Preface

This is a dictionary of advanced Japanese grammar, a companion volume to *A Dictionary of Basic Japanese Grammar* (1986) and *A Dictionary of Intermediate Japanese Grammar* (1995). More than two decades have passed since we began this grammar dictionary project. During that time we have received numerous comments from our readers, many of whom kindly encouraged us to write a third volume. And here it is as the final volume in the set.

This book is designed for students and teachers of advanced-level Japanese. After examining upper-level textbooks, reference books, and our own teaching materials, we have collected some 230 main entries which we believe to be highly important grammatical items for advanced Japanese learners. As in the previous dictionaries, we have provided detailed explanations for each item and have included comparisons with synonymous items (approximately 430 items in all). The writing tasks were shared between us with each of us preparing first drafts of half of the items which we then exchanged for comments. Our second drafts were reviewed by The Japan Times editors and, following that, the final draft was completed.

There is one important difference between this volume and the preceding ones, however. For both *DBJG* and *DIJG* we wrote the example sentences ourselves, but for this volume we have also used the Internet as a resource in collecting and creating sentences which reflect natural usage. In situations where it is common practice, we use kanji. For the reader’s convenience, pronunciations are provided in hiragana for characters defined as levels 1 and 2 in the Japanese Language Proficiency Test (*Nihongo-nōryoku-shiken*) except for those kanji which are regularly introduced in beginning- and intermediate-level textbooks.

We are clearly indebted to the many scholars and teachers whose works are referenced here. In addition to them, there are a number of individuals we wish to acknowledge. Foremost, we thank Chiaki Sekido, The Japan Times editor. We are deeply grateful for her thorough and critical reading of our drafts, for her numerous constructive comments on them, and for her tireless effort in preparing this volume for publication. We thank Sarah Harris, the English editor, for patiently transforming our English in the first draft to make it more natural. In addition, we owe a great deal to Sharon Tsutsui, who read the galley proofs carefully and critically and helped us to improve the readability of the final version. Our thanks go to our colleagues at Princeton University and the University of Washington, who kindly answered our questions about the naturalness of the example sentences, and also to our students, who used the early versions of some of the entries in class and gave us valuable feedback. Finally, we express our sincere
gratitude to our wives, Yasuko and Sharon, who have been so helpful in every possible way during the seven years of this project.

Completing *A Dictionary of Advanced Japanese Grammar* was not an easy task to say the least. We are very pleased that we are now able to dedicate this volume to those students and teachers around the globe who are studying and teaching Japanese language with unceasing enthusiasm. Our sincere hope is that this dictionary will be a useful tool in their endeavors.

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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 first.

B. Special Topics in Advanced Japanese Grammar discusses selected topics: Adjectives in Japanese; Interpretation of “N₁ no N₂”; Politeness and Formality in Spoken and Written Language; Rhetorical Questions; Metaphors in Japanese; and Number Marking. The section introduces readers to a number of important concepts with which they should be familiar in order to improve their reading, writing and speaking 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 Examples
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]: ◁ or ▷ is provided when the entry item is used only in spoken Japanese or only in formal written Japanese and formal speeches, respectively.
meaning / function: The basic meaning or function of the entry item is given in the box below the entry name.

[English counterpart(s)]: English expressions equivalent to the entry item are given to the right of the box.

[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)] (11). Expressions in bold type like ccc contain comparisons to the entry item under [Related Expression(s)] for ccc.

◆ Key Sentence(s): Key sentences present typical sentence patterns in frames according to sentence structure. The elements that form the sentence patterns are printed in red and the elements which commonly occur with them are printed in bold-faced type.

Formation: The word formation rules / connection forms for each item are provided with examples. The entry elements are printed in red.

Examples: Example sentences are provided for each entry.

Note(s): Notes contain important points concerning the use of the item.

[Related Expression(s)]: Expressions which are semantically close to the entry item are compared and their differences are explained.

(☞ aaa (DBJG/DIJG: 000-000)) in Note(s) and Related Expression(s) indicates that the item which was referred to (i.e., aaa) is explained on pp. 000-000 of the companion volumes: A Dictionary of Basic Japanese Grammar (DBJG) or A Dictionary of Intermediate Japanese Grammar (DIJG).

D. 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 and in A Dictionary of Intermediate Japanese Grammar. The English index includes the English counterparts of the main entry items.
aete あえて  adv.

an adverb that expresses the speaker’s/writer’s desire or will to dare to do s.t. in spite of difficulty, danger or opposition
daringly; boldly; dare to ~; venture to ~; force oneself to ~
【REL. omoikitte; shiite】

◆ Key Sentences

(A)

| 部長は あえて 社長に反対意見を述べた。 |
(The department head boldly expressed his opposing view directly to the company president.)

(B)

| 私は あえて 大がかりな研究計画を 立て たい と思う。 |
(I would like to take on a large-scale research proposal.)

(C)

| あえて 先生の理論に異議を唱えて みよう と思う。 |
(I think I will try to oppose my professor’s theory.)

(D)

| あえて 言え ば あなたの考えは機上の空論だ。 |
(If I dare to say so, your idea is an unrealistic, ivory tower theory.)

(E)

| 君の言うこと あえて 反対は しない よ。 |
(I don’t dare oppose what you’re saying.)
Formation
あえてV
あえて反対する (s.o. dares to disagree)

Examples
(a) アメリカでは黙っていると損をするので、私は日本人としてあえて自己主張をすることにしている。
(In the U.S., if I keep silent I lose out, so as a Japanese, I’m making a point of asserting myself.)
(b) 委員会の賛同を得るのは難しいとは知りつつも、あえて新機軸の計画を提案した。
(Although I knew that it was hard to get approval from the committee, I dared to propose a brand new plan.)
(c) 彼の両親があえて住居を変えたのは彼の教育を考えた上であった。
(It was after his parents thought about his education that they made the bold move to change their residence.)
(d) 悪いとは思いつつも、あえて先輩の非をとめたら、やっぱりそれ以後、その先輩は私と口をきかなくなった。
(While I knew I shouldn’t have done so, I ventured to criticize my senior partner’s wrongdoings. And, sure enough, he’s stopped talking to me since.)
(e) 私はあえて人とは違った道を進みたいと思っている。
(I’m thinking of daring to follow a path different from others.)
(f) 時代の流れにあえて抗おうとしたが、徒労に終わった。
(I dared to resist the flow of the times, but it was all in vain.)
(g) 彼の男は能力がないけれど、あえて長所を拾えば、人のよさだろう。
(That man has no talent, but if I force myself to single out his strong point, it would be his fine personality.)
(h) あえて日本の政治を一言で批判すると、派閥の行動ということになるだろう。
(If I ventured to find fault with current Japanese politics, it would be to criticize the behavior of factions.)
(i) でもいいことばかりでもなかったです。あえて今言いませんが、いやなこともたくさんありました。
(Not everything went well. I won’t venture to say now what, but there were many unpleasant things.)

**Notes**

1. *Aete* is an adverb with which the speaker/writer expresses his/her desire or will to do something daringly, in spite of the fact that he or she is aware of the difficulty, danger or opposition in executing it.

2. The person who dares to do something has to be a person one is very familiar with, including the speaker/writer himself/herself. For example, in (1) *watashi* and *chichi* are acceptable, but *ano tsūkōnin* is not, because the speaker/writer is not on familiar terms with a passerby.

(1) | 私/父/??あの通行人 | は赤信号だったのにあえて道を渡った。
    | (I/My father/??The passerby | boldly crossed the street, even though the signal was red.)

**[Related Expressions]**

1. *Omoikitte*, which means “to do s.t. hard to do with strong determination,” is similar in meaning to *aete*. The crucial difference, however, is that *aete* is used when one dares to do something that runs contrary to common sense in spite of difficulty, danger or opposition, but *omoi kitte* is used when one resolutely does something which is difficult to do. So in KS(A)-(D) and Exs.(a)-(h) *aete* can be replaced by *omoi kitte*, but with a slight change in nuance; that is, the *aete*-versions don’t imply strong determination, but the *omoi kitte*-versions do. As shown in [1] below, *aete* in KS(E) and Ex.(i) cannot be replaced by *omoi kitte*, because the latter can be used only with an affirmative predicate.

[1] a. 君の言葉に | あえて/ も*思い切って | 反対はしないよ。（= KS(E))

    b. でもいいことばかりでもなかったです。 | あえて/ も*思い切って | 今言
    いませんが、いやなこともたくさんありました。（= Ex.(i))

There are also cases in which only *omoi kitte* can be used, as in [2], because *aete* is used when one does something that runs counter to common sense, whereas *omoi kitte* is used when one does something difficult to do, regardless of whether it is common sense or not. It is quite natural for a person to speak in English with an American as in [2a] or to talk to a girl as in [2b].
A

a bit of namaji(kka)
a little namaji(kka)
A, B and every~ else ~ to iwazu ~ to
iwazu
A, B and many other ~ ~ to iwazu ~ to
iwazu
about ni kakete wa, oyoso
about the same level as -nami
absence of no nasa
absolutely akumade mo. sono mono
absolutely not issai ~ nai. mono ka³
accompanying sore nari ni/no
according to ni ōjite/ōjita, ni yoru to
additional nai, sarara
additional mata, nai
admitting that to wa ie
after ageku (ni). sue (ni)
again mata
agreeable sore nari ni/no
aimed at -muke
aiming at ni mukete/muketa
all oyoso
all the more naosara
all the more for nai
all the more reason why mashite(ya)
almost n bakari (ni), oyoso
almost never metta n ~ nai
alone tan ni
also datte². mata. ni shita tokoro de
although domo. ippō (de). mono no.
mono o, mottomo, (t)tatte², to ie
domo, wari ni (wa)
although (it is said that/s.o. says that)
to wa ie
although (it is true that/it is the case
that/we admit that/we agree that/
etc.) ni shite mo

although (it is/was the case that) ni
shiro/seyo
although ~ accept wa ii to shite mo
although ~ be thinking of doing ~ yō
ni mo (~ nai)
although ~ not nai made mo
although ~ try/want to ~ yō nī mo
(~ nai)
although there is wa are
always ippō (da)
(not) always anagachi ~ nai
among naka o
among (things/people of the same kind,
group, etc.) -dōshi
among others to itta
and katsu, mata, nai, narabi ni, ni
shite². oyobi
and (~ and) dano
and ~ as well katsu
and additionally kuwaete
and also katsu
and as one would expect dake atte,
dake ni
and things like that dano
any datte². to ie domo
any kind of ikanaru
anything but ~ dokoro de wa nai
appropriate for ni ōjite/ōjita
approximately oyoso
apt to to mo suru to
around o chūshin ni
as ni/to mo naru to. ni tsuke. tsuide ni
as (much ~) as -nami
as ~ as possible dake
as expected hatashite
as for ni itatte wa, ni kakete wa
as for ~, too ni shite mo
as if ka no yōni. samo. to bakari ni
as if ~ believed that to bakari ni
### JAPANESE INDEX

Note: Entries in bold-faced type appear in this book. Entries in non-bold type are included in DBJG and DIJG; “B” and “I” before the page number indicates DBJG and DIJG, respectively. X <Y> means that X is found under Y.

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