



Nihongo (Japanese), Perapera (fluent), Newsletter.

Once a month language-focused newsletter designed for both new and seasoned Japanese learners to use as a resource for study.

## Let's study! 勉強(べんきょう)しましょう!

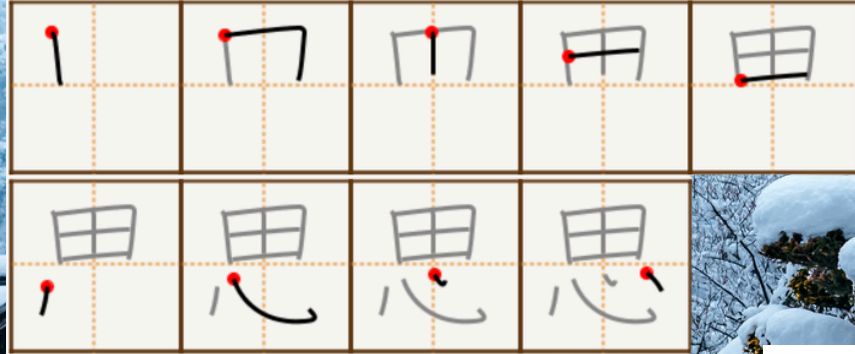
今月の漢字

think

# 思

訓読み: おも(う), おぼ(す)

音読み: シ



**9 strokes**

Associated Common Words

- 思い出 (おもいで) - memories
- 思い出す (おもいだす) - to remember, recall
- 思春期 (ししゅんき) - puberty, adolescence

History of Kanji 思



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四字熟語 - よじじゅくご (4 Character Idiom)

そうし そうあい  
相思相愛

Mutual love

**Example**

山田さんご夫婦は仲がいい上に、お互いのことも思い合っていて、相思相愛のカップルで、本当にうらやましい。

Yamada-san gofuufu wa naka ga ii ue ni, otagai no koto mo omoiatteite, **soushisouai** no kappuru de, hontou ni urayamashii.

Not only do the Yamadas get along well, they also care about each other and are a couple who are mutually in love, which is really enviable.

ことわざ (proverb)

おも た きちじつ  
思い立ったが吉日

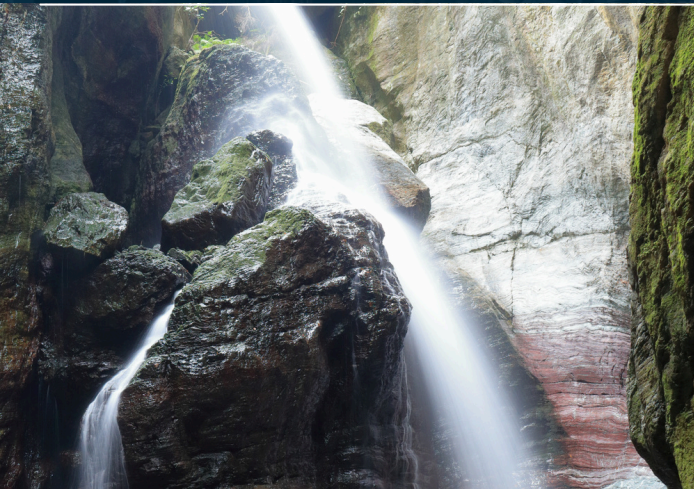
The best time for doing something is as soon as you've thought of it; there's no time like the present

**Example**

「思い立ったが吉日」、寒いけれど、今日から健康のために散歩を始めよう。

"**Omoitatta ga kichijitsu**," samui keredo, kyou kara kenkou no tame ni sanpo wo hajimeyou.

[Like the saying] "there's no time like the present," even though it's cold, from today on let's start going on walks for our health.



## 日本を旅しよう! -Exploring Japan- 高知県 (こうちけん) - Kochi Prefecture

**Fast facts!**

- Kochi is the largest but least populated of Shikoku's four prefectures and occupies most of the southern half of Shikoku
- The Nakatsu Gorge in Takeyashiki rises above the Nakatsu River, a tributary to the glowing blue Niyodo River that stretches out below
- A 2.3 km (1.43 mi) path along the river ends at the **Uryu (雨竜 - rain dragon) Falls**, where the river plunges 20 meters (65.6 ft)
- Stone statues of the *shichifukujin* (Seven Gods of Fortune) are dotted around the riverside path
- The gorge is accessible year round, but is particularly popular as a cool down spot in the summer and for leaf peeping in autumn
- Check out the [August 2023](#), [May 2024](#), and [November 2024](#) issues of our Perapera Newsletter to learn more about Kochi Prefecture!

# Dialect Discovery

## 高知弁 - こうちべん

- ぎっちり (gicchiri; always) いつも、ひんばんに
- く (ku; place, home) ばしょ、いえ、うち
- おまん (omasan; you) あなた
- ぶる (buru; same) おなじ



JSB MEETS JET ALUMNI  
Jason Sardinha  
Kochi 高知県

To read about JET Alum Jason's experience living and teaching in Kochi Prefecture,

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### 高知県立坂本龍馬記念館

#### Sakamoto Ryoma Memorial Museum

This museum, in Urado-Shirayama next to the Urado Castle Ruins, is focused on preserving and displaying materials related to the Meiji Restoration and its namesake, Tosa-born Ryoma Sakamoto, who was one of the major political players in the push to return power to the Emperor and defeat the Edo shogunate.

## クイズタイム!

わたし しゅみ えいが み

1. 私の趣味は映画を見る ( ) です。

*My hobby is watching movies.*

a. の b. こと c. もの

かのじょ き とき りょうり

2. 彼女( ) 来た時、料理をしていました。

*I was cooking when she came.*

a. に b. は c. が

なに い わす

3. A: 何か言い忘れたことはありませんか。

いま おも

B: 今のところ、思い( ) ません。

あ だ ちが

a. 当たり b. 出し c. 違い



さっぽろゆきまつ

### ☆札幌雪祭り

Sapporo's weeklong Yuki Matsuri (snow festival), held every February, is one of the most popular Japanese festivals. It began as a one-day event in 1950, when local high school students built six snow statues in Odori Park, which is still one of the main sites of the festival. Nowadays, around 400 statues are displayed for public viewing. Festival goers can enjoy snow slides, snow rafting, fireworks, and pick up a variety of traditional Japanese festival foods, along with local specialties.

## Winter Vocabulary - 冬の単語!

吹雪 (ふぶき) - Blizzard

氷 (こおり) - Ice

結晶 (けっしょう) - Crystal

霜 (しも) - Frost

氷柱 (つらら or ひょうちゅう) - Icicle

雪合戦 (ゆきがっせん) - Snowball Fight

炬燵 (こたつ) - Japanese heated table

暖炉 (だんろ) - Fireplace

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### Biz 日本語・日本文化

There are many expressions commonly used in Japanese language and culture. In this column, we introduce expressions commonly used in Japanese business settings, along with aspects of Japanese business culture.

#### あいづち (Aizuchi)

Aizuchi refers to the act of giving short responses during a conversation to facilitate smooth communication with the other person. This involves maintaining eye contact, showing agreement with phrases like "yes" or "yeah," and expressing interest with responses such as "I see" or similar phrases. It provides the speaker with a sense of reassurance and encourages more meaningful communication.

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「はい」「なるほど」  
あいづちについて  
マワエアんおムほレニミリテゆくこのエっあわいひえそ