

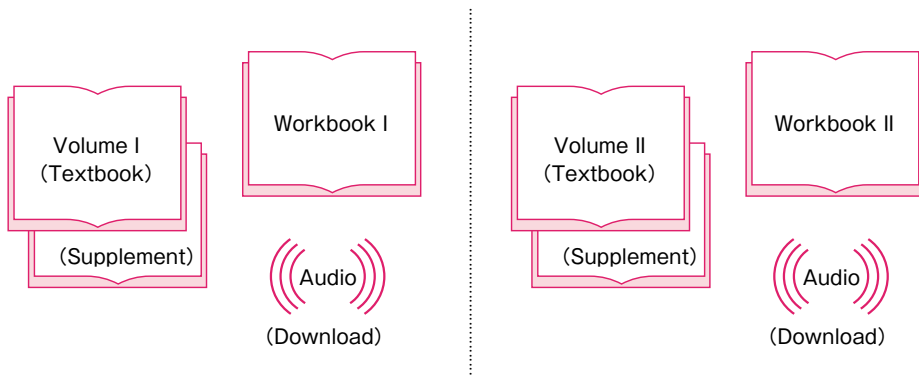
# About This Book

## 1 What's Quartet?

*Quartet: Intermediate Japanese Across the Four Language Skills* is a comprehensive intermediate learning resource for Japanese-language learners who have completed around 250 to 300 hours of elementary study. It is designed to provide well-balanced development of the four language skills—reading, writing, speaking and listening—through the study of grammar, expressions and strategies needed to communicate at the intermediate level.

*Quartet* is divided into two textbook volumes, each with a supplement, a workbook, and downloadable audio material. Volume I presents Lessons 1–6, and Volume II covers Lessons 7–12. Together, the two volumes are intended to help learners advance to level B1 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR).

The material in Volume I is roughly equivalent to level N3 of the Japanese Language Proficiency Test, while that in Volume II is on par with N2. Each lesson focuses on approximately ten grammatical patterns and expressions, around 45 kanji, and one or two reading strategies. In total, Volume I presents 55 grammatical patterns and expressions, 327 kanji, and ten reading strategies.



## 2 Structure and Content of Volume I

Every textbook lesson has four sections for the four language skills—読む, 書く, 話す and 聞く—with each sharing the same theme. The sections are interconnected in various ways. For instance, the topic of the readings in 読む is taken up in the compositions of 書く, the dialogues of 話す, and the listening comprehension material of 聞く. As another example, the grammatical patterns and expressions used in the readings are also encountered in the listening comprehension tasks. This interlinking enables you to build up the four skills in a natural, well-balanced manner. The vocabulary and kanji lists have been compiled into a separate supplement (別冊) so that they can be viewed alongside the textbook material. The textbook's six lessons are


べっぞう

followed by a section entitled ブラッシュアップ, which contains various additional material on elementary grammar, expressions, and kanji to assist your study of the lessons.

The structure and content of Volume I are as follows.

## (1) Lessons 1–6

### **読む** Study grammatical patterns expressions and reading strategies through two readings

- **読む前に・読んだ後で** **読む前に** prepares you for each reading with schema activation in the form of questions on the reading's topic. **読んだ後で** involves tasks such as summarizing the reading in your own words, comparing the content with the situation in your homeland, and discussing your experiences and opinions in relation to the reading.
- **読み物** Each lesson has two readings (**読み物 1** / **読み物 2**). The readings gradually become more challenging with each new lesson, and generally focus on topics concerning Japanese culture and society that are of interest to many students. All the readings in Volume I were newly created for this textbook and have been designed to help learners study more efficiently and gain a greater sense of progress.
- **読みのストラテジー** This part presents reading strategies that not only are useful for developing a better understanding of the readings, but can also be effectively applied to reading comprehension in general. The strategies covered in Volume I offer tips on how to parse sentences and follow the structure of compositions.
- **文型・表現ノート** Commentary is provided on the grammatical patterns and expressions used in the readings. Volume I covers patterns and expressions essential to intermediate-level communication, centering on JLPT N3 grammar. This section is designed to foster your ability to understand difficult words and sentences from context, offering explanations in English and numerous example sentences to assist you. Items marked with  are ones that you should strive to master for spoken/written communication, while those not so marked are ones that you just need to understand the meaning.

### **書く** Write compositions based on the model text

This section challenges you to use what you learned in **読む** to write short compositions on subjects related to the readings. Before that, you go over **モデル作文** and **書くポイント** to acquire a better understanding of text structure and writing pointers, and you respond to the questions in **書いてみよう** to brainstorm for your composition.

### **話す** Practice conversation patterns using a model dialogue

This section is divided into two parts, **会話 1** and **会話 2**. Each part offers conversation practice that is based on a model dialogue and progresses from input to output. Almost all the conversations can be practiced in both casual and formal styles.

1. **やってみよう** Before going through the model dialogue, you do a little role-playing in the dialogue's context to see how well you can communicate in that situation.
2. **聞いてみよう** As you listen to the model dialogue, you try to understand its content and flow.

3. **モデル会話** Next, you read a script of the dialogue to check your understanding. フローチャート serves as a visual aid for gaining a handle on the overall flow of the dialogue.
4. **練習しよう** You then practice creating output in your own words, following patterns of expression drawn from the dialogue.



## 聞く Practice two types of listening comprehension

聞く is also divided into two parts, 聴解 1 and 聴解 2. 聴解 1 provides listening comprehension practice with an everyday conversation that is tied to the topic of the readings and incorporates real-world information as much as possible. You look at a figure or chart as you listen to the conversation and try to pick out the information requested. In 聴解 2, you listen to a monologue and answer questions about it. The monologues cover discoveries and questions about Japan experienced by international students after arriving. The subject matter lends well to discussion, so this material can also be used for discussion after listening comprehension practice.

## (2) Brush-ups (ブラッシュアップ)

The six lessons are followed by a separate section that offers elementary grammar reviews and handy strategies for mastering kanji.

### 初級文法チェック

This part provides reviews of seven particularly tricky aspects of elementary grammar. Some of these items can be reviewed more effectively when studied along with certain parts of the lessons. The table below lists those pairings.

#### 初級文法チェック

- ② そうだ／らしい／ようだ／みたいだ
- ③ 敬語
- ⑤ 受身形／使役形／使役受身形
- ⑥ 条件文 ～たら／～と／～ば／～なら

#### Corresponding sections of lessons

- Lesson 1 文型・表現ノート 4 「～らしい」  
 Lesson 2 読み物 1・読み物 2  
 Lesson 4 読みのストラテジー ⑦ 「動詞の形と動作主」  
 Lesson 5 読みのストラテジー ⑧ 「順番を表す副詞・接続詞」

### 漢字チャレンジ

This section presents 12 strategies essential for kanji studies at the intermediate level and beyond, including strategies concerning radicals, prefixes, suffixes, antonyms, and phonetic indicators providing clues to the kanji readings. By equipping yourself with these strategies, you'll have an easier time surmising the meaning and reading of unfamiliar kanji and tidy up your knowledge of kanji already learned. This, in turn, will enable you to efficiently expand the kanji knowledge and skills that will become all the more important from the intermediate level onward.

### (3) Appendices (巻末)

- **聴解 解答・スクリプト** This appendix contains the answers to the two listening comprehension tasks in each 聞く section and full scripts of the audio material. It provides the correct answers to multiple-choice and true/false questions, and model answers for the writing problems.
- **文型・表現さくいん** This is a list of the items presented in 文型・表現ノート, arranged in *a-i-u-e-o* order.
- **単語さくいん** This lists the words included on the supplement's vocabulary list, in *a-i-u-e-o* order.

### (4) Supplement (別冊)

The supplement accompanying the textbook contains vocabulary lists, lists of words that should be memorized and sample sentences using them, and kanji lists.

- **単語リスト** These list the vocabulary in the readings that have not yet been studied. The words in each list that should especially be learned are presented again in the subsequent 覚える単語と例文 list, along with sample sentences using them.
- **漢字リスト** These lists contain the target kanji found in the reading material, along with their readings, meanings, stroke orders, compounds and English translations. Shaded characters are essential kanji that you need to learn how to write.

#### [単語リスト]

漢	行	単語	読み	意味
1	0	監督	かんとく	director
		宮崎駿	みやざきはやお	Hayao Miyazaki
3	1.	やはり	やはり	undoubtedly; after all
		千と千尋の神隠し	せんとうちひろのかみかくし	<i>Spirited Away</i> [movie title]
	2	作品	さくひん	a work
2.		特に	とくに	especially
2	◇	アカデミー賞	あかでみーしょう	Academy Award
3.	◆	取る	とる	to win (a prize); to take
4.	◇	興味	きょうみ	interest
	3	もののけ姫	もののけひめ	<i>Princess Mononoke</i> [movie title]

#### [覚える単語と例文]

3	1.	やはり	日本はやはり東京が一番おもしろいと思います。
	2.	特に	私は食べられないものが多いが、特にトマトが嫌いだ。
	3.	取る	今年のスピーチコンテストで賞を取りたい。
	4.	興味	日本のアニメに興味があったので、日本語の勉強を始めた。

- These numerals represent the number of the line where each word first appears in the reading. Zero indicates the title.
- Words containing a kanji studied in that lesson are marked with ◆ or ◇. ◆ indicates that you should learn to read and write the word, while ◇ indicates that just learning the reading will suffice. The underlined kanji in the vocabulary list are the ones studied in the lesson.
- This is the number of the entry as listed in 覚える単語と例文.



### 3 Structure and Content of Workbook I

The workbook offers practice exercises related to each textbook lesson's 読み物 and 文型・表現ノート.

- **読み物ワーク** This section provides three types of exercises for 読み物 1 and 2—(A) true/false questions on the readings, (B) reading strategy exercises, and (C) questions that delve into the readings' content in greater detail.
- **文型・表現ワーク** Three sets of exercises are provided for the items covered by 文型・表現ノート—(A) basic problems on items that require output (marked with ★ in the textbook), (B) exercises covering all grammatical patterns and expressions presented in the lesson, and (C) problems requiring oral responses using the lesson's grammatical patterns and expressions.

The workbook also includes practices for the 初級文法チェック and 漢字チャレンジ sections of ブラッシュアップ in the textbook. The effective way to use the 初級文法チェック worksheets is to do them before going through the corresponding textbook lesson; first check your understanding of elementary grammar points by doing the worksheets, and then use the textbook to brush up on the points that need more work. The 漢字チャレンジ worksheets should be used after studying the corresponding part of the textbook in order to check your mastery of the kanji.