



LEARN TO READ HIRAGANA AND KATAKANA

Please Note: These workshops will be conducted online via Zoom. To participate fully, you will need access to a device with internet, microphone, and camera (such as a laptop, smartphone, or tablet). Please note that all times listed are New York time (ET).

These mini-workshops offer the beginning student of Japanese the opportunity to quickly and efficiently master the reading of the two Japanese syllabaries, hiragana and katakana. It is these two writing systems, in combination with the more complex kanji (ideograms which represent meaning), which constitute the written Japanese language.

Hiragana was developed from the cursive style of kanji at the beginning of the Heian era (794 – 1192). Its function is to represent sound rather than meaning, and it is used to write native Japanese words as well as verb inflections, adjectival endings, etc.

Katakana was developed in the Nara period (710 – 794) by either simplifying the kanji imported from China or by squaring off its cursive style. It is used to represent foreign names and words imported into the Japanese language, for onomatopoeic and mimetic words, certain slang expressions, telegrams, technical terms, and so forth.

Hiragana Workshop: Thursday, January 19 6:30-8:30 pm ET

Katakana Workshop: Friday, January 20 6:30-8:30 pm ET

Although it is not required to show your face or video online, we **highly recommend having your video on** if possible. Seeing each other's facial expressions is a part of conversation and language learning. **We also ask that every participant be able to participate via their microphone.** If you do not have one of these capabilities or would like to discuss accommodations, please contact us at language@japansociety.org.

Instructor: **Ms. Kazue Kurahara** earned a BA from Hunter College and an MA in Teaching Japanese as a Foreign Language from NYU. She holds teaching certifications in both Japanese and English as a Second Language. She has taught Japanese at various institutions, including New York University, Hunter College, Pace University, and The New School. She is the scriptwriter and host of Japan Society's YouTube series "Uki Uki NihonGO! + Culture."

HOW TO REGISTER

Workshop capacity is limited! To guarantee a seat, please register as soon as possible. If the workshop reaches full capacity, a waitlist may be available. Please email language@japansociety.org.

Tuition (each workshop): \$37 Nonmembers
 \$30 Japan Society members / Japan Society Corporate members

Registration may be completed online (preferred) or by phone at (212) 715-1269 or (212) 715-1293.

Registrants will receive a **Welcome Email** and **Zoom link** from language_inquiries@japansociety.org on:

the afternoon of Wednesday, January 18, 2023 (for the Hiragana Workshop)
the afternoon of Thursday, January 19, 2023 (for the Katakana Workshop)

Questions? Please email us at language@japansociety.org, or call at **(212) 715-1269 or (212) 715-1293**. Please note that while we are working remotely, we may not always be reachable by phone.

PLEASE NOTE

Cancellation Policy: Cancellations are accepted until 12 pm ET, the business day before a course or workshop begins. With a cancellation, a refund of tuition minus a service charge (\$20 for courses, \$5 for workshops) will be provided. After this deadline, cancellations are not accepted.

Cancellations are accepted by phone only. We do not accept email cancellations.

Japan Society also reserves the right to cancel any course or workshop if sufficient enrollment is not obtained. In such cases, students already enrolled will receive full refunds (no service charge).

By registering for a course or workshop, you accept and agree to the above terms of the cancellation policy.

Students must be age 16 or older.

We do not record our classes or workshops, and recording is prohibited.