

LESSON TRANSCRIPT

Japanese Counters for Beginners

#13

Wa

13

Do you know how to count big animals? I'll tell you the answer at the end of this lesson!

Hi everybody! I'm Alisha

こんにちは、 Yamamori です。

When you count birds, you can use the counter..

Okay, let's count numbers 1 to 10 with this counter.

Okay. Now let's take a look at some sample sentences that use this counter.

It's now time for a Quiz. I'm going to ask you a question in English. Answer the question in Japanese. Are you ready? Be sure to use the right counter.

We've learned the counters for small to medium size animals, but do you know how to count big animals? The answer is...

Okay, everyone. That's it for this lesson. I'll see you next time!

Welcome to Japanese Counters for Beginners, where you'll learn how to count all sorts of different objects in Japanese! Yamamori-sensei, what counter will we learn in this lesson?

羽

一羽

二羽

三羽

四羽

五羽

六羽

七羽

八羽

九羽

十羽

庭にすずめが二羽います。

How many birds are there?

一頭

(pause) 羽

This counter is basically for birds. The bird you are counting can be as big as an ostrich or as small as a baby chick, and it can even be used for a penguin.

Did you notice that there were some numbers that sounded different to how they usually sound? This counter can allow more flexibility compared to other counters.

There are different versions for the numbers 3, 6, 8 and 10. Yamamori-sensei will give you the right pronunciations for these.

There are 2 sparrows in the garden.

鳥が六羽います。

The kanji for this counter means "head". You can use this counter for large animals that are considered "threatening to humans", such as horses, whales and so on. You might hear on the news...

First, let's take a look at what sorts of objects can be counted with the counter.

For number 3, you can also say 'san-ba'.

For number 6, you can also say 'ro-ppa'.

For number 8, you can also say 'ha-ppa'.

For number 10, it's 'ju-ppa'.

学校で、にわとりを五羽、飼っています。

How many chickens did you draw?

くまが一頭、現れました。

We're raising 5 chickens at school.

ニワトリを四羽描きました。

And that means, "one bear appeared." Let's hope you won't hear this news though!

動物園で、ペンギンを七羽見ました。

I saw 7 penguins at the zoo.