

# REVIEW

## CHAPTER 1 Fluency Practice

Directions: In pairs, decide on who will read out and who will answer each prompt. Afterwards, change partners and roles. Speak faster. Do NOT write anything down.

### *Aikido*

### Partner's response

1. Do you think *aikido* is exciting?  
 Yes. It is exciting because\_\_\_\_\_.  
 No. Aikido is kind of dull because\_\_\_\_\_.
2. Which is more exciting: *aikido* or karate or *kyudo*?
3. Is there one sport that you particularly like?
4. Do you ever watch any martial arts on TV?

### Famous Japanese Athletes

5. Did you watch the 2008 Summer Olympics in China?  
 Yes, I have / did and I like to say\_\_\_\_\_.  
 No, I haven't / didn't because I \_\_\_\_\_.
6. Do you follow any of the swimming events?  
 I try to watch the swimming events of \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.  
 I really don't watch any swimming events. I am more interested in\_\_\_\_\_.
7. Should Japan hold the Olympics in 2016?
8. Can you tell me about any of the athlete discussed above?
9. What are some of the sports that Japanese usually win gold or silver metals at?
10. Are there any athletes that you are following and who might participate in the Olympics?

### Little League

11. Have you ever played little league baseball?  
 Yes I have. I played on the \_\_\_\_\_team in\_\_\_\_\_.  
We probably won [ most ] [ half ] [ only a few ] of the games.  
 No, I haven't. I never was interesting in baseball and I had no time for it.
12. Are girls becoming more interested in baseball now?  
 Yes, they are. I now see many girls playing on school teams.  
 No they are not. They usually play volleyball or do other sports.
13. What are the rules to baseball?
14. Does baseball really teach "teamwork"?
15. Should there be a professional "womans" baseball team? Why or why not?

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## CHAPTER 2 Fluency Practice

Directions: In pairs, decide on who will read out and who will answer each prompt. Afterwards, change partners and roles. Speak faster. Do NOT write anything down.

### J-Pop

### Partner's response

1. Do you like any of these artists: X-Japan, Glay, Kumi Koda, TM Revolution?

Yes, I especially like\_\_\_\_\_.

No, none of them are any good.

2. Are there any other singers better than these?

3. Is Japanese pop music getting any better?

4. Are women better singers than men?

5. Are pop music groups all the same?

### Traditional Instruments

6. Do you ever listen to any jazz? Why or why not?

Yes, I do. I particularly like\_\_\_\_\_.

No, I don't jazz because\_\_\_\_\_.

7. Do you know and like any of these artists?

I know\_\_\_\_\_ and\_\_\_\_\_. I really like\_\_\_\_\_.

I really do not know any of these artists.

8. Do you know these other jazz artists: Weather Report, Freddie Hubbard, Albert Ayler, Charles Mingus, Paquito D'Rivera, Sonny Fortune, Donald Byrd, Jackie McLean?

9. What jazz groups are now popular in Japan?

10. If you were a musician, what instrument would you play?

### Pop Divas

11. Do you ever listen to Ayumi Hamasaki or Kumiko Koda? Why or why not?

Yes I have. I like\_\_\_\_\_.

No, I haven't because\_\_\_\_\_.

12. Are there any "new" and "exciting" pop singer now?

Yes, they are. I now see many girls playing on school teams.

No they are not. They usually play volleyball or do other sports.

13. What is the difference between pop singers now?

14. What do you like and dislike about Ayumi Hamasaki?

15. Do you think pop singers have any "message," anything important to say to young people?

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## CHAPTER 3 Fluency Practice

Directions: In pairs, decide on who will read out and who will answer each prompt. Afterwards, change partners and roles. Speak faster. Do NOT write anything down.

### *Soba*

### Partner's response

1. What do you know about *kake soba*?
2. How about *kitsune soba*? How is that different from *kake soba*?
3. How is *tempura soba* different from *tororo soba*?
4. How is *soba* different from *udon*, as shown below?
5. Are traditional Japanese dishes becoming less and less common in your area due to fast food restaurants?

### *Yakitori*

6. Do you like *yakitori*?
7. Have you ever made *yakitori*?
8. How often do you eat *yakitori*, say in one month?
9. What other Japanese dishes do you like?
10. What ingredients are used to make various kinds of *yakitori*?

### *Okonomiyaki*

11. Do you like *okonomiyaki*?
12. Have you ever made *okonomiyaki*?
13. How often do you eat *okonomiyaki* say in one month?
14. What is *okonomiyaki* like, I mean, what does it taste like? Is there another food you can compare it with?
15. What ingredients are used to make various kinds of *yakitori*?
16. Talk about the two courses below. Which one do you like best? Why? What are the dishes in the one on the right?

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## CHAPTER 4 Fluency Practice

Directions: In pairs, decide on who will read out and who will answer each prompt. Afterwards, change partners and roles. Speak faster. Do NOT write anything down.

### *Bonsai*

### Partner's response

1. Have you ever had a *bonsai* before?  
[ ] Yes, I had a *bonsai* when I was \_\_\_ years-old, and \_\_\_\_\_.  
[ ] No, I never had a *bonsai* before because \_\_\_\_\_.
2. What are some techniques for shaping a *bonsai*?
3. Do young people collect *bonsai* trees nowadays?
4. What kinds of trees does one use to make a *bonsai*?

### Japanese Dolls

5. Does your family have any Japanese dolls?
6. What kind of dolls do you like more: daruma dolls or Kokeshi dolls?
7. What does a 博多人形, Hakata Doll, look like?
8. Do Japanese girls “name” their dolls like girls in the West do?
9. Are Japanese dolls usually passed down from mother to daughter?
10. Are Japanese dolls losing popularity nowadays due to video games?

### Japanese Fans and Armor

11. Do you have any Japanese fans?
12. Why do you buy them? Have you given any to friends?
13. Are Japanese fans still important as gifts?
14. How expensive are most fans?
15. Would you buy a Japanese fan for your mother? If so, how much would you spend on it?

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## CHAPTER 5 Fluency Practice

Directions: In pairs, decide on who will read out and who will answer each prompt. Afterwards, change partners and roles. Speak faster. Do NOT write anything down.

### *Shogatsu*

### Partner's response

1. Have you ever had a visited a temple or shrine at midnight on January 1st before? If so, which one?  
What did you do?  
 Yes, I visited several temples or shrines. They were\_\_\_\_\_.  
 No, I just stayed home and watched TV. I usually watch\_\_\_\_\_.
2. Is *Shōgatsu* an enjoyable time for you?
3. Have you received any *otoshidama* lately?
4. How many New Years cards (*nengajo*) did you send out this past January? Will this year be lucky for you?
5. What is your favorite dish at this time of year?
6. Do you have any plans for January 1st next year?

### *Seijin no Hi*

7. Have you ever experienced a Coming-Of-Age day? Perhaps with a family member or relative?  
 Yes, I have just \_\_\_ year(s) ago. I watched\_\_\_\_\_.  
 No, I have never been to a Coming-Of-Age day.
8. What do you do after going to “City Hall” or to the Ward Office?
9. Is this day important?
10. What will (did you) you on the (next / last) Coming-Of-Age day?
11. Has this day changed over the past 20 years?

### *Tanabata Festival*

12. What do you remember about the Tanabata Festival?
13. Is this holiday still important?
14. What does one “do” on this holiday?
15. What kinds of things do you buy on this day?
16. Do you think that most Japanese know about the above legend?

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## CHAPTER 6 Fluency Practice

Directions: In pairs, decide on who will read out and who will answer each prompt. Afterwards, change partners and roles. Speak faster. Do NOT write anything down.

### *Shogi*

### Partner's response

1. Have you ever played or heard of this game before?  
[ ] Yes, I played this game before, maybe when I was \_\_\_ years old. I enjoyed it.  
[ ] No, I have just heard about this game, but I do know \_\_\_\_\_.  
[ ] No, I have never heard of this game.
2. If you played this game now, at your age, would it still be enjoyable?
3. Do you think young children now would enjoy this game, considering how exciting video and TV games are?

### *Hanestuki*

4. Is it really true that there are portraits of celebrities from entertainment, sport and politics such as Prime Minister Fukuda, Harry Potter, soccer players like Nakata and Beckham and fantasy characters such as Kitty-chan and Spiderman on some *hagoita*?
5. Have you played this game before?
6. Who plays this game more: girls or boys?
7. How does one win in this game? What are the rules?
8. At what time of year is this game usually played?

### *Karuta and Ohajiki*

9. Did you ever play *karuta* and *ohajiki*?
10. Is it popular? Who plays this game more: girls or boys?
11. I heard that there is a proverb connected to the picture with the first syllable of the *kana* on the picture. Do you remember any of these proverbs?
12. I heard that there are two kinds of cards used for this game. One is called *yomifude* (読札). What does that mean?
13. The other card is called *torifuda* (取り札). So, how would this be understood in English?
14. I heard that there are other kinds of *karuta*. Can you tell me about them?

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## CHAPTER 7 Fluency Practice

Directions: In pairs, decide on who will read out and who will answer each prompt. Afterwards, change partners and roles. Speak faster. Do NOT write anything down.

### Kitakyushu-city

### Partner's response

1. Have you ever been to Kitakyushu-city?
2. Do you think a city like Kitakyushu, would be a good place to take a tour?
3. How does Kitakyushu compare to your own city?

### Kumamoto Castle

4. Have you ever been to Kumamoto Castle?  
 Yes, I was just there recently in the past year. I really enjoyed seeing \_\_\_\_\_.  
 No, I have never been there, but I like to say \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Do you think it is a beautiful castle?
6. What do you like and dislike about Japanese castles?
7. How do Japanese castles compare with European ones?
8. Can you tell me a little about the history of this castle or about a castle in your city?
9. Are castles good tourist attractions? I mean, are they better than amusement parks for young Japanese?

### Kanmon Straits

10. Have you ever seen Kanmon Straits? If so, what did you think about it?
11. Do you think this is an interesting place to visit?
12. What is this area famous for?
13. What are some sites to see in this area?
14. Is there any special souvenirs or food that you would buy if you visited this area?

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## CHAPTER 8 Fluency Practice

Directions: In pairs, decide on who will read out and who will answer each prompt. Afterwards, change partners and roles. Speak faster. Do NOT write anything down.

Partner's response

### Johrei

1. Have you ever heard about or tried *johrei* before?

[ ] Yes, I have, and I can say that it is \_\_\_\_\_.

[ ] No, I haven't but I think I [ would ] [ would not ] like to try it because \_\_\_\_\_.

2. Do you think *johrei* would be effective with you?

3. What other ways have you tried to relax?

4. Have you ever tried yoga or breathing exercises?

### Onsen

5. How many times have you been to an *onsen*?

6. Do you think *onsens* are a good way to relax?

7. What features do you look for in an *onsen*?

8. What are the names of some famous *onsens* in your area?

9. What kind of people do you usually find in an *onsen*?

10. What is the difference between a good *onsen* and a bad one?

11. Is the *onsen* above typical of the ones you have been to? What do the prices refer to in the above console?

### Pachinko Consoles

12. Have you ever played *pachinko*?

13. Do you know of someone who plays a lot of *pachinko*? If so, why do they like it?

14. Can you explain the game?

15. Are *pachinko* consoles very different from parlor to parlor?

16. What kind of people usually play *pachinko*?

17. Is this a good way to relax? Why or why not?



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## CHAPTER 9 Fluency Practice

Directions: In pairs, decide on who will read out and who will answer each prompt. Afterwards, change partners and roles. Speak faster. Do NOT write anything down.

### Ken Watanabe

### Partner's response

1. Have you ever heard about Watanabe Ken?

Yes, I have, and I can say that he is \_\_\_\_\_.

No, I haven't but I think \_\_\_\_\_.

2. Have you seen any of his movies?

3. What are some other actors or movie directors do you like?

### Yukichi Fukuzawa

4. Were you familiar with Yukichi Fukuzawa and his achievements?

Yes, I know all about this man. I have studied a lot about Japanese history, and \_\_\_\_\_.

Well....I know some of Fukuzawa's achievements like \_\_\_\_\_.

No, sad to say, but I know nothing about Yukichi Fukuzawa.

5. Are there similar people like him today?

6. Who would you consider the most famous Japanese woman?

7. Did you read about Fukuzawa in your history class?

8. What other famous historical figures did you learn when you were in school?

9. Which ones do you like and respect?

### The Japanese Emperor

10. Do you hear much news about the emperor? If so, what is it usually about?

11. What are your views about the emperor?

12. Compared to previous emperors in Japan, is Emperor Akihito any better?

13. Do you think it would be a good idea for the emperor to have more power?

14. What have you recently heard about the Japanese royal family?

15. What is the difference between the Japanese royal family and the British royal family?

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## CHAPTER 10 Fluency Practice

Directions: In pairs, decide on who will read out and who will answer each prompt. Afterwards, change partners and roles. Speak faster. Do NOT write anything down.

Partner's response

### *Maneki Neko*

1. How often do you see these *maneki nekos*?

Yes, I see many of them when I go to \_\_\_\_\_.

No, I rarely see them now because \_\_\_\_\_.

2. Do you believe that these *maneki neko* are important?

3. What other animals are known as lucky in Japanese culture?

4. Do you think that another animal like a dog would be suitable as a *meneiko inu*?

### Foxes

5. What do you know about superstitions concerning the fox?

6. Do you believe in any of them?

7. I heard that some foxes have nine tails. What does this all mean?

8. Can a fox take on a human form? What does the *kanji* mean on the foxes above?

9. I heard that there are two classifications of foxes. One is called *myobu*? What kind of fox is this?

10. How about the other classification—*nogitsune*?

### *Omikuji and Ema*

11. Have you ever tried *omijuji*? What did it say?

12. What do you think of *ema*?

13. What do you wish for each year?

14. Does your family still go to shrines and temples?

15. Do younger people still do this as much as before?

16. If you were to change this practice in some way, what would you try to change?

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## CHAPTER 11 Fluency Practice

Directions: In pairs, decide on who will read out and who will answer each prompt. Afterwards, change partners and roles. Speak faster. Do NOT write anything down.

Partner's response

### Astro Boy

1. Which one of these animation did you see a lot of when you were a child?

[ ] Well, I usually watched \_\_\_\_\_.

[ ] To be truthful, I only watched \_\_\_\_\_.

2. Do you still like *Doraemon* and Astro Boy?

3. What is so special about these animations?

4. If you were to make up a new animation, what kinds of characters would you put in it?

### *Naruto*

5. Do you know about this particular *anime*?

6. What do you think of it?

7. What other animations do you know about? Could you briefly explain the characters and story?

8. Do you think that *animie* today is too violent?

9. Are animations like this better than the ones you saw 15 or 10 years ago?

### *Anpanman and Doraemon*

10. Do you remember this anime or stories about this character?

11. What do you think of it?

12. Have animations gotten more interesting in the past 10 years?

13. Do most children still care about *Doraemon*? How about *Anpaman*?

14. Could you tell me the story-line about this *Doraemon*?

15. If you were a parent, what animations would you show your own children? Why?

# REVIEW

## CHAPTER 12 Fluency Practice

**Directions:** In pairs, decide on who will read out and who will answer each prompt. Afterwards, change partners and roles. Speak faster. Do NOT write anything down.

### *Bunraku*

### Partner's response

1. Have you ever seen a *bunraku* show?

[ ] Well, I usually watched \_\_\_\_\_.

[ ] Ah, I know that \_\_\_\_\_.

2. Do you think this is an important part of Japanese culture?

3. Would you ever like to be a puppeteer, a person manipulating the puppets from above?

4. What are most of these *bunraku* stories about?

### *Noh* Theater

5. Did you know any of the above information?

6. Have you ever watched a *noh* play?

7. What are most of the *noh* stories about?

8. Could you tell me if *noh* theater should be changed? If so, how?

9. Could you tell me the names of some famous *noh* actors?

10. Would do your parents think about *noh*?

### *Sumi-e*

11. Have you ever painted a *sumi-e* picture?

12. What do you think of such pictures?

13. Is *sumi-e* an important part of Japanese culture?

14. What kinds of pictures do you like to look at?

15. What are some names of some *sumi-e* painters?

16. Would you like to paint *sumi-e* pictures again?

# REVIEW

## CHAPTER 13 Fluency Practice

**Directions:** In pairs, decide on who will read out and who will answer each prompt. Afterwards, change partners and roles. Speak faster. Do NOT write anything down.

### Gift-giving

### Partner's response

1. Does your family follow the gift giving custom of *seibo* and *chūgen*?

[ ] Well, I usually give gifts to \_\_\_\_\_.

[ ] Ah, I don't give gifts because \_\_\_\_\_.

2. Do you think this is an important custom?

3. What kinds of gifts have you given and to whom?

4. What kinds of gifts do you usually receive from people?

### Bathing

5. Do you think that Japanese bathrooms are better than western style ones?

6. Is a longer and lower bathtub better than a high and small one?

7. Do you like going to onsens? Are public baths a good way to relax?

8. Do you think that there should be any "improvements" in how Japanese bathrooms are designed?

9. Are there any "rules" relating to Japanese bathrooms that you could tell a foreigner?

### Summer Cards

10. Do Japanese still send out summer cards? Why or why not?

11. Do you think sending out summer cards is a good idea?

12. What kind of pictures go on a summer card?

13. If you were to send a summer card, what kind of message would you write?

14. If you were to send a summer card, what kind of image would you want to have on it?

# REVIEW

## CHAPTER 14 Fluency Practice

**Directions:** In pairs, decide on who will read out and who will answer each prompt. Afterwards, change partners and roles. Speak faster. Do NOT write anything down.

### Kyoto Imperial Palace

### Partner's response

1. Would you rather go to an amusement park than to see this palace or others like it in Kyoto?

[ ] Yes, of course I like to visit this palace because\_\_\_\_\_

[ ] No, I would rather see\_\_\_\_\_.

2. What do you think would be particularly interesting to see at this palace?

3. What are some other famous historical buildings that you know about in your prefecture?

4. Have you read much about other landmarks in Japan? If so, which ones?

### Japanese Gardens

5. Which Japanese gardens have you seen?

6. Are there many Japanese gardens in your own area?

7. Are Japanese gardens a good place to take a “boyfriend” or “girlfriend”?

8. Have you visited a Japanese garden like *Suizen-ji*, *Joju-en* (above) with your family? Why or why not?

9. Can you tell me about some famous Japanese gardens?

10. If you could design a Japanese garden, how would you design it? What exactly would you put in to it?

### *Shachihoko*

11. What is your opinion about the carp shown above as a *shachihoko*?

12. Have you seen one in person before? Where? How does it compare with the one shown above?

13. Do normal houses or buildings have a *shachihoko*?

14. What do most Japanese think about *shachihoko* now?

15. If you were to use another animal or fish as a *shachihoko*, what would it be?