

## LESSON NOTES

# Onomatopoeia #2

## Japanese Animal Sounds

---

## CONTENTS

- 2 Kanji
- 2 Kana
- 2 Romanization
- 2 English
- 2 Vocabulary
- 3 Sample Sentences
- 4 Grammar

# 2

## KANJI

1. 隣の家には、犬が3匹、猫が4匹いる。
2. 朝から、ワンワン、ニャンニャンうるさくて困る。

## KANA

1. となりのいえには、いぬがさんびき、ねこがよんひきいる。
2. あさから、ワンワン、ニャンニャンうるさくてこまる。

## ROMANIZATION

1. Tonari no uchi niwa, inu ga san-biki, neko ga yon-hiki iru.
2. Asa kara wanwan, nyannyan urusakute komaru.

## ENGLISH

1. My neighbor has three dogs and four cats.
2. I'm really annoyed by their barking and meowing in the morning.

## VOCABULARY

Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English
隣	となり	tonari	next to, next door to

困る	こまる	komaru	to be worried, to be bothered
うるさい	うるさい	urusai	noisy, annoying
夜	よる	yoru	night
昼	ひる	hiru	noon, daytime
朝	あさ	asa	morning
猫	ねこ	neko	cat
犬	いぬ	inu	dog
家	うち	uchi	house, home
匹	ひき	hiki	counter for small to medium-sized animals

## SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>隣の家が火事で燃えた。 <i>Tonari no ie ga kaji de moeta.</i></p> <p>The house next door burned down in a fire.</p>	<p>隣の部屋がうるさくて困る。 <i>Tonari no heya ga urusakute komaru.</i></p> <p>I'm really annoyed by the noisy room next door.</p>
<p>隣の部屋がうるさいです。 <i>Tonari no heya ga urusai desu.</i></p> <p>The room next door is really noisy.</p>	<p>平日の夜、私はジムに行きます。 <i>Heijitsu no yoru, watashi wa jimu ni ikimasu.</i></p> <p>I go to the gym on weeknights.</p>
<p>朝から昼まで働きます。 <i>Asa kara hiru made hatarakimasu.</i></p> <p>I work from morning to noon.</p>	<p>毎朝、私は六時に起きる <i>Maiasa, watashi wa roku-ji ni okiru.</i></p> <p>I get up at six o'clock every morning.</p>

<p>日本には、客が自由に猫と遊んでくつろげる「ネコカフェ」と呼ばれるカフェがたくさんあります。</p> <p><i>Nihon ni wa, kyaku ga neko to asonde kutsurogeru "neko kafe" to yobareru kafe ga takusan arimasu.</i></p> <p>There are many cafes in Japan called "Cat Cafes" where customers can have a relaxing time playing with the cats there.</p>	<p>テーブルの下にねこがいます。</p> <p><i>Tēburu no shita ni neko ga imasu.</i></p> <p>There is a cat under the table.</p>
<p>柴犬という犬は、常に日本人に人気のある日本犬です。</p> <p><i>Shibaken to iu inu wa, tsune ni Nihon-jin ni ninki no aru Nihonken desu.</i></p> <p>The "shibaken" is a Japanese breed of dog which has always been one of the most popular with Japanese people.</p>	<p>私の犬です。</p> <p><i>Watashi no inu desu.</i></p> <p>It's my dog.</p>
<p>地震で、家が揺れた。</p> <p><i>Jishin de ie ga yureta.</i></p> <p>My house shook because of the earthquake.</p>	<p>魚が八匹泳いでいます。</p> <p><i>Sakana ga ha-ppiki oyoide imasu.</i></p> <p>There are eight fishes swimming.</p>

## GRAMMAR

Today's target onomatopoeia are *wanwan* and *nyannyan*.

### Sample Sentences

隣の家には、犬が3匹、猫が4匹いる。

朝から、ワンワン、ニャンニャンうるさくて困る。

[ *Tonari no uchi niwa, inu ga san-biki, neko ga yon-hiki iru.* ]

[ *Asa kara wanwan, nyannyan urusakute komaru.* ]

My neighbor has three dogs and four cats.

I'm really annoyed by their barking and meowing in the morning.

### Explanation

**Wanwan** is the sound made by dogs, and **nyannyan** is the sound made by cats. They are spelled in both *Hiragana* and *Katakana* depending on the writer's perception. Generally speaking, *katakana* is used when the writer wants to emphasize the word. As for the sound cats make, some people may pronounce the word *nyānyā* (ニャーニャー or にゃあ にゃあ).

Please review the list of animal sounds, and connect the name of the animals to the sounds they make.

メーメー	mēmē	sheep or goat
ヒヒーン	hihīn	horse
ブーブー	būbū	pig
モーモー	mōmō	cow
ケロケロ	kerokero	frog
コケコッコー	kokekōkō	rooster

## Usage

To make sound...

\* [sound that animal or (living creatures) make] + (to) *naku*

\* [sound that animal or (living creatures) make] + (to) *iu*

To bark

\* [sound that animal or (living creatures) make] + (to) *hoeru*

Children often refer to dogs as *wanwan* rather than their real name, *inu* (犬).

## Example

小さな子が、「あ、ワンワンだ！」と言って、私の犬に近づいてきた。

*Chiisai ko ga "A wanwan da!" to itte watashi no inu ni chikazuite kita.*

A little kid said "Oh, it's a wan-wan (doggy)" and came closer to my dog.

家の前で小さい猫がニャーニャーと鳴いていた。

*ie no mae de chiisai neko ga nyānyā to naite ita.*

A small cat was meowing in front of the house.

ずっと、家に帰っていなかったなので、犬にワンワンほえられた。

*Zutto, uchi ni kaette inakatta node, inu ni wanwan hoerareta.*

Since I haven't gone home in such a long time, my dogs barked at me when I arrived.

今夜は かえるがケロケロよく鳴いている。

*Kon'ya wa kaeru ga kerokero yoku naite iru.*

The frogs are ribbitting loudly tonight.