

LESSON NOTES

# Survival Phrases S2 #16

## Counting 1 to 10

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# 16

# VOCABULARY

Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English
一	いち	ichi	one
杯	はい	hai	counter for spoons, cups or glasses
枚	まい	mai	counter for flat objects
名	めい	mei	people
十	じゅう	jū	ten
九	きゅう	kyū, ku	nine
八	はち	hachi	eight
七	しち、なな	shichi, nana	seven
六	ろく	roku	six
五	ご	go	five
四	し、よん	shi,yon	four
三	さん	san	three
二	に	ni	two
個	こ	ko	counter for small objects

## SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>お茶を一杯ください。 <i>O-cha wo ippai kudasai.</i></p> <p>One cup of tea, please.</p>	<p>毎朝、水を一杯飲みます。 <i>Maiasa, mizu o i-ppai nomimasu.</i></p> <p>I drink a glass of water everyday.</p>
<p>大人のチケット一枚ください。 <i>Otona no chiketto ichi-mai kudasai.</i></p> <p>One adult ticket, please.</p>	<p>大人二名、子供一名。 <i>Otona ni-mei, kodomo ichi-mei.</i></p> <p>Two adults and one child.</p>

<p>A. 「何名様ですか。」 B. 「十人です。」  <i>A.Nan-mei-sama desu ka. B.Jū-nin desu.</i></p> <p>A: How many people are in your party? B: Ten people.</p>	<p>ビスケットを九個買います。  <i>Bisuketto o kyū-ko kaimasu.</i></p> <p>I'll buy nine biscuits.</p>
<p>八本のボールペンがテーブルの上にあります。  <i>Hachihon(happon) no bōrupen ga tēburu no ue ni arimasu.</i></p> <p>There are eight pens on the table.</p>	<p>ビール七杯と、酒八杯を下さい。  <i>Biru nanahai to, sake happai wo kudasai.</i></p> <p>Seven glasses of beer and eight glasses of sake, please.</p>
<p>お酒を六杯お願いします。  <i>O-sake wo roppai o-negai shimasu.</i></p> <p>Six glasses of sake, please.</p>	<p>五名様ですか。  <i>Go-mei-sama desu ka.</i></p> <p>Do you have five people in your party?</p>
<p>切符を四枚ください。  <i>Kippu o yon-mai kudasai.</i></p> <p>Four tickets, please.</p>	<p>コーヒーを三杯ください。  <i>Kōhī wo san bai kudasai.</i></p> <p>Three cups of coffee, please.</p>
<p>これを二個ください。  <i>Kore o ni-ko kudasai.</i></p> <p>Two of these, please.</p>	<p>これを二個ください。  <i>Kore o ni-ko kudasai.</i></p> <p>Two of these, please.</p>

## GRAMMAR

### Language Tip

There are many sets of numbers in Japanese, but we'll go over the most common and modern set. Please note there are two ways to say "four" and "seven" in this set alone.

Here we go!

"One" is *ichi*, "two" is *ni*, "three" is *san*, "four" is *shi* or *yon*, "five" is *go*, "six" is *roku*, "seven" is *nana* or *shichi*, "eight" is *hachi*, "nine" is *kyū*, and "ten" is *jū*. "Zero" is simply *zero* but pronounced in a slightly Japanese way ("zeh-roh").

To practice these numbers, try saying your phone number in Japanese!

## CULTURAL INSIGHT

## Another Way to Say Numbers in Japanese?

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### Tip #1

Now for Sachiko's Secret. As I mentioned before, there are several different ways of saying numbers in Japanese: some are old traditional words and some are modern. (The ones we introduced today are the modern ones.) The elderly population in rural Japan, for example, might still use *hi fu mi* for "one, two and three."

So if you hear another set of numbers, just repeat the numbers you know to let the other person know that you're familiar with a different set of numbers. And if all else fails, just hold up your fingers! Numbers are universal!

### Tip #2

When using numbers in Japanese, we often put a counter after each number. For example, for paper items like tickets, we put the counter *mai* after the number. *Ichi mai* means "one ticket" or "one piece of paper." To count people, we add *mei* among other options. So "two people" would be *ni mei*, and "four people" would be *yon mei*. Remember these phrases because they'll come up frequently when buying tickets or ordering at a restaurant.

Let's introduce some other counters. For a cup, glass, bowl, or any container we use for drinks and liquids, we use the counter *hai*. Depending on the number that we couple this with, the pronunciation changes slightly. For example, "one cup" is *ippai*, "two cups" is *nihai*, and "three cups" is *sanbai*. So if you want to order "two glasses of sake," you would say *Sake ni hai kudasai*. ("Please give me two glasses of sake.")

Lastly, the most common counter for objects in general is *ko*. Again, the pronunciation changes slightly depending on the number. "One piece" is *ikko*, "two pieces" is *niko*, and "three pieces" is *sanko*.

There is another set of numbers that is similar to *ikko*, *niko*, *sanko* and mean "one piece." That set would sound like this: *hitotsu*, *futatsu*, *mittsu*. We won't go through all of them here, but just know that there are various ways of saying numbers in Japanese.