

LESSON NOTES

Culture Class: Essential Japanese Vocabulary S1 #18

Modes of transportation

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KANJI

1. What are five frequently used modes of transportation in Japan?
2. 1. 電車
3. 2. バス
4. 3. 地下鉄
5. 4. 新幹線
6. 5. 飛行機

KANA

1. What are five frequently used modes of transportation in Japan?
2. 1. でんしゃ
3. 2. バス
4. 3. ちかてつ
5. 4. しんかんせん
6. 5. ひこうき

ROMANIZATION

1. What are five frequently used modes of transportation in Japan?

CONT'D OVER

2. 1. densha
3. 2. basu
4. 3. chikatetsu
5. 4. shinkansen
6. 5. hikōki

ENGLISH

1. What are five frequently used modes of transportation in Japan?
2. 1. train
3. 2. bus
4. 3. subway
5. 4. bullet train, shinkansen
6. 5. airplane

VOCABULARY

| Kanji | Kana | Romaji | English |
|-------|------|--------|---------|
| 電車 | でんしゃ | densha | train |
| バス | バス | basu | bus |

| | | | |
|-----|--------|------------|-----------------------------|
| 新幹線 | しんかんせん | shinkansen | bullet train, Shinkansen |
| 飛行機 | ひこうき | hikōki | airplane |
| 地下鉄 | ちかてつ | chikatetsu | subway |

SAMPLE SENTENCES

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>ジャパン・レイル・パスは、JRのバスや電車に乗り放題の外国人向け特別割引パスです。</p> <p><i>Japan reiru pasu wa, jeiāru no basu ya densha ni norihōdai no gaikokujin muke tokubetsu waribiki pasu desu.</i></p> <p>Japan Rail pass is a special dicounted flat-rate pass available only to visitors which allows the holder to ride all JR trains as well as buses.</p> | <p>電車の切符を買います。</p> <p><i>Densha no kippu o kaimasu.</i></p> <p>I'll buy a train ticket.</p> |
| <p>長距離旅行には、高速バスもあります。</p> <p><i>Chōkyori ryokō ni wa, kōsokubasu mo arimasu.</i></p> <p>For long-distance joumeys, all-day and all-night buses are also available.</p> | <p>バスと電車、どちらのほうが速いですか。</p> <p><i>Basu to densha, dochira no hō ga hayai desu ka.</i></p> <p>Which is faster, a bus or a train?</p> |
| <p>在来線が全て禁煙なのに対し、新幹線には喫煙車両がある場合があります。</p> <p><i>Zairaisen ga subete kin'en nanoni taishi, shinkansen niwa kitsuen sharyō ga aru bāi ga arimasu.</i></p> <p>While local trains are all non smoking, some bullet trains have a few cars where smoking is allowed.</p> | <p>新幹線に乗った事がありますか。</p> <p><i>Shinkansen ni notta koto ga arimasu ka.</i></p> <p>Have you ever taken the Shinkansen?</p> |
| <p>日本は列島なので、飛行機はとても便利な交通手段です。</p> <p><i>Nihon wa rettō nano de, hikōki wa totemo benri na kōtsūshudan desu.</i></p> <p>Since Japan is a country with many islands, airplanes are a very convenient means of travel.</p> | <p>飛行機が苦手です。</p> <p><i>Hikōki ga nigate desu.</i></p> <p>I don't like airplanes.</p> |

東京の地下鉄の駅には、地下3階まである駅もあります。
Tōkyō no chikatetsu no eki niwa, chika sangai made aru eki mo arimasu.

Some underground stations in Tokyo go as deep as three floors down.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

1. train

JR, or Japan Rail, is a major train network running almost all over Japan. Other than JR, there are also many local private railways which are all very punctual.

2. bus

Buses in Japan are operated by many private companies. Depending on the city, passengers enter from either the front or back of the bus. On some buses, passengers pay when they get on at the front door, and on others, they pay when they get off.

3. subway

Subways are found mainly in big cities. For instance in Tokyo, there are 13 subway lines operated by Tokyo Metro.

4. bullet train, shinkansen

The "shinkansen" is a special rapid service train (often translated as "bullet train") offered by JR. New lines are being developed to link major cities all over Japan.

5. airplane

Main cities in Japan usually have airports. Along with trains, the plane is one of the main transportation means by which people travel across Japan.