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Ultimate Japanese Advanced (CD Pkg) (Ultimate Advanced)



Synopsis

Available October 2003 Created for the serious language-learner, our deluxe Ultimate Japanese Advanced course has been revised and updated. It teaches a sophisticated level of conversation and grammar and is equivalent to two years of college study. Free additional exercises are now available on line! Perfect for the businessperson and anyone traveling or living abroad, Ultimate Japanese Advanced course contains a 400+ page book with eight 60-minute CDs covering 20 lessons. Each lesson includes lively, up-to-date dialogues, vocabulary, exercises, culture notes, and detailed explanations of grammar and usage. KEY FEATURES: • Ideal for anyone planning to live or conduct business abroad • Includes extensive business vocabulary and details of business etiquette • Free extra practice on line with more than 100 additional practice sections • Updated with new vocabulary and information about culture and everyday life; and now include references to the euro • Now available on CD for ease in moving between lessons • “perfect for use in the car, at the gym, or anywhere you please

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

• “A really great package for those who do not have the time to sit in a classroom, or the money to spend on two years in a foreign country.” • “Juergen Kempff, Ph.D., Curriculum Director, University of California-Irvine • “Authentic • enlightening and useful” • I like the fact that the business section was closely related to the dialogue • makes the learning process more fun and realistic.” • “Marisa Castro Cid, World Trade Institute Language Center

Text: English, Japanese --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Ultimate Advanced Japanese focus on life in Japan or visiting Japan on business or something. There are 20 chapters in this course and they cover such topics as Golf Outings, Being Questioned by Police, Making Phone appointments, brainstorming at work etc. The audio cds enforce the proper way to speak so its very useful. What I didn't like tho, is the over usage of romaji. At an advanced level in a Japanese you should be able to read kana! They do introduce Kanji but its like in a seperate section of the book. It was a little annoying to have to go to a seperate reference section to see the actual written Japanese. I just feel to get the total experience, speaking is not enough. Reading and writing is essential! If the text was focused on being written in Kanji/Kana even the Kanji with Kana written on top like in the comic books, this would enforce the reading abilities of the student.

What I like best about this set is the realistic (albeit overly long) dialogues/practical business voc/kanji reading practice. Im a beginner but decided to jump straight ahead to the advanced course because it seems (from the reviews here) that this repeats a lot of stuff from the basic any way. Also I have the Pimsleur CDS for the easier stuff and wanted to be in a more realistic "environment" where I dont understand 100% of what's being said. I listened to the "AT HOME" CDS (which are all JP dialogue) and read the English (instead of romaji) transcript simultaneously. In this way ... Ive learned by pseudo osmosis. After repeated listening one can actually understand the gist of what's being said without having to translate every single word into English. I hope this means Im thinking in Japanese now. "ON THE GO" CDS review basic grammar/ phrases/ vocabulary. I love it!!!

I keep the set in the car and go through one segment per day - I wish they'd issue a new version detailing the further adventures of Neruson-san. I'd like to learn whether he's hitting on Sato-san or vice versa.

Prompt Service, attractively and securely wrapped package, outstanding merchandise. A very reliable seller!!!

I've practically mastered Japanese from this book/cd package and I haven't even finished the audio cds. This teaches you practically everything you need to know about japanese. It's similar to the

intermediate one. This one teaches you a lot more Kanji. Half way through the book is in Kanji.

I would classify myself as an advanced student still falling far short of fluency. Of the many books and CDs over the years, this CD has been one of the best thus far. Conversations cover very natural business-social situations.

As a graduate anthropology student, I needed a language system that could sharpen my existing Japanese language skills. Unfortunately, Living Language's somewhat confused text did not even come close, and after the delay of this underwhelming discovery, I chose another system. Noteworthy among Living Language Japanese's shortcomings are: A strange lack of kana and kanji. Other than a brief written essay in the back of the book, the kanji characters--essential for understanding spoken homonyms--are entirely absent. No other advanced level text that I have encountered (let alone intermediate) has ignored kanji practice. While writing and conversation may seem to be two separate domains of study, the high number of homophones in Japanese make an understanding of which character is being spoken utterly essential. Unusual spellings. The authors have chosen not to represent latinized written Japanese in the usual manner, (adding a "u" after a long "o," for example, as the Japanese themselves do) but have doubled certain vowels. This vowel doubling is confusing on the page. "Arigatoo," for example, instead of "arigatou," (which corresponds precisely to the furigana characters for this word.) I also noticed instances of "-ee" used for "-ei," with the same disjuncture between the latin alphabet, and the actual corresponding hiragana phonetic characters. On the audio lessons, the English language narrator does not correctly pronounce important components of Japanese words. The i-adjectives, for example, are referred to as "eye" adjectives, when in fact there is no such pronunciation in Japanese. This confusion seems to originate in the character "i," used to represent this vowel, which is however always pronounced "ee" in Japanese. These problems, among others, are rendered more dangerous by the fact that an individual who plows through this tedious book will have come to grow comfortable with non-standard systems for representing Japanese in English, and will not have a firm grasp upon why certain spellings are used to accomodate particular grammar adjustments for kanji words. Reorienting themselves back into the world of serious study will be time consuming! In summary, Living Language Japanese appears to have attempted to create a system of study in a vacuum. This book, and the accompanying cd's, do not offer any continuity with other popular Japanese language texts or systems of study. The Japan Times textbook series, the Nakama textbook series, or the Pimsleur audio series are much more effective means for anyone who is

actually interested in language proficiency. Good luck with your language study! Ganbatte Kudasai!

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