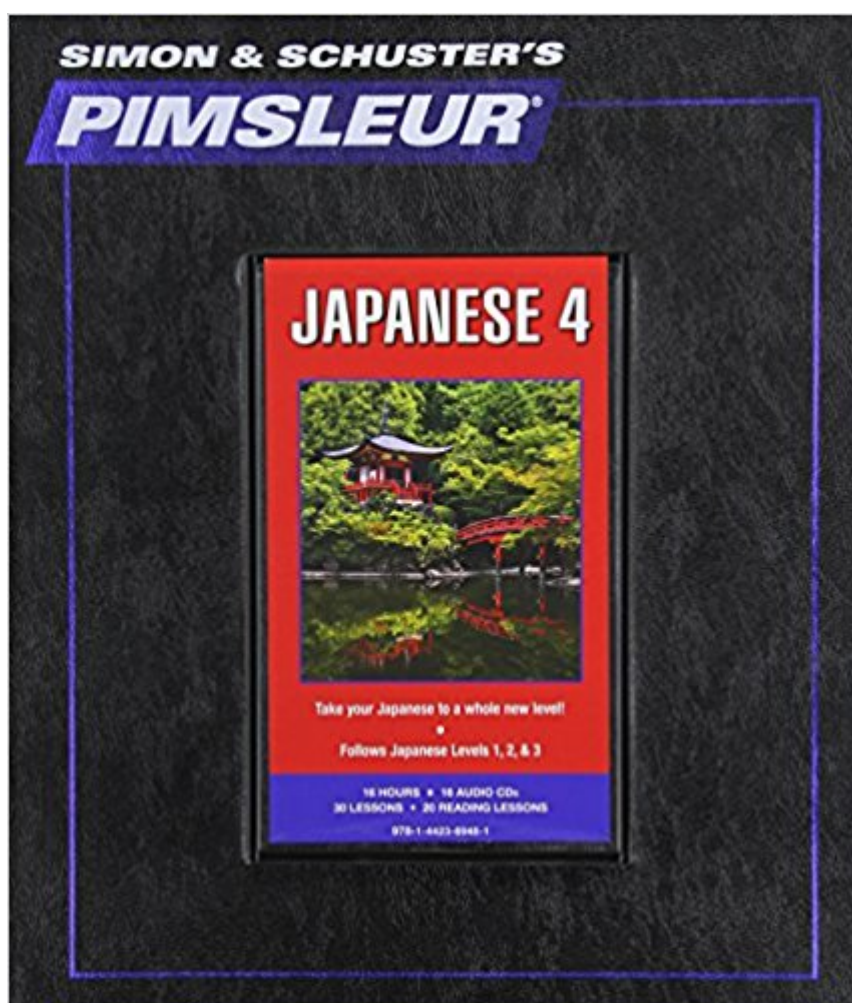


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Pimsleur Japanese Level 4 CD: Learn To Speak And Understand Japanese With Pimsleur Language Programs (Comprehensive)



Synopsis

The Easiest and Fastest Way to Learn Japanese Did you know that about 122 million people in Japan, and another 8 million worldwide speak Japanese? For Americans, it's perceived as a difficult language to learn, but in fact, it's quite regular. Once you get the basics down, you'll be surprised how quickly you're able to begin speaking it. And even knowing a little bit of the language will make travel to Japan far easier, and much more fun. Whether your goal is 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 to speak 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 in Japanese 4? - 30, 30-minute audio lessons - Approximately 1 hour and 10 minutes of Hiragana reading instruction - A Reading Booklet and User's Guide - In total, over 16 hours of audio, all featuring native speakers What You'll Learn Japanese Level 4, Lessons 1-30 includes 15 hours of spoken language practice, and approximately 1 hour and 10 minutes of reading instruction, broken down into thirty convenient half-hour lessons, plus an easy-to-use guide and Reading Booklet. Japanese 4 covers a variety of everyday topics. What if your phone's battery is running low? What if you forgot your wallet on the bus? What if you're late for an appointment or to meet your friends? Do you know the correct way of dipping yourself into an onsen (hot springs) at a traditional Japanese inn? We've got you covered! In Japanese 4, you'll be immersed in the culture while you are learning the language! Some of the activities covered in Japanese 4: - You'll visit a Japanese garden and have tea, go shopping, try on clothes, visit Japanese hot springs. - You'll learn to negotiate lodging or plan a move. - You'll learn how to get help finding something you've lost, and how to ask for and understand detailed directions. - You'll be able to discuss the seasons, historic cities and buildings, sports and outdoor activities and hobbies like photography, express appreciation to your

hosts or friends, and amazement and wonder when trying new things. Reading and Writing in Japanese By the 5th century AD Chinese characters began to be widely used in Japan. This early alphabet, Kanji, created new literacy, but brought many complications in pronunciation. In the 8th century, two new phonetic alphabets, or kana, were devised to bridge the gap: Hiragana and Katakana. Hiragana is used along with the Kanji to show the syllables that form suffixes and particles “ sounds • in other words, while Katakana was used for foreign loan words, like “coffee” or “computer.” Today in Japan, the three writing systems are combined, with Kanji, Hiragana, and Katakana all appearing within a single sentence. In Japanese 4 you will begin to learn to read the Hiragana alphabet. There are forty-six basic Hiragana syllables, with additional modified syllables that represent voiced and contracted sounds. Japanese is usually written from top to bottom in vertical columns and from right to left. This course will expand your vocabulary, encourage you to share your opinions and interests, introduce you to less formal conversations, and help you to venture out to new travel destinations in Japan. You™ll learn to share your impressions and opinions, express gratitude, describe people and places, and convey your preferences with characteristic Japanese politeness and grace. 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 Principal 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. Constant Feedback Loop + Build-in Testing Pimsleur™s unique system of cues and responses provides a constant feedback loop. You can test yourself as you go, and make incremental corrections in creating and refining cohesive, clear responses. Gives You a Solid Foundation Each lesson and Level builds on the ones before it and in turn sets the framework for the lessons and Levels that follow. Learn what you need to prosper and to build a foundation to future learning. The Japanese Language Japanese has many “registers” or levels of politeness. Throughout every level of your Pimsleur course, you will learn how to speak at a polite register, which is appropriate in

virtually any situation you are likely to encounter in Japan. In Level 4, you will also learn some ways of speaking in a less formal manner, used in conversation between friends, family members, or colleagues who are at the same level in an organization. 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

Series: Comprehensive (Book 4)

Audio CD

Publisher: Pimsleur; Unabridged, 30 lessons, plus Hiragana reading instruction edition (January 27, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1442369485

ISBN-13: 978-1442369481

Product Dimensions: 12.5 x 2.2 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.6 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 6 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,496,855 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #20 in [Books > Books on CD > Languages > Language Instruction > Japanese](#) #394 in [Books > Textbooks > Humanities > Foreign Languages > Japanese](#)

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.

The Pimsleur method is the best method for learning to talk in any language.

The fourth level got into some good stuff including the informal way of speaking Japanese. Also, there was a different speaker who was very perky. Lots of good phrases and vocabulary.

If you are considering buying Pimsleur IV, I am sure that you have completed the previous courses

and know what to expect. But, nevertheless, I would like to describe what this course has in store for you. The main difference between this course and Pimsleurs I, II, and III is that the teaching situations or settings are a slight deviation from previous ones. I will explain this later. Also, the phrases are much more in depth and sophisticated. Pimsleur IV includes 30 lessons, each approximately 30 minutes long! It seems like a lot, but you would be surprised how quick they go by. The course also includes 1 hour and 10 minutes worth of hiragana readings along with a reading booklet. I will not be reviewing these recordings because I do not intend on listening to them. I used a different method in *Remembering the Kanji/Kana* so I have no use for them. The lessons' settings include, but are not limited to, shopping at the mall, speaking about college class lectures, what you like or dislike about your college dorm room/classes, describing family members (mom, dad, older siblings, and grandkids), visiting different places (Sky Tree, Mt. Fuji, Nara Park, a fireworks show etc), talking about sports/the Winter Olympics, describing nature, feeding animals, and much more. One thing to note is that of the three Japanese speakers, only the male speaker returns from the updated Pimsleur I course. The Female speaker and the Japanese instructor are different. Each one pronounces words in a different manner, which some may find annoying, but I loved. The pros of Pimsleur Japanese IV are:

- Repetition
- Reviews from past courses
- The grammar is learned naturally
- Pronunciation is emphasized
- New verb and adjective conjugations, especially from vocabulary learned previously
- It does NOT focus on business (except for maybe the first and last lesson)
- Great choice of phrases and cultural contexts, very useful for students and/or tourists
- Clear speaking voices
- Pronunciation different

The cons include:

- Except for Lesson 02, the course still focuses on formal Japanese (a major con in my opinion)
- Different conjugations from previous courses
- *Remembering the Kanji/Kana* vocabulary, without warning but with same meaning (ex. *I have to excuse myself* is different in this course than in Pimsleur Japanese II or III)
- Sometimes not enough time to respond (Japanese speakers answer immediately after Ray Brown asks a question)

I wish this course would have covered informal Japanese much more. A major con, though, is that this course, and the previous ones too, is so good that I am ALWAYS left hungering for more! It is never enough! Now, I took 2/3 of year 1 Japanese at my university during the 2013-2014 academic year. I have to say that Pimsleur Japanese I-IV covers material from year 1 and early year 2 Japanese. I studied Pimsleurs I-III throughout 2013 during my 1 hour and 30 minute walk to campus in the early mornings. The native Japanese instructors and Teaching Assistants were very surprised with my accent and knowledge. I also sometimes find myself wiggled out with the ability to just *think* in Japanese. All in

all, these courses are great, and this new installment is no different. Please, Simon and Schuster, release Japanese V! I would definitely preorder it immediately upon announcement!

This is a fantastic program, which I've used for several languages with great results. However, Pimsleur offers all its programs for \$120 on its website for the digital version. All the files are mp3s and easily downloadable from Pimsleur's website. Simply drag into iTunes or onto your phone or mp3 player.

It's about time they have #4! I find the speed to be a bit faster than 1-3, wondering how come I don't learn the pronunciation of great phrases or words like in 1-3. But I like the fact it picks up right from where #3 left off. What helps is repeating the lessons twice or 3 times. What also helps is using Google Translate or Jisho.org to help me look up the phrases or words to see if I'm pronouncing something correctly.

SUPERB! as usual, Pimsleur is my No 1 choice to break a language. I have completed Japanese levels 1,2,3... and I was ecstatic when Pimsleur released LEVEL 4 JAPANESE! arigato gosaimas!

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