Preface

This is a dictionary of intermediate Japanese grammar, a companion volume to *A Dictionary of Basic Japanese Grammar* published in 1986 by the same authors. While DBJG was designed primarily for students and teachers of beginning-level Japanese, this volume is designed for students and teachers of intermediate-level Japanese. After examining relevant textbooks, some references on sentence patterns, and authentic sources used in intermediate and advanced Japanese courses, we have chosen approximately 200 entries which we believe to be the most important grammatical items for intermediate Japanese learners.

The format of this dictionary is the same as that of *A Dictionary of Basic Japanese Grammar*. For the convenience of readers who have not used DBJG, we have repeated from that text the sections To the Reader and Grammatical Terms. In this volume, however, we have modified To the Reader slightly and have added some entries to Grammatical Terms. Along with the Japanese index, there is an English index that lists the English equivalents for each entry. One difference between the two volumes is that no romanization has been provided for example sentences in *A Dictionary of Intermediate Japanese Grammar*. Instead, *furigana* (hiragana over kanji) is used.

Needless to say we owe a great deal to our predecessors, whose works are listed in the references. Without their linguistic insights we could never have written this dictionary. We would like to thank our colleagues, friends, and spouses, who have kindly answered our persistent questions and shared their language intuition. However, for fear of omission, we would rather not attempt a comprehensive listing of names. Even so, we want to mention three individuals who made this publication possible, first, Ms. Chiaki Sekido from the Japan Times, who edited our manuscript most conscientiously and effectively, and helped us invaluably with her comments and suggestions. Also, our thanks go to Ms. Carmel Dowd and Ms. Sharon Tsutsui, who edited our English to make it more readable.

We sincerely hope that this dictionary will be useful in furthering our readers' understanding of Japanese.

Spring of 1995

Seiichi Makino
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To the Reader

This dictionary consists of the following parts:

A. **Grammatical Terms** contains brief explanations or informal definitions of the grammatical terms used in this book. If readers find that they are not familiar with these terms, it is suggested that they read this section carefully.

B. **Special Topics in Intermediate Japanese Grammar** discusses selected topics: Japanese discourse grammar, newspaper grammar, conversational strategies, and sentence structure analysis for reading comprehension. The section introduces readers to a number of important concepts with which they should be familiar in order to improve their reading and conversational skills.

C. **Main Entries** constitutes the core of this volume. Each entry is organized as follows:

1. [entry name]
2. [part of speech]
3. [usage restriction]
4. [meaning / function]
5. [English counterpart(s)]
6. [related expression(s)]
7. ◆Key Sentence(s)
8. Formation
9. Example(s)
10. Note(s)
11. [Related Expression(s)]

1. [entry name]: Each entry is given in romanized spelling followed by its hiragana version. Entries are alphabetically ordered based on their romanized spellings.
2. [part of speech]: Each entry is followed by its part of speech.
3. [usage restriction]: <s> or <w> is provided when the entry item is used only in spoken Japanese or only in written Japanese and formal speeches, respectively.
4. [meaning / function]: The general meaning or function of the entry item is given in the box below the entry name.
5. [English counterpart(s)]: English expressions equivalent to the entry item are given to the right of the box.
6. [related expression(s)]: Items which are semantically related to the entry item are listed as [REL. aaa, bbb, ccc]. Expressions in plain type like aaa are explained in the entry under [Related Expression(s)]. Expressions in bold type like bbb contain comparisons to the entry item under [Related Expression(s)] for bbb.
7. ◆Key Sentence(s): Key sentences present typical sentence patterns in frames according to sentence structure. The recurrent elements are printed in red.
8. Formation: The word formation rules / connection forms for each item are provided with examples. The recurrent elements are printed in red.
9. Example(s): Example sentences are provided for each entry.
10. Note(s): Notes contain important points concerning the use of the item.
11. [Related Expression(s)]: Expressions which are semantically close to the entry item are compared and their differences are explained.

(⇒ aaa (DBJG: 000–000)) in Formation, Notes, and [Related Expression(s)] indicates that the item which was referred to (i.e., aaa) is explained on pp. 000–000 of the companion volume: *A Dictionary of Basic Japanese Grammar*.

D. **Appendixes** contains information such as katakana word transcription rules, compound verbs, compound particles, conjunctions, prefixes and suffixes, counters, cooccurrence, and functional expressions and grammar patterns.

E. **Indexes** provides both a Japanese index and an English index. The Japanese index includes the main entries, the items explained in [Related Expression(s)], and the items covered in *A Dictionary of Basic Japanese Grammar*. The English index includes English counterparts of the main entry items.
List of Abbreviations

Adj(i) = i-type adjective (e.g. takai, yasu)
Adj(na) = na-type adjective (e.g. genkida, shizukada)
Adv. = adverb
AdvP = adverb phrase
Aff. = affirmative
Ant. = antonym
AP = adjective phrase
Aux. = auxiliary
Comp. prt. = compound particle
Conj. = conjunction
Cop. = copula (e.g. da, desu)
DBJG = A Dictionary of Basic Japanese Grammar
Dem. adj. = demonstrative adjective (e.g. kono, sonna)
D.O. = direct object
Fml. = formal
Gr. = Group
Inf. = informal
Int. = interjection
Irr. = irregular
KS = Key Sentence
LSV = Location + Subject + Verb
N = noun
Neg. = negative
Nom. = nominalizer (e.g. no, koto)
NP = noun phrase
Phr. = phrase
Pl. = plural
Pot. = potential
Pref. = prefix (e.g. 0-, go-)
Pro. = pronoun
Prt. = particle

REL. = Related Expression
S = sentence
<> = used in conversation only
Sconc = concessive clause (i.e. a clause which ends with -temo or -demo)
Scond = conditional clause (i.e. a clause which ends with -ba and -tara)
Sinf = sentence that ends with an informal predicate
SLV = Subject + Location + Verb
S.o. = someone
S.t. = something
SOV = Subject + Object + Verb
SV = Subject + Verb
Str. = structure
Suf. = suffix (e.g. -sa, -ya)
V = verb
Vcond = conditional stem of Gr. 1 Verb (e.g. hanase of hanaseba)
Vinf = informal form of Verb (e.g. hanasu, hanashita)
Vmasu = masu-stem of Verb (e.g. hanashimu, tabe of tabemasu)
VN = Chinese-origin compound noun which forms a verb by affixing suru (e.g. benkyo, yakusoku)
Vneg = informal negative form of Gr. 1 Verb (e.g. hanasa of hanasanai)
VP = verb phrase
Vpot = verb potential form (e.g. yomeru, taberarenu)
Vstem = stem of Gr. 2 Verb (e.g. tabe of taberu)
Vte = te-form of Verb (e.g. hanasite, tabete)
Vvol = volitional form of Verb (e.g. hanas0, tabeyo)
<<w>> = used in writing and formal speech only
Wh-word = an interrogative word (e.g. nani, doko)
List of Symbols

⇨ = Refer to.
? = The degree of unacceptability is indicated by the number of question marks, three being the highest.
* = ungrammatical or unacceptable (in other words, no native speaker would accept the asterisked sentence.)
[A / B] C = AC or BC (e.g. [V / Adj(i)] inf = Vinf or Adj(i) inf)
Ø = zero (in other words, nothing should be used at a place where Ø occurs.
Thus, Adj(na) {Ø / datta} kamoshirenai is either Adj(na) kamoshirenai or Adj(na) datta kamoshirenai.

Grammatical Terms

The following are brief explanations of some grammatical terms used in this dictionary.

Active Sentence A sentence which describes an action from the agent's point of view. (cf. Passive Sentence) In active sentences, the subject is the agent. Sentences (a) and (b) below are an active and a passive sentence, respectively.
(a) 先生はジョンをしかった。
(The teacher scolded John.)
(b) ジョンは先生にしかられた。
(John was scolded by the teacher.)

Agent One who initiates and / or completes an action or an event. The agent is not always in the subject position. Compare the positions of the agent Bill in (a) and (b).
(a) ビルはマーサをぶった。
(Bill hit Martha.)
(b) マーサはビルにぶたれた。
(Martha was hit by Bill.)

Appositive Clause (Construction) A clause which modifies a noun (or noun phrase) and explains what the modified noun is. In (a), Meari ga Tomu ni atta ‘Mary met Tom’ is an appositive clause, and is what jijitsu ‘the fact’ refers to.
(a) 私はメアリーがトムに会った事実を知っている。
(I know the fact that Mary met Tom.)

Auxiliary Adjective A dependent adjective that is preceded by and
attached to a verb or another adjective. The bold-printed parts of the follow-
ing sentences are typical auxiliary adjectives.

(a) 私はジョンに行ってほしい。
(I want John to go there.)

(b) この辞書は使いやすい。
(This dictionary is easy to use.)

(c) 私はすしを食べたい。
(I want to eat sushi.)

(d) ベスは大学を出たららしい。
(Beth seems to have graduated from college.)

(e) 花子は寂しいようだ。
(Hanako looks lonely.)

(f) このお菓子はおいしそうだ。
(This cake looks delicious.)

**Auxiliary Verb** A verb which is used in conjunction with a preceding verb or adjective. The bold-faced words of the following sentences are typical auxiliary verbs.

(a) ビルは今手紙を書いている。
(Bill is writing a letter now.)

(b) 窓が開けてある。
(The window has been opened.) (= The window is open.)

(c) 彼は宿題をし誠まった。
(I have done my homework.)

(d) 私は友達にお金を貸してあげた。
(I loaned money to my friend.)

(e) このコンピューターは高すぎる。
(This computer is too expensive.)

(f) ジョージはスポーツカーを欲しがっている。
(lit. George is showing signs of wanting a sports car. (= George

wants a sports car.))

(g) あっ！雨が降って来た！
(Gee! It’s started to rain!)

**Causative Sentence** A sentence in which someone / something makes or lets someone / something do s.t. as in (a) and (b).

(a) 先生は、学生を漢字を覚えさせた。
(The teacher made his students memorize kanji.)

(b) 彼女は、私にさせて下さい。
(Let me do it.)

(c) 彼はハンカチをしみらせた。
(I dampened my handkerchief.)

**Compound Particle** A particle which consists of more than one word but functions like a single particle. For example, the compound particle to shite wa consists of the particle to, the te-form of suru and the particle wa, but it is used like a single particle to mean ‘for.’

(cf. Double Particle)

**Compound Sentence** A sentence which consists of clauses combined by coordinate conjunctions such as ga meaning ‘but’ or by continuative forms of verbs, adjectives or the copula such as Vte, Adj. te and Cop. te meaning ‘- and.’

(a) 彼は俺だがスミコミさんは泳がなかった。
(I swam but Mr. Smith didn’t.)

(b) 吉田さんは東京に行って鈴木さんに会った。
(Mr. Yoshida went to Tokyo and met Mr. Suzuki.)

**Conditional** A word, phrase, or clause which expresses a condition, as in (a), (b) and (c).

(a) 翻訳の仕事ならやります。
(I will take it on if it’s a translation job.)

(b) 安ければ買うかも知れない。
(I might buy it if it is cheap.)
Special Topics in Intermediate Japanese Grammar

1. Discourse Grammar

(1) Mechanism of Cohesion: Inter-sentential Reference

When two or more sentences are recognized as a cohesive sequence (i.e., discourse) rather than a collection of unrelated sentences, in many instances the discourse involves certain linguistic mechanisms to maintain cohesiveness between sentences.* Among such mechanisms, inter-sentential reference is one of the most common ones.**

Inter-sentential reference (ISR) is a kind of reference in which an element in a sentence refers to something or someone mentioned in another sentence. Specifically, when reference is made to an entity mentioned in a previous sentence, it is called “anaphoric reference” or “anaphora.” Anaphora is the most common ISR. Examples of anaphora are given in (1). In this discourse the bold-faced parts (i.e., anaphoric elements or anaphors) refer to persons or things mentioned in previous sentences.

(1) これに清兵衛と田村由と瓢箪との話である。この出来事以来清兵衛と

*Cohesiveness is also maintained by the information each sentence carries. In general, a sequence of sentences is recognized as a cohesive unit when the sentence contains a “common thread” in terms of the information they carry. For example, a set of sentences is recognized as a cohesive unit if the sentences have a common topic. Similarly, if sentences are put together to perform a common function (e.g., making a request), they are recognized as a cohesive unit.

**Another mechanism to maintain cohesiveness between sentences is the conjunction. As a matter of fact, conjunctions (or conjunction equivalents) such as those shown in (i) create a cohesive sentence sequence by connecting sentences directly.

(i) そして (and then); そこで (therefore); しかし (however); 一方 (on the other hand); 例えば (for example); ついでながら (incidentally); その結果 (as the result of that)

(⇨ Appendix 4. Conjunctions)}
amari あまり conj. <w>

A conjunction which marks a cause that involves excessive action
because of too much ~; because ~ too much; so ~ that ~
[REL. sugiru]

◆Key Sentences

(A)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Noun</th>
<th>あまり</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 私はその晩 | 兴奮 の あまり | 寝られなかった。

(I was so excited that I couldn’t sleep that night.)

(B)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Subordinate Clause</th>
<th>Main Clause</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| この教科書は | 文法を | あまり | 重視するもの | 面白くないもの | になった。

(This textbook has turned out to be an uninteresting one because it stressed grammar too much.)

Formation

(i)  N のあまり

心配のあまり (because of too much anxiety)

(ii)  Vinf あまり

用心するあまり (s.o. is so cautious that)

Examples

(a) 秋子は恐怖のあまり声も出なかった。

(Akiko was so frightened that she couldn’t even make a sound.)
(b) 私は喜びのあまり思わず語の人に抱きついてしまった。
(I was so happy that I hugged the person beside me without thinking.)

(c) 日本の英語教育は文法が強調されるあまり会話力の養成が難しくなっているそうだ。
(As for English education in Japan, it seems that because grammar is emphasized too much, the development of conversational skills is neglected.)

(d) 今回の会議は形式を重んずるあまり内容が乏しくなってしまった。
(The last meeting ended up having little content because it focused too much on formalities.)

**Notes**

1. Clauses and phrases involving the conjunction あまり can be rephrased using the adverb amari and the conjunction node or tame ni, as in (1).

   (1) a. 私はその晩あまり興奮したので/ために寝られなかった。 (=KS(A))
   b. この教科書はあまり文法を重視したので/ために面白くないものになってしまった。 (=KS(B))

   (⇒ amari (DBJG: 72–73))

2. Adji(つ) and Adji(な) cannot precede あまり, as seen in (2) and (3).

   (2) 私は(悲しみの/*悲しい)あまり涙も出なかった。
   (I was so sad that I couldn’t even cry (lit. even tears didn’t come out).)

   (3) 彼らは(心配の/*心配な)あまり食事も喉を通らない様子だった。
   (It looked like they were so anxious that they couldn’t even eat (lit. even foods didn’t go through their throats).)

3. Vinf can be either past or nonpast when it represents a past action or event, as in (4), although the nonpast form is more common.

   (4) この教科書は文法を重視したあまり面白くないものになってしまった。 (=KS(B))

**[Related Expression]**

The auxiliary verb sugiru expresses a similar idea. For example, KS(A) and (B) can be rephrased using sugiru, as in [1].

[1] a. 私はその晩あまり興奮したので/ために寝られなかった。 (=KS(A))
   b. この教科書はあまり文法を重視したので/ために面白くないものになってしまった。 (=KS(B))

However, there are some differences between amari and sugiru. First, amari is always a part of an adverbial clause or phrase which expresses a cause. Sugiru, however, does not always express cause and can be in the predicate of a main clause. Second, amari is used only when the verb or noun represents a psychological action or state. Thus, the following sentences are unacceptable.

[2] *昨日ビールを飲むあまり今日頭が痛い。
   (Yesterday I drank too much beer and I have a headache today.)

   cf. 昨日あまりビールを飲んだので/ために今日頭が痛い。

[3] *疲れのあまり食欲がない。
   (I am so tired that I have no appetite.)

Third, sugiru is used in both spoken and written Japanese while amari is limited in use to formal written Japanese.

(⇒ sugiru (DBJG: 423–25))
Appendix 1  Katakana Word Transcription Rules

*Katakana* words, or borrowed words spelled in *katakana*, make up a significant portion of Japanese vocabulary. When the original foreign words are used as Japanese words, certain phonological rules apply to them, usually yielding somewhat different pronunciations from the original.

The following is a list of correspondences between English vowels and Japanese vowels to show how a particular English vowel is perceived by a native Japanese. English is used here, because the majority of borrowed words are now coming from English. Phonetic symbols are given in brackets.

(A)  English [æ] (cat, salmon) [ア] (cat, come), and [ə] (suppose, ahead) → Japanese [a]

(A') English vowels [u:] (father, calm), [œr] (service, fur), and [ər] (doctor, better) → Japanese [u]

(B)  English [i] (sit, busy) → Japanese [i]

(B') English [i:] (beat, chief) → Japanese [i]

(C)  English [u] (book, put) → Japanese [u]

(C') English [u:] (soup, rule) → Japanese [u]

(D)  English [e] (get, friend) → Japanese [e]

(E)  English [ə] (hot, yacht) → Japanese [o]

(E') English [œu:] (all, chalk) → Japanese [o]

The following rules can be used to interpret unfamiliar *katakana* words or to transcribe foreign words in *katakana*.

**Rule 1:** Both [s] and [θ] (the sound for *th*) are represented by サ シ セ ソ.

Exs.  
- service → サービス
- seat → シート
- switch → スイッチ
- sex → セックス
- socks → ソックス
thank you → サンキュー
think tank → シンクタンク
theory → セオリー

Rule 2: Both [z] and [ʣ] (the voiced version of [ʦ]) are represented by ザジスセン.

Exs. Zambia → ザンビア
zigzag → ジグザグ
zoom → ズーム
zero → ゼロ
zone → ゾーン

godfather → ゴッドファーザー

Rule 3: Both [ɾ] and [l] are represented by ラリルロ.

Exs. rice → ライス
radio → ラジオ
lamp → ランプ
rule → ルール
list → リスト

Rule 4: [ʧ] (church, cheese) and [ʤ] (judge, gesture) are represented by チ and ジ, respectively.

Exs. cheese → チーズ
kitchen → キッチン
judge → ジャッジ
exchange → エックスチェンジ

Rule 5: [tɬ] and [dɬ] are represented by チɬティ or デɬディ, respectively.

Exs. party → パーティー
ticket → チケット
dilemma → 〔ヂィティ〕レンマ
diesel → 〔ヂィティ〕ゼル

Rule 6: [tu] is represented by ツ.

Exs. tool → ツール
two → ツーユー

Note: Some Japanese can now pronounce [tu].

Rule 7: [ʧ] (church, cello) and [ʤ] (soldier, gesture) / [ʦ] (measure, decision) are represented by チャチュチュチョ and ジャジュジェジョ, respectively.

Exs. Chinatown → チャイナタウン
chewing gum → チューインガム
chocolate → チョコレート
jumbo jet → ビジュボジェット
juice → ジュース
Johnson → ジョンソン

Rule 8: Word-final consonants or two or more consonants in succession are pronounced and written with a vowel placed after each consonant.

8-1: The vowel [o] is added to a word-final [t] or [d].

Exs. bat → バット
post → ポスト
test → テスト
note → ノート
pound → ポンド
poolside → プールサイド
Polaroid → ポラロイド
shade → シェード

(Exception: salad → サラダ)

8-2: The vowel [u] comes after [p], [b], [f], [v], [k], [ŋ], [s], [z], [θ], [ʦ], [l] and [m].

Exs. grape → グレープ
Bob → ボブ
knife → ナイフ
25. Apologizing

A: 遅くなってすみません。
(I'm sorry I'm late.)

B: いえ。
(That's all right.)

Variations:
すみません, Vte <s>
ごめんなさい (f.)
ごめんなさい, Vte <s> (f.)
ごめん, Vte <s> inf.sit.
ごめん, Vte <s> inf.sit.
すまないね, Vte <s> inf.sit., m.
すまないね, Vte <s> inf.sit., m.

ENGLISH INDEX

A
a ni tsuki
a way of -ing -yō
a way to -yō
à la fû ni
-able uru/eru
about ni kanshite/kansuru, ni tsuite, no koto
absolutely not masaka
according to ni yotte/yori, no ue de wa
accordingly ni shitagatte/shita-gai, shitagatte
after - kekka, (no) ue de
after all dôse, tôtô, tsumari
after - style fû ni
against ni hantshite/hansuru
almost -sô ni naru
alone nomi
along with to tomo ni
also mo, -mo -mo, sore to
although kuse ni, nagara(mo), ni mo kakawarazu, to iu noni, tsutsu
although - say/said that to lte mo
am determined to miseru
amount equivalent to - -bun
and -ku, sore to, -te, Vmasu
and yet kuse ni, shika mo
anyway dôse

apparently omowareru
appear omowareru
apt to -ppoi
as hodo, ni shitagatte/shitagai, ni tsurete/isure, to dôji ni, tôri (ni), to tomo ni
as a matter of fact nanishiro, sore dokoroka
as a result of kekka
as far as kagiri
as far as - goes no ue de wa
as far as - is concerned no ue de wa, ten (de)
as few as ni sugina
as if to say/show (etc.) that to lu fû ni
as little as ni sugina
as long as ijô (wa), kagiri, sae
as might be expected sasuga
as soon as shidai, totan (ni)
as well sore to, ue (ni)
as well as igai, to dôji ni, to tomo ni
as you know wake da
aspect ten (de)
assume that to suru
at ni atatte/atari, ni oite/okeru
at - est tomo
at all dôse
at all events dôse
at (long) last tôtô, yatto
X
(X) of all (X)'s ni kagitte
you may be surprised, but nani-shiro
you would think that ~ but (that is not right) ka to iu to

Y
yet daga, só ka to itte, sore

demo
you know sa, zo

JAPANESE INDEX

Note: Entries in non-bold type appear in DBIG, and entries in bold type are included in this book. X <Y> indicates that X is found under Y.

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~ bakari de (wa) naku ~ (mo)
<- bakari ka ~ (sae)> ................................. 8

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da  ......................................................... 521
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da <de aru> ............................................... 30
da <ga'> ................................................... 120
da <ga> .................................................... 18
da <tokoro ga> ........................................... 503
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