



Nihongo

Perapera

Newsletter

# 日本語ペラペラニュースレター

*For the Language Lovers!*月刊 Monthly  
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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.

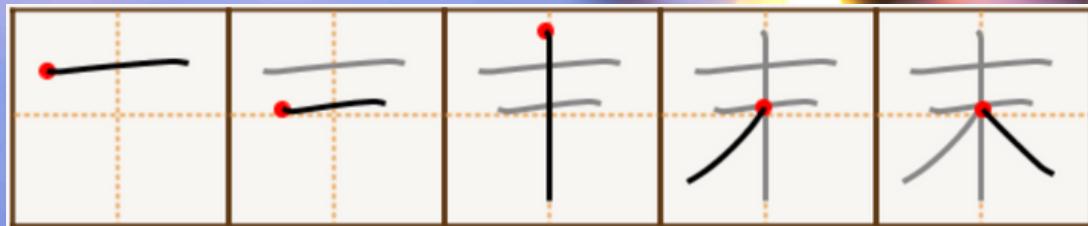
## Let's study! 勉強(べんきょう)しましょう!

今月の漢字

end



訓読み: すえ, うら, うれ  
音読み: マツ, バツ



### 5 strokes

#### Associated Common Words

週末 (しゅうまつ) - weekend

粉末 (ふんまつ) - fine powder

末広 (すえひろ)がり - spreading out like an open fan; becoming prosperous

#### History of Kanji 末



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### 四字熟語 - よじじゅくご (4 Character Idiom)

ねんまつねんし

### 年末年始

The end of the year; year-end and New Year holidays

#### Example

年末年始は忘年会や新年会もあるし、  
家族や親戚とお正月のお祝いの準備も  
しなければいけないし、楽しいけれど、  
一年で一番忙しく感じるなあ。

**Nenmatsunenshi** wa bounenkai ya shinnenkai mo aru shi, kazoku ya shinseki to oshougatsu no oiwai no junbi mo shinakerebaikenai shi, tanoshii keredo, ichinen de ichiban isogashiku kanjiru naa.

At the end of the year there are year-end and new year parties, and you have to prepare for new year's celebrations with family and relatives, so although it's fun, it feels like the busiest time of the year.

### ことわざ (Proverb)

えん つきひ すえ ま

### 縁と月日は末を待て

It's best to be patient and wait for the right opportunities in love and life rather than rushing into things; let fate and time take their course

#### Example

理想の仕事にも、理想のパートナーにもなかなか  
巡り会えなくて落ち込むけど、「縁と月日は末を  
待て」と言うから、焦らずもう少し頑張ってみよう。

Risou no shigoto ni mo, risou no pa-tona- ni mo nakanaka meguriaenakute ochikomu kedo, "en to tsukihī wa sue wo mate" to iu kara, aserazu mou sukoshi ganbatte miyou.

I'm feeling down because I haven't been able to find my ideal job or partner, but they say "let fate and time take their course," so I'll try not to rush things and keep persevering a bit more.

### 日本を旅しよう! -Exploring Japan- 三重県 (みえけん) - Mie Prefecture



#### Fast facts!

-Mie Prefecture is located in the Kansai region of Honshu on the eastern coast of the Kii Peninsula, forming the western side of Ise Bay

-The prefecture has five distinct geographical regions: the Suzuka mountains in the northwest, the Ise Plain along Ise Bay's coast, the Shima Peninsula in the south, the Iga Basin in the central-west, and the Nunobiki Mountainous Region in the southern half

-Mie is a popular tourist destination but is also home to some of the oldest and holiest Shinto sites in Japan, including the Ise Shrine, the Tsubaki Grand Shrine, and the **Futami Okitama Shrine** where the most famous pair of **Meoto Iwa** (夫婦岩 - Married Couple Rocks) can be found





### 伊勢神宮(いせじんぐう) - Ise Shrine

Ise Shrine is a Shinto shrine complex dedicated to the sun goddess Amaterasu and the grain goddess Toyouke-hime. The complex is composed of many Shinto shrines and centered on two main ones: **Naikū** (内宮) and **Gekū** (外宮). Naikū, located in Uji-tachi, is where Amaterasu is believed to dwell.

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# Dialect Discovery

## 関西弁 - かんさいべん

- あかん (akan; don't, no good) ダメ
- ちょう (chou; a little) ちょっと
- めっちゃ (meccha; very) とても、ちょう
- ぎょうさん (gyousan; a lot, many) たくさん

To read about JET Alum Jennifer's experience living and teaching in Mie Prefecture,

[click here!](#)



JSB MEETS JET ALUMNI  
Jennifer Sherman  
Mie 三重県

JSB Meets JET Alumni  
Jennifer Sherman!

## クイズタイム!

1. 今週末、私は実家に帰る ( ) です。

*I plan to go to my parents' house/my childhood home this weekend.*

a. はず    b. そう    c. つもり

2. 2026年がお互いにとって ( ) いい年になりますように。

*May 2026 be an even better year for the both of us.*

a. まちまち    b. どんどん    c. ますます

3. 息子は勉強もせずにゲームばかりして、留年するという ( ) だ。

a. 始末    b. 結末    c. 結果



## ☆ケンタッキーはクリスマス!

One Christmas tradition in Japan is eating Kentucky Fried Chicken. "The fried chicken party bucket went national in 1974 with the slogan ケンタッキーはクリスマス! (Kentucky is Christmas!), cementing the connection between fried chicken and Christmas in the minds of many Japanese." Read more about this unique Christmas custom [here!](#)

# Happy Holidays from the Japan Society of Boston!

Please join us at our New Year's events!

January 17th: Japanese New Year Celebration at Bow Market in Somerville



January 25th: Oshogatsu 2026 Celebration at the Boston Children's Museum



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

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