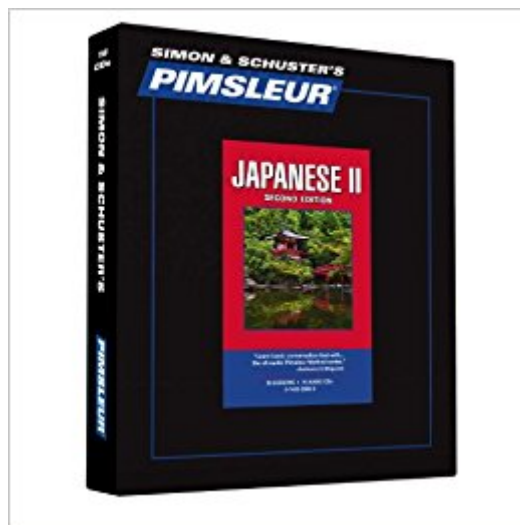


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# Pimsleur Japanese Level 2 CD: Learn To Speak And Understand Japanese With Pimsleur Language Programs (Comprehensive)



## Synopsis

The Easiest and Fastest Way to Learn Japanese Whether you want to travel, communicate with friends or colleagues, reconnect with family, or just understand more of what's going on in the world around you, learning Japanese will expand your horizons and immeasurably enrich your life. The best part is that it doesn't have to be difficult or take years to master. Thirty minutes a day is all it takes, and we get you speaking right from the first day. Pimsleur courses use a scientifically-proven method that puts you in control of your learning. If you've tried other language learning methods but found they simply didn't stick, then you owe it to yourself to give Pimsleur a try. Why Pimsleur? - Quick + Easy - Only 30 minutes a day. - Portable + Flexible - Core lessons can be done anytime, anywhere, and easily fit into your busy life. - Proven Method - Works when other methods fail. - Self-Paced - Go fast or go slow - it's up to you. - Based in Science - Developed using proven research on memory and learning. - Cost-effective - Less expensive than classes or immersion, and features all native speakers. - Genius - Triggers your brain's natural aptitude to learn. - Works for everyone - Recommended for ages 13 and above.

What's Included? - 30, 30-minute audio lessons - 60 minutes of recorded Culture Notes to provide you some insight into Japanese culture - in total, 16 hours of audio, all featuring native speakers - a Culture Notes Booklet and User's Guide What You'll Learn Builds upon skills taught in Pimsleur's Japanese Level 1. In the first 10 lessons you'll begin using the past tense. Structures become more complex and informal speech is introduced. Soon you'll take part in conversations about ordering meals, shopping, and local tourist attractions. As you progress, your fluency will increase as your vocabulary expands. The next 10 lessons will allow you to further combine and build upon known elements, and produce longer and more complex sentences. You'll be discussing business and social activities, expressing your interests, and talking about the weather. In the final 10 lessons you'll double your vocabulary and have several hundred structures to draw upon. You'll learn to express yourself with relative structures - faster, slower, etc. You'll be able to ask for assistance in many situations and to ask for directions to various locations. You'll explore sports and leisure activities, manage changing money and banking, and discuss travel plans. By the end of the program, you'll be speaking at a mid-intermediate level with near-native pronunciation, and you'll be comfortable meeting most social demands and limited job requirements. One hour of recorded Cultural Notes are included at the end of Lesson 30. These Notes are designed to provide you with some insight into Japanese culture. A Culture Notes booklet is also included in PDF format. The Pimsleur Method We make no secret of what makes this powerful method work so well. Paul Pimsleur spent his career researching

and perfecting the precise elements anyone can use to learn a language quickly and easily. Here are a few of his secrets:

- **The Principle of Anticipation** In the nanosecond between a cue and your response, your brain has to work to come up with the right word. Having to do this boosts retention, and cements the word in your mind.
- **Core Vocabulary Words**, phrases, and sentences are selected for their usefulness in everyday conversation. We don't overwhelm you with too much, but steadily increase your ability with every lesson.
- **Graduated Interval Recall** Reminders of new words and structures come up at the exact interval for maximum retention and storage into your long-term memory.
- **Organic Learning** You work on multiple aspects of the language simultaneously. We integrate grammar, vocabulary, rhythm, melody, and intonation into every lesson, which allows you to experience the language as a living, expressive form of human culture.
- **Learning in Context** Research has shown that learning new words in context dramatically accelerates your ability to remember. Every scene in every Pimsleur lesson is set inside a conversation between two people. There are no drills, and no memorization necessary for success.
- **Active Participation** The Pimsleur Method + active learner participation = success. This method works with every language and every learner who follows it. You gain the power to recall and use what you know, and to add new words easily, exactly as you do in English.

**The Japanese Language** Japanese is spoken by about 130 million people, 122 million of whom are in Japan. There are also speakers in the Ryukyu Islands, Korea, Taiwan, parts of the United States, and Brazil. Japanese has many registers or levels of politeness. Pimsleur's Japanese courses will teach you how to speak at a polite register, which is appropriate in virtually any situation you are likely to encounter in Japan.

**Tech Talk** - CDs are formatted for playing in all CD players, including car players, and users can copy files for use in iTunes or Windows Media Player.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Dr. Paul Pimsleur devoted his life to language teaching and testing and was one of the world's leading experts in applied linguistics. After years of experience and research, Dr. Pimsleur developed The Pimsleur Method based on two key principles: the Principle of Anticipation and a scientific principle of memory training that he called "Graduated Interval Recall." This Method has been applied to the many levels and languages of the Pimsleur Programs.

I lived in Japan for two years and may be going back for a visit next year, which is why I purchased Japanese language CDs. I didn't know anything about Pimsleur before I made my purchase but overall, I'm really pleased with the lessons. The strong points are: lots of repetition and review, but it's in the context of ongoing narrations/conversations, which is a bit more interesting than someone simply saying, "Okay, how do you say ... (x)?" I really like that, unlike many foreign language learning materials, the lessons are not necessarily geared towards university students. The orientation, at least to me, seems to be more for business purposes, ie, a person working in Japan who needs to know some basic grammar and vocabulary in order to get by in daily life and be able to make a bit of small talk with co-workers. Pimsleur does cover some "student" vocab too, throughout the CDs, in the context of talking about someone's children being high school or college students and studying at this or that school/university. One thing that surprises me a bit is the emphasis on using the "irassharu" form when speaking to others, eg, "dokode hataraitte irasshaimasu ka." The occasions on which I heard "irassharu" used in verb forms like this when I lived in Japan were very few and far between (although of course one hears, "irasshaimase," everytime one walks into a store). It seemed - to me anyways - to be very acceptable simply to use "imasu," even when addressing others. That said, I worked in schools - maybe it's different in the business world. As for vocab, I think it could be introduced at a faster rate, quite honestly, although at the same time, vocabulary is probably the easiest part of a foreign language to study on one's own - maybe the idea is that since vocab learning can be self-directed, there's no need to spend too much CD time on it? Whatever the reason, it's not a huge drawback. The only thing I really don't like about this series: it's very distracting when the male Japanese actor uses a strange voice to sound like a different character in the narration! Overall, very happy with this purchase.

There are (currently) 3 levels of the Pimsleur Japanese language program and this one is level 2. As with the first level, there are 30 lessons that each take about 30 minutes to complete. This level starts where the previous level ended. The start of each lesson is a review of previous lessons to help you refresh your memory and then continues with new words. This level emphasizes more on the levels of politeness when talking. You also begin to learn a different variation of some words, such as hot and cold, and how to decide which is the proper one to use depending on the topic or sentence. The complaint that I have with Pimsleur is that you do not have a guide as to what each lesson covers. So if you choose to go back to a certain section to review again, you are guessing how far you need to go back. A booklet does come with these cds but it is for notes on culture and only mentions a couple of words that were used in that specific lesson.

I have found that the Pimsleur language learning method works best for me. The principles behind it are well researched and founded, and is based on the way that we all initially learn language and communication as infants. Each lesson is well structured, continues to lead to the next and is integrated with the whole program. I have bought and tried a number of such programs, but this is the one I will stick with! I am very impressed!

I had struggled to learn languages over the years until I met Pimsleur. I travel to Japan frequently and just wanted to be able to ask simple directions at the airport, subway or of the taxi driver. The Pimsleur method works. My Japanese co-workers having fun with my new skills.

I received this very swiftly. the packaging is different than pictured, but looks nice. I took Japanese One before I went to Japan, and found it extremely helpful to at least have the basics to get around the country. I'm looking forward to trying the second set before I head back next year, and I hope to have a better grasp of Japanese. I listened to each lesson twice while driving over 3 month timeframe. It was very easy to learn.

Some of the lessons seem to skip. This is not as organized as Pimsleur Chinese. The native speakers do a good job, but the content skips very fast, or somewhat slow. Also doesn't really follow Japanese 1 (I got the Gold edition, which might be older). The Pimsleur gold edition uses different words for understanding than II. I wasn't really that happy with this one. I'm really thinking of going back to Chinese instruction.

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