-
1. "four" = *yon*
 2. "nine" = *kyū*
 3. "one" = *ichi*