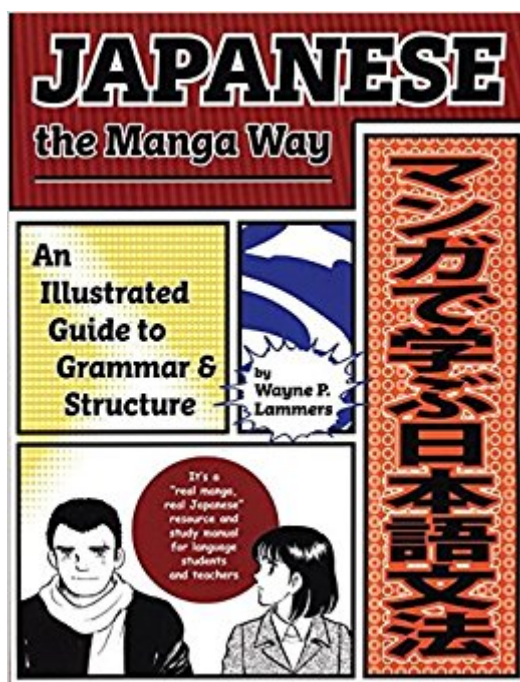


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Japanese The Manga Way: An Illustrated Guide To Grammar And Structure



Synopsis

Japanese difficult? Study boring? No way! Not with this “real manga, real Japanese” approach to learning. Presenting all spoken Japanese as a variation of three basic sentence types, *Japanese the Manga Way* shows how to build complex constructions step by step. Every grammar point is illustrated by an actual manga published in Japan to show how the language is used in real life, an approach that is entertaining and memorable. As an introduction, as a jump-start for struggling students, or (with its index) as a reference and review for veterans, *Japanese the Manga Way* is perfect for all learners at all levels. Wayne P. Lammers has taught Japanese at the college level and is an award-winning literary and commercial translator. He lives in Portland, Oregon.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Grade 10 Up
In concise, meticulous prose, Lammers intends to teach absolute beginners how to use manga to learn to speak and read conversational Japanese. This seems like a daunting task, and it is, but for someone who has the patience, drive, and desire to learn the language, the book will be an immense help. The author's primary method for teaching it is to present a panel or scene from a manga (a list of the manga used is included in an appendix), then offer a four-tier translation of what the character is saying. Beneath the written Japanese is the romaji ("Roman letters") text, then comes a word-for-word translation so nonnative speakers can understand the structure of the Japanese, and finally a polished translation that expresses what the sentence means in natural English. Between these panels and translations (which take up the bulk of each

page) are detailed explanations of the grammar, pronunciation, and sentence structure of each example. Although Lammers suggests that this book will be useful for beginners, he presents information in such a fast-paced way that readers will best be served by using the book as a supplement to a language class. No exercises are included, but the author does recommend specific titles for the purpose of self-testing. This volume will be useful for libraries in schools in which Japanese is taught as well as public libraries serving college-bound patrons. — Steev Baker, Kewaskum Public Library, WI Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

"Get a jump on preparing for that eventual pilgrimage to Japan by learning the language now -- and what easier way than with manga? "Japanese: The Manga Way teaches the differences and structures of the language using actual manga panels. Sneaky!" -- "Wizard Anime Insider

This book right here is the best book on Japanese Grammar I have ever read. I feel it's structured a lot like my engineering books and it makes it really easy for me to grasp and work through. I have tried about 4-5 other books before, but none of them worked for me or were as detailed as this one in grammar explanations. That said you should use this book for just that, Grammar. You should also not treat it like the holy grail book that will have you speaking and reading fluent Japanese when you are done. It only teaches you the mechanisms needed to decipher and understand sentences. It is not great for learning vocabulary or kanji. It also won't teach you to speak Japanese, reading only. But it does that very well. I would recommend getting this book to learn the base building blocks of the language and using another book/service to learn kanji and vocabulary. I personally found www.wanikani.com to work best for me, though it does have a monthly subscription. After you've got a handle on the grammar and know a fair amount of words you should start translating sentences. Anything is fine, blogs, twitter, manga etc... I found that this combination worked well for me. There is no quick solution, only the BIC (Butt In Chair) method will help you learn Japanese along with drills until you puke blood.

So far I have been studying this book on my own, and it has been a great addition to my Japanese language study. Easy to follow, clear and concise with lots of examples, I highly recommend this book to anyone who is studying Japanese either on their own or in addition to a classroom study.

I haven't really been able to learn much from this, it seems unorganized.. i guess?

"Japanese the Manga Way" is a triumph. The book uses black and white manga to teach some of the driest material with great effectiveness. Each of the 32 lessons have subcategories with at least one manga panel. The author provides context for the situation and writes the sentence in kana/kanji first... then romaji... then a literal translation... then what the sentence actually is. Bullet points below the sentence go in depth to explain the point he's trying to make. The biggest surprise is that this book can teach upper intermediate students something as its depth goes much further than its exterior would lead you to believe. Pros:-It's manga, dude! There is no better way to learn subject markers, direct objects and sentence modifiers. Trust me.-There is a lot of depth to the lessons. This will be a very useful reference tool for intermediate students.-Organized indexesWarnings:-This book does not teach you hiragana, katakana or even kanji. It teaches you grammar + structure. In a sense, it is for those whom have prior background in Japanese.-The manga are somewhat hard to follow. He uses around twenty different stories randomly (dependent on if they show his grammar point). Do not expect an epic tale as he just scratches the surface with most of the stories. This beats pretty much every other grammar book out there as it uses real manga panels to demonstrate boring concepts. Furthermore, it has a surprising amount of depth so don't be surprised if you read it more than once to soak it all in. This one will certainly occupy a special place on your bookshelf. Don't let its playful cover fool you. "Japanese the Manga Way" is the real deal.

My daughter is teaching herself Japanese and has purchased many books. She also LOVES Manga & the Japanese culture. This book really fits the bill, combining everything she loves plus learning into one place. The book was used but arrived looking near perfect. Plus it arrived sooner than we were told it would, a great surprise for her.

Great start on learning grammar for Japanese. This book can also serve as a reference or review for those with more experience with the language. Each grammar point comes with at least one example from an actual Japanese manga. I would recommend learning hiragana, katakana, and maybe some kanji prior to reading, so that you can read through the manga examples without using the translation or romaji as a crutch. However, it is not required as previously stated the examples are translated into romaji and english as well. Good luck!

So you want to learn Japanese? If you've had this desire for more than 5 minutes, you'll know that a

single book isn't going to be enough even for a beginner. This is a complicated language with multiple facets and three different writing scripts that get thrown together without care for the neophyte. So you're going to need to learn Kana (Hiragana and Katakana). You're going to need to memorize Kanji. You'll have to get a handle on pronunciation. You might need to learn to actually write these scripts. And oh yeah, you're going to need to learn the actual grammar. That last item is where this book comes in. It gives a brief introduction to Kana, Kanji, and pronunciation, but this book really shines in being a concise, entertaining, and well-organized grammar. There's a lot packed in here; the back says it covers the first two years of study, and I believe it! (ahem) Explanations of concepts are followed by examples in manga panels and a full breakdown of the script in the panels. The only knock I can make is VERY minor: If you're a manga fan, you're probably still not going to recognize anything here (outside of maybe Crayon Shin-Chan). The author opted to include only real-life/slice of life stuff purportedly because it better illustrates Japanese culture and use of language. I suppose it's a good thing, though. You won't accidentally encounter spoilers on stuff you were planning to read, and the panels are still entertaining in the context of the grammar. If you enjoy learning languages, this is practically a page-turner. Buy it ALONGSIDE resources that will help you master vocab and the writing script.

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