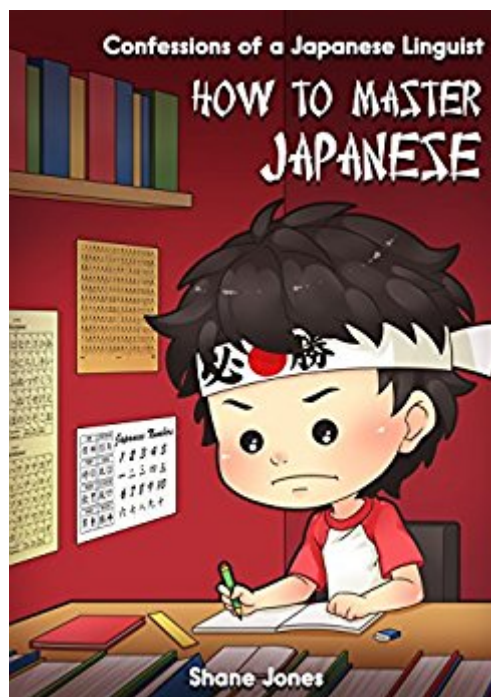




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Confessions Of A Japanese Linguist - How To Master Japanese: (The Journey To Fluent, Functional, Marketable Japanese)



Synopsis

Follow the author on his odyssey from a 24-year-old Midwesterner unable to speak a word of Japanese as he recounts his initial struggle to survive even Japanese 101, to cramming four years of college Japanese into one year with top grades, to gaining functional fluency, conquering kanji, and finally gaining sufficient mastery over the language to develop marketable Japanese skills as a Japanese teacher and translator, all within four short years. There is no shortage of excellent resources for learning the Japanese language. If simply having access to excellent study material or a learning environment were the key to language learning success, anyone today with an Internet connection or a good textbook would become a successful learner. However, without the proper insight and understanding of what it really takes to master Japanese, the reality is that most aspiring Japanese learners ultimately fail in their quest to master the language or even gain a basic level of fluency. This is NOT your run-of-the-mill Japanese textbook. You won't learn Japanese grammar, hiragana, katakana, or kanji by reading this book. Instead, *How to Master Japanese* provides a full insider's glimpse of what it really takes to succeed at Japanese, both inside the classroom and beyond, in order to attain a true functional proficiency in the language. As you read, you will learn how to negotiate the many unique nuances of Japanese culture, as well as avoid the many pitfalls and detours in the learning process that can result in years, if not an entire lifetime, of lost time and frustrated effort in attempting to learn the Japanese language and grasp the complicated intricacies of Japanese culture. Topics covered include: -Succeeding in Classroom Japanese-Study Abroad in Japan-Japanese Foreign Exchange-Successful Japanese Self-study-Conquering Kanji-Mastering Spoken Japanese-Negotiating Japanese Social Conventions-Making the Most of Your Stay in Japan-Advanced Japanese Language Study-Sex, Romance and the Japanese Language-Teaching English in Japan-How to Make Your Japanese Marketable-Working in Japan for a Japanese Company-How to Find a Japanese Specialization-Maintaining and Improving Japanese Post-Japan-How to Break into the Japanese Translation Industry-And Much More

How to Master Japanese is a must-read for any aspiring Japanese learner and is full of first-hand insight into the nuances of the Japanese language and culture for any reader with even a passing interest in the language and culture of Japan.

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Customer Reviews

I'm a language school teacher in Tokyo, and I find my students often too strapped down with "Getting N2" or passing exams and what not. Sometimes, students forget why they started leaning a foreign language in the first place - to laugh and cry in that language&culture. Shane Jones is the perfect example of an American student who made his journey to fluency (with his share of dry memorizing of course), and now laughs and cries and loves and swears in the local tongue of the ever changing Tokyo culture.

Having lived in Japan more than 10 years and spent a long time learning the Japanese language, I was interested in reading about the author's journey. He takes you step by step as he tells his experience; the good and the bad. Readers will come away with not just the author's personal story, but will also gain the know-how and confidence it takes to become fluent in the Japanese language.

There is really no improving someone's personal story and he did a great job sticking to the subject. I recommend this to anyone learning Japanese, especially those who want to use it in a career and those who are learning in a classroom setting. It is also a source of encouragement to those who are learning Japanese in a more custom setting. This is not a language hack book. Hard work and

dedication is the way the author achieved his level of Japanese and the way he encourages others to learn.

Whether you are looking ahead at the joyful prospect of learning Japanese or looking back over years of endless practice and memorization, "Confessions of a Japanese Linguist: How to Master Japanese" is an absolute `must read'!! This is NOT a Japanese grammar book, but rather an honest and positive revelation of the successes and pitfalls the author encountered while mastering this very different and extremely complicated language. Mr. Jones splendidly sets forth his expert suggestions for learning Japanese and at the same time, gives concrete examples of the very unique features of the Japanese language which makes it truly worthy of being called `the devil's tongue'. The most incredible thing for me, personally, was that with every page I found myself saying, "Oh my God! That is so true!" I have been genuinely devoted to studying Japanese for well over 20 years and I felt as if this book were written for me and about me for I have experienced and felt every word of this book! One of the things that I found so fascinatingly true was something Mr. Jones wrote near the close of the book: "You see, when you immerse yourself in the study of the Japanese language and commit to learning the nuances of the language and culture, you can't help but to undergo something of an identity change." And that is so true!! On a rating scale of 1 to 5 stars, I would - without hesitation - give it 11 stars!

I was skeptical when I first bought this book, but after reading it thoroughly and actually taking many study skills from this book, I am a firm believer. This book is fantastic and takes you through the full course of learning a foreign language (Japanese) through an American's perspective. Make sure you get this book because you will learn many things you would have never picked up otherwise. Thank you for writing this book and inspiring me to continue in my quest to learn Japanese. I hope many others will be just as inspired.

I tried to Google how to study Japanese. This books pretty much covers it.Don't expect to learn any Japanese from this book. Its lesson lies somewhere else.

Definitely more memoir than helpful learning tools, but interesting.

This is a well-written, very entertaining book about a man and his dream to master Japanese. If you find yourself in that position, read this book, as it will inspire you to persevere!

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