

LESSON NOTES

Culture Class: Essential Japanese Vocabulary S1 #25 Writers

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KANJI

1. Who are five famous writers in Japan?
2. 1. 紫式部
3. 2. 川端康成
4. 3. 大江健三郎
5. 4. 村上春樹
6. 5. 樋口一葉

KANA

1. Who are five famous writers in Japan?
2. 1. むらさきしきぶ
3. 2. かわばたやすなり
4. 3. おおえけんざぶろう
5. 4. むらかみはるき
6. 5. ひぐちいちよう

ROMANIZATION

1. Who are five famous writers in Japan?

CONT'D OVER

2. 1. Murakami Haruki
3. 2. Kawabata Yasunari
4. 3. Ōe Kenzaburō
5. 4. Murakami Haruki
6. 5. Higuchi Ichiyō

ENGLISH

1. Who are five famous writers in Japan?
2. 1. Lady Murasaki, a Japanese novelist and poet of the Heian period
3. 2. Yasunari Kawabata, a short story writer and novelist
4. 3. Kenzaburo Oe, an author of contemporary literature
5. 4. Haruki Murakami, a Japanese writer and translator
6. 5. Ichiyo Higuchi, a female Japanese writer of the 19th century

VOCABULARY

Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English
樋口一葉	ひぐちいちよう	Higuchi Ichiyō	Ichiyo Higuchi, a female Japanese writer of the 19th century

紫式部	むらさきしきぶ	Murasakishikibu	Lady Murasaki, a Japanese novelist and poet of the Heian period
川端康成	かわばたやすなり	Kawabata Yasunari	Yasunari Kawabata, a short story writer and novelist
村上春樹	むらかみはるき	Murakami Haruki	Haruki Murakami, a Japanese writer and translator
大江健三郎	おおえけんざぶろう	Ōe Kenzaburō	Kenzaburo Oe, an author of contemporary literature

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>樋口一葉は、女性として初めてお札の肖像になりました。</p> <p><i>Higuchi Ichiyō wa, josei toshite hajimete osatsu no shōzō ni narimashita.</i></p> <p>Ichiyo Higuchi is the first woman whose likeness was printed on banknotes.</p>	<p>紫式部は、「源氏物語」でよく知られています。</p> <p><i>Murasakishikibu wa, "genji monogatari" de yoku shirarete imasu.</i></p> <p>Lady Murasaki is best known for her long story "The Tale of Genji".</p>
<p>日本人のほとんどの人は川端康成の「雪国」や「伊豆の踊り子」を読んだ事があります。</p> <p><i>nihonjin no hotondo no hito wa Kawabata Yasunari no "Yukiguni" ya "Izu no Odoriko" o yonda kotoga arimasu.</i></p> <p>Almost all Japanese people have read Yasunari Kawabata's novels "Snow Country" and "the Dancing Girl of Izu".</p>	<p>村上春樹の「ノルウェイの森」は430万部を売り上げ、「村上ブーム」のきっかけとなった。</p> <p><i>Haruki Murakami no "Noruwei no mori" wa yonsen gohyakuman bu o uriage, "Murakami būmu" no kikkake to natta.</i></p> <p>Haruki Murakami's novel Norwegian Wood triggered the "Murakami boom", with total sales of 4.5 million copies.</p>
<p>「万延元年のフットボール」は、大江健三郎の代表作です。</p> <p><i>"Man'nen gan'nen no futtabōrā" wa, Ōe Kenzaburō no daihyōsaku desu.</i></p> <p>"The Silent Cry" is one of Kenzaburo Oe's best known works.</p>	

CULTURAL INSIGHT

1. Lady Murasaki, a Japanese novelist and poet of the Heian period

Murasakishikibu was a Japanese novelist and poet in the Heian period. Her talent, which was evident from her childhood, continually surprised the people around her.

2. Yasunari Kawabata, a short story writer and novelist

Yasunari Kawabata was a Japanese short story writer and novelist who was the first Japanese writer to receive the Nobel Prize for Literature. Extracts from his work are often used in Japanese high school and junior high school textbooks and exams.

3. Kenzaburo Oe, an author of contemporary literature

Kenzaburo Oe is a Japanese author of contemporary literature. His works deal with political and social issues, including nuclear weapons and nuclear power.

4. Haruki Murakami, a Japanese writer and translator

Haruki Murakami is a Japanese writer and translator. His works are surreal and unique, and are highly appreciated worldwide.

5. Ichiyo Higuchi, a female Japanese writer of the 19th century

Ichiyo Higuchi (a pen name) is a female Japanese writer of the late 19th century. One of her best known works is "Takekurabe" (meaning "comparing heights", and translated as "Child's Play").