



Nihongo

Perapera

Newsletter

# 日本語ぺらぺらニュースレター

For the Language Lovers!

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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

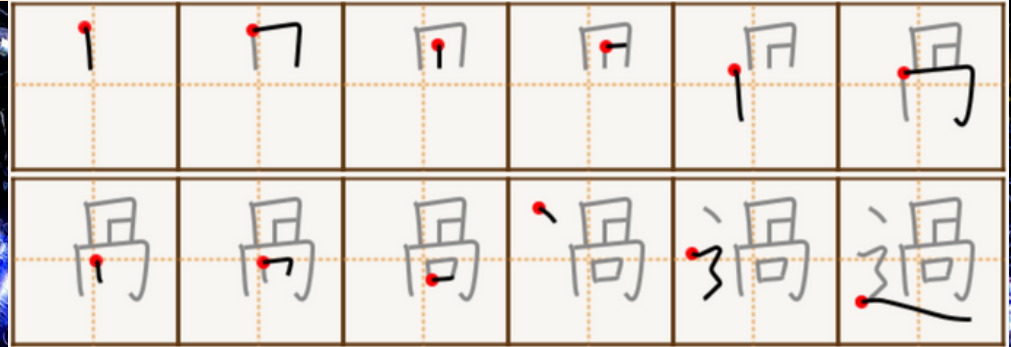
exceed

# 過

訓読み: すぎる, す(ごす)\*

音読み: カ

\*and several more



**12 strokes**

Associated Common Words

過去 (かこ) - past

過保護 (かほご) - overprotective

通り過ぎる (とおるすぎる) - to go past

History of Kanji 過



Noriko K. Williams ©2015

四字熟語 - よじじゆくご (4 Character Idiom)

ちょうかせきかい

**朝過夕改**

To correct in the evening a fault of the morning;  
to quickly amend one's ways and admit one's mistakes

**Example**

田中先生は自分が間違ったら、すぐ認めて生徒にもきちんと謝る。「朝過夕改」できるとてもいい先生だ。

Tanaka Sensei wa jibun ga machigattara, sugu mitomete seito ni mo kichinto ayamaru. "Choukasekikai" dekuru totemo ii sensei da.

When Tanaka Sensei makes a mistake, s/he immediately admits it and apologizes properly even to the students. S/he is a very good teacher who can "correct in the evening a fault of the morning."

ことわざ (proverb)

す およ ごと  
**過ぎたるは及ばざるが如し**

The last drop makes the cup run over; too much of something can be as bad as too little

**Example**

仕事が終わらないからって、夜11時まで仕事をするのはやめたほうがいい。「過ぎたるは及ばざる如し」で、長く働いたからって仕事もうまくいくわけではないよ。

Shigoto ga owaranai karatte, yoru jyuuichi ji made shigoto wo suru no wa yameta hou ga ii. "Sugitaru wa oyobazaru ga gotoshi" de, nagaku hataraita karatte shigoto ga umaku iku wake dewa nai yo.

Even though you didn't finish your work, it's better not to work until 11pm. Like [the saying] "the last drop makes the cup run over," working for a long time doesn't necessarily lead to good work.

日本を旅しよう! -Exploring Japan-  
**新潟県 (にいがたけん) - Niigata Prefecture**

**Fast facts!**

-Niigata Prefecture is located on the northwest coast of Japan's main island of Honshu and is the fifth-largest prefecture in the country

-The majority of Niigata's population live on the Echigo Plain lowland, while the rest of the prefecture is largely mountainous

-One of Japan's three great gorges, **Kiyotsu Gorge** in the Tokamachi area, has some of the best scenery in the whole prefecture

-A 750m pedestrian tunnel along the wall of the gorge was renovated and transformed into an art piece by the Chinese architectural firm MAD Architects during the 2018 Echigo-Tsumari Art Triennale and is now called the **Tunnel of Light**

-For more info about Niigata, check out our [April 2024](#) & [Sept. 2021](#) issues!

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# Dialect Discovery

## 新潟弁 - にいがたべん

- なじらね (najirane; How are you?) いかがですか
- しょうしい (shoushii; embarrassing) 恥ずかしい
- かんべね (kanbene; sorry) ごめんね
- しゃっけ (shakke; cold) 冷たい



JSB Meets JET Alumni  
Lillian Hanako Rowlatt!

### 佐渡島能 (さどしまのう) Sado Island Noh!

In the 14th century, a man named Zeami Motokiyo founded what is now known as the oldest living form of theater in the world, and an intangible cultural heritage - Noh theater. Though beloved by his patrons during his life, after the death of the shōgun Ashikaga Yoshimitsu, he fell out of favor and was exiled to Sado Island. Later, in the Edo period, Noh flourished at Zeami's site of exile through the efforts of Nagayasu Okubo. (Photo by Itō Yoshiyuki)

To read about JET Alum Lillian's experience living and teaching in Niigata Prefecture,

[click here!](#)

## クイズタイム!

はは わたし

1. 母は私にプレゼントを ( )。

*My mom gave me a present.*

- a. あげました b. くれました c. もらいました

ともだち おおみそか

2. 友達と大晦日をいっしょに ( ) つもりです。

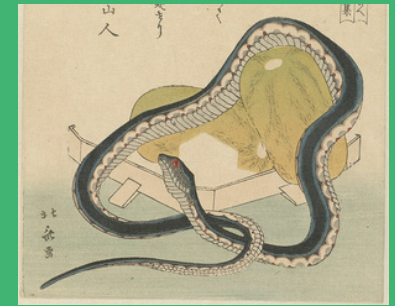
*I plan to spend New Year's Eve with friends.*

- a. 過ごす b. 過ぎる c. 過ごせる

でんしゃ

3. 電車が ( ) します。お気をつけください。

- a. 経過 b. 超過 c. 通過



みどしへびとし  
☆巳年

According to the Chinese zodiac, adopted by Japan in the fourth century, 2025 is the year of the serpent! The serpent is the sixth member of the zodiac and is associated with wealth and renewal. One traditional practice is to put a bit of discarded snakeskin into your wallet or purse in order to attract wealth. This practice draws from the belief that white snakes are a manifestation of Benzaiten, the goddess of good fortune.

## Zodiac Vocabulary! - 十二支の単語!

子 (ね) - Rat

丑 (うし) - Ox

寅 (とら) - Tiger

卯 (う) - Rabbit

辰 (たつ) - Dragon

巳 (み) - Serpent

午 (うま) - Horse

未 (ひつじ) - Sheep

申 (さる) - Monkey

酉 (とり) - Rooster

戌 (いぬ) - Dog

亥 (いのしし) - Wild Boar

Happy  
Holidays!

FROM THE JAPAN SOCIETY OF BOSTON

Thank you for reading  
JSB's Perapera  
Newsletter this year!

If you enjoy our work,  
please consider  
[donating](#) to JSB to  
support us!

とし むか  
どうぞよいお年をお迎え  
らいねん  
ください! 来年もどうぞ  
ねが いた  
よろしくお願ひ致します。

We also have a new [Venmo charity account](#) as another way to donate!

Answer key: 1. b 2. a 3. c