

LESSON NOTES

Culture Class: Essential Japanese Vocabulary S1 #17

Commonly Used Medicines and Drugs

CONTENTS

- 2 Kanji
- 2 Kana
- 2 Romanization
- 3 English
- 3 Vocabulary
- 4 Sample Sentences
- 4 Cultural Insight

17

KANJI

1. What are five commonly used medicines and drugs in Japan?
2. 1. 風邪薬
3. 2. 頭痛薬
4. 3. 正露丸
5. 4. 湿布
6. 5. ムヒ

KANA

1. What are five commonly used medicines and drugs in Japan?
2. 1. かぜぐすり
3. 2. ずつうやく
4. 3. せいろがん
5. 4. しっぷ
6. 5. ムヒ

ROMANIZATION

1. What are five commonly used medicines and drugs in Japan?

CONT'D OVER

2. 1. kazegusuri
3. 2. zutsuugusuri
4. 3. seirogan
5. 4. shippu
6. 5. muhi

ENGLISH

1. What are five commonly used medicines and drugs in Japan?
2. 1. cold medicine
3. 2. headache medicine
4. 3. gastrointestinal medicine
5. 4. hot or cold pad used for muscle aches and injuries
6. 5. anti-histamine/anti-itch agent

VOCABULARY

| Kanji | Kana | Romaji | English |
|-------|-------|----------|---------------------------|
| 正露丸 | せいろがん | seirogan | gastrointestinal medicine |

| | | | |
|-----|-------|------------|--|
| 湿布 | しっぷ | shippu | hot or cold pad used for muscle aches and injuries |
| ムヒ | ムヒ | muhi | An anti-histamine/ anti-itch agent |
| 風邪薬 | かぜぐすり | kazegusuri | cold medicine |
| 頭痛薬 | ずつうやく | zutsūyaku | headache medicine |

SAMPLE SENTENCES

| | |
|---|--|
| <p>正露丸はにおいが強いので、糖衣錠タイプが発売され、多くの人に好まれています。 <i>Seirogan wa nioi ga tsuyoi node, tōijō taipu ga hatsubai sare, ōku no hito ni konomarete imasu.</i></p> <p>Because of Seirogan's strong smell, the pharmaceutical company that produces it invented a sugar-coated tablet version, which many people prefer.</p> | <p>子供から大人まで、広い世代の日本人が痛みやけがに湿布を使います。 <i>kodomo kara otona made, hiroi sedai no nihonjin ga itami ya kega ni shippu o tsukaimasu.</i></p> <p>From children to the elderly, Japanese people use hot or cold pads for muscle pains and injuries.</p> |
| <p>ムヒは、日本で長く使われているかゆみどめです。 <i>muhi wa, nihon de nagaku tsukawareteiru kayumi dome desu.</i></p> <p>Muhi is one of the longest selling anti-itch creams in Japan.</p> | <p>かぜ薬のCMは、冬によく流れます。 <i>kazegusuri no shīemu wa, fuyu ni yoku nagaremasu.</i></p> <p>TV commercials for cold medicines are broadcast more often in winter.</p> |
| <p>日本では、処方箋のいらない頭痛薬が約15種類もあります。 <i>Nihon dewa, shohōsen no iranai zutsūyakuga yaku jūgo shurui mo arimasu.</i></p> <p>There are around fifteen major types of headache medicines available without prescription in Japan.</p> | |

CULTURAL INSIGHT

1. Kazegusuri

It's normal for Japanese people to go see a doctor when they catch a cold. However, a variety

of cold medicines are available without prescription at pharmacies and drug stores. These medicines, called *kazegusuri*, are usually effective against many typical symptoms such as fever, runny nose, sore throats and coughs.

2. Zutsuugusuri

Pain killers are called *chintsūzai*, and the word *zutsūyaku* literally means "headache killer." Japanese people are not very familiar with medicine names such as "aspirin," so people tend to use collective terms, such as "medicine for headache."

3. Seirogan

Sērogan is a trademarked brand name of gastrointestinal medicine with an origin that dates back to the 1900s. The medicine is famous for its effectiveness, but it's also famous for its strong smell.

4. Shippu

Warm or cold packs for pain relief are popular, and are easily found at any drug store in Japan. Both cold and warm packs are used depending on the type of injury.

5. Muhi

Since there are many insects in Japan, pharmaceutical products to protect from mosquito bites and products for after being bitten are essential in summer. Muhi is one of the most famous products for calming itchiness, and is applied directly to a mosquito bite.