

Survival Phrases

Excuse me	<i>sumimasen</i>
Where?	<i>doko?</i>
When?	<i>itsu? or nanji?</i>
What?	<i>Nani?</i>
How much?	<i>Ikura?</i>
It is OK?	<i>lidesuka?</i>
Please	<i>onegaishimasu</i>
I don't know/understand.	<i>wakarimasen</i>
English!	<i>Eigo!</i>
I'm sorry.	<i>Gomen nasai</i>

Useful Phrases for Basic Communication

Yes	<i>hai</i>
No	<i>iie</i>
I don't understand.	<i>wakari masen</i>
Do you speak English?	<i>Eigo o hanashi masu ka.</i>
I don't understand Japanese.	<i>nihongo ga wakari masen.</i>
One more time, please.	<i>mou ichido onegai shimasu.</i>
Excuse me./I'm sorry.	<i>Sumi masen.</i>
Thank you.	<i>Arigatou.</i>
Thank you very much.	<i>Doumo Arigatou.</i>
Thank you very much. (for something current)	<i>Arigatou gozaimasu,</i>
Thank you very much. (for something completed)	<i>Arigatou gozaimashita.</i>
No, thank you.	<i>Kekkou desu. Arigatou.</i>
You are welcome.	<i>Dou Itashimashite.</i>
Are you OK?	<i>Daijoubu?</i>
I'm OK	<i>Daijoubudesu.</i>
I'm not OK.	<i>daijoubu janai desu.</i>
My name is Mary.	<i>Watashi no namae wa Mary desu.</i>
How do you do? Nice to meet you.	<i>Hajimemashite. Douzo yoroshiku.</i>
Good morning.	<i>Ohayou gozaimasu.</i>
Hello (between around 10am and dusk).	<i>Konnichiwa.</i>
Hello (after dark)	<i>konbanwa.</i>
Good night (before going to bed)	<i>Oyasuminasai.</i>
Good bye (farewell)	<i>Sayounara</i>

Simple Self-Introduction

I am [your name].	<i>Watashi wa [your name] desu.</i>
I'm from [your country].	<i>[your country] kara kimashita.</i>
I'm from Australia.	<i>O-sutoraria kara kimashita.</i>
Australia	<i>Oosutoraria</i>
USA	<i>Amerika</i>
UK	<i>Igirisu</i>
Canada	<i>Kanada</i>
New Zealand	<i>Nyuujiirando</i>
Europe	<i>Yooroppa</i>
Africa	<i>Ahurika</i>
Asia	<i>Ajia</i>
South America	<i>Minami Amerika</i>

Useful Phrases for Going through Immigration

I'm using a JR pass.	<i>JR pasu o tsukai masu.</i>
Please stamp my passport.	<i>Pasupooto ni sutampu o oshite kudasai.</i>
What is the purpose of this visit?	<i>Rainichi no mokuteki wa nan desu ka.</i>
purpose	<i>mokuteki</i>
It's Sightseeing.	<i>kankou desu.</i>
How long are you going to stay?	<i>dore kurai taizaishi masu ka.</i>
2 weeks.	<i>nishuukan desu</i>
Where are you staying?	<i>Doko ni taizai shi masu ka.</i>
At Hilton Hotel.	<i>Hilton Hotel desu.</i>

Useful Phrases at the Airport

Could you please change this into yen?	<i>Kore o en ni kaete kudasai.</i>
I'd like to cash these travellers' cheques.	<i>kono travellers cheque o genkin ni shi tai desu.</i>
I'd like to send this luggage to my hotel in Kyoto.	<i>kono nimotsu o Kyoto no hoteru ni okuri tai desu.</i>
When will it arrive?	<i>itsu tsuki masu ka.</i>
Where is the toilet?	<i>Toire wa doko desu ka.</i>
Where is the taxi stand?	<i>Takushii noriba wa doko desu ka.</i>
Where is the train station?	<i>densha no eki wa doko desu ka.</i>
Where can I catch a bus?	<i>Basu noriba wa doko desu ka.</i>

Useful Phrases for Shopping

Where can I buy [a telephone card]?	<i>[terehon kaado] wa dokode kae masu ka.</i>
Do you have [a telephone card]?	<i>[terehon kaado] ga ari masu ka.</i>
How much is it?	<i>ikura desu ka.</i>
I'm just looking.	<i>mite iru dake desu.</i>
Can you show that to me?	<i>sore o misete kudasai.</i>
Does it come in other colours?	<i>hoka no iro mo arimasu ka.</i>
Can I try it/them on?	<i>shichaku shite mo ii desu ka.</i>
Where is the fitting room?	<i>shichaku shitsu wa doko desu ka.</i>
Do you have a bigger size?	<i>motto ookii no wa ari masu ka.</i>
Do you have a smaller size?	<i>motto chiisai no wa ari masu ka.</i>
Do you take a credit card?	<i>kurejitto kaado ga tsukae masu ka.</i>
I'll take 2 of these.	<i>[hutatsu] kudasai.</i>
Can I get it duty-free?	<i>Menzei ni nari masu ka</i>
Is this a gift to someone?	<i>Okurimono desu ka.</i>
Shall I wrap it for you?	<i>Otsutsumi shi masuka.</i>
Yes, it's a gift.	<i>hai, purezento desu</i>
Please wrap it.	<i>Rapping onegai shimasu.</i>
No, I'm using it myself.	<i>iie, jibun de tsukai masu.</i>
Shall I warm this item up?	<i>kochira no shouhin wa atatame masu ka .</i>
Would you like a pair of chopsticks?	<i>Ohashi o otsuke shimasu ka.</i>
Would you like a spoon?	<i>Supoon o otsuke shimasu ka.</i>
Would you like a fork?	<i>Fooku o ostuke shimasu ka</i>
Shall I put it in a bag?	<i>hukuro ni iremashouka.</i>
Do you have a point card?	<i>Point card wa omochi desuka.</i>
Yes, please.	<i>hai, onegai shimasu.</i>
No, thank you.	<i>iie, kekkou desu.</i>
No, I don't have one.	<i>iie, motte imasen.</i>

Useful Phrases at an accommodation facility

I have a booking.	<i>Yoyaku shite arimasu.</i>
I'm [Mary Brown].	<i>watashi wa [Mary Brown] desu.</i>
Can I leave my luggage here?	<i>nimotsu o azukete mo ii desu ka.</i>
Can we have [2] keys, please.	<i>kagi o [hutatsu] kudasai.</i>
Can I have [one] extra pillow?	<i>makura o mou [hitotsu] kudasai.</i>
Can I have [one] extra blanket?	<i>moufu o mou [ichimai] kudasai.</i>
Could you call a taxi for me?	<i>takushii o yonde kudasai.</i>
I'm going to the station.	<i>Eki made iki tai desu.</i>
I'd like to check out.	<i>Chekkuauto onegaishimasu.</i>

Useful Phrases when you are out and about

(Show the voucher and say) A JR pass, please.	<i>JR pasu o kudasai.</i>
I'd like to use it from this date. (Write down the date in the format of MM/DD and point it.)	<i>kono hi kara tsukai tai desu.</i>
I'd like to reserve seats.	<i>Shitei seki o tori tai desu.</i>
(Show the itinerary and say) Can I have these, please?	<i>kore de onegai shimasu.</i>
On which platform can I catch a train to [Shinjuku]?	<i>[Shinjuku] iki no densha wa nanban hoomu desuka.</i>
Does this train go to [Shinjuku]?	<i>kono densha wa [Shinjuku] ni ikimasuka.</i>
Does this train stop at [Shinjuku] Station?	<i>kono densha wa [Shinjuku] ni tomarimasuka.</i>
I want to go to [Shinjuku]. Do I have to change trains?	<i>[Shinjuku] ni iki tai desu. Norikae ga hitsuyou desuka.</i>
Where do I change trains?	<i>doko de norikae masu ka.</i>
Which way is [Ghibli Museum]?	<i>[Ghibli bijutsukan] wa docchi desuka.</i>
Which bus would I catch to go to [Kiyomizu Temple]?	<i>[Kiyomizu dera] niwa dono basu ni norimasu ka.</i>
Where is the bus stop?	<i>Basu tei wa doko desu ka.</i>
Does this bus go to [Kiyomizu Temple]?	<i>kono basu wa [Kiyomizu dera] ni iki masu ka.</i>
Where shall I get off to go to [Kiyomizu Temple]?	<i>[Kiyomizu dera] ni wa doko de ori masu ka.</i>
I'm getting off. (when the bus is crowded and you can't move towards the exit)	<i>orimasu!</i>
To [Tokyo Station], please.	<i>Toukyou eki made onegai shimasu.</i>
Please let me get off here.	<i>koko de oroshite kudasai</i>

Useful Phrases for Eating Out

A table for [2], please.	<i>[hutari] desu.</i>
A smoking seat, please.	<i>kitsuen seki onegai shimasu.</i>
A non-smoking seat please.	<i>kin en seki onegai shimasu.</i>
Please show me your menu.	<i>Menyuu o misete kudasai.</i>
Do you have a menu in English?	<i>Eigo no menyuu ga arimasuka.</i>
Can I have [one] of these (pointing an item on the menu you are holding.)	<i>kore o [hitotsu] kudasai.</i>
Can I have [two] of those (pointing an item not close to you.)	<i>sore o [hutatsu] kudasai.</i>
Can I have [one] more please?	<i>Mou [hitotsu] onegai shimasu.</i>
Can I have the same (as the one you have just finished)?	<i>Okawari onegai shimasu.</i>
I'm vegetarian.	<i>watashi wa bejitarian desu.</i>

I'm vegan.	<i>watashi wa beiigan desu.</i>
I have an allergy.	<i>arerugii ga arimasu.</i>
I cannot eat eggs.	<i>tamago ga tabe_rare_masen.</i>
I cannot drink milk.	<i>gyuunyuu ga nome_masen.</i>
I'm a Muslim.	<i>watashi wa musurimu desu.</i>
I don't eat pork.	<i>butaniku o tabemasen.</i>
Can I have a knife and fork, please?	<i>naihu to fooku o onegai_shimasu</i>
Can I have a spoon, please?	<i>supuun o onegai_shimasu</i>
Could you take our photo?	<i>shashin wo totte kudasai.</i>
Is Wi-Fi free?	<i>Wai Fai wa muryou desuka?</i>
Delicious!	<i>oishii!</i>
May I have the bill?	<i>Okanjou onegaishimasu.</i>
Goodbye (leaving the restaurant - a set expression at the end of a meal)	<i>Gochisou_sama</i>
I want to take it home.	<i>mochikaeri_tai desu.</i>
I have an allergy.	<i>arerugii ga arimasu.</i>
I'm allergic to xxx.	<i>xxx arerugii ga arimasu.</i>
I cannot eat <u>eggs</u> .	<i>tamago ga tabe_rare_masen.</i>
I cannot eat xxx.	<i>xxx ga tabe_rare_masen.</i>
I cannot drink <u>milk</u> .	<i>gyuunyuu ga nome_masen.</i>
I cannot drink xxx	<i>xxx ga nome_masen.</i>
banana	<i>banana</i>
buckwheat	<i>soba</i>
cashew	<i>kashuu_nattsu</i>
cow's milk	<i>gyuunyuu</i>
crab	<i>kani</i>
crustacean	<i>koukakurui</i>
dairy products	<i>nyuu_seihin</i>
eggs	<i>tamago</i>
fish roe	<i>sakana no tamago</i>
fruit	<i>kudamono</i>
kiwi fruit	<i>kiiuii_furuutsu</i>
lobster/prawn/shrimp	<i>ebi</i>
nuts	<i>nattu_rui</i>
peanut	<i>piinatsu</i>
seafood	<i>gyo_kai_rui</i>
soy product	<i>daizu_seihin</i>
walnut	<i>kurumi</i>
wheat	<i>komugi</i>

Useful Phrases in Emergency and/or at a Hospital

Help!	<i>Tasukete</i>
Danger/Watch out!	<i>Abunai!</i>
Stop (the car/machine)!	<i>Tomete</i>
Stop it!	<i>Yamete!</i>
police	<i>Keisatsu</i>
Ambulance	<i>Kyuukyusha</i>
Fire	<i>Kaji!</i>
I don't feel well.	<i>kibun ga warui desu.</i>
I have a fever.	<i>netsu ga ari_masu.</i>
I have a headache.	<i>atama ga itai desu.</i>

I have a toothache.	<i>ha ga itai desu.</i>
(Point where it hurts and say) It hurts.	<i>itai desu.</i>
I'm about to vomit.	<i>haki_sou desu.</i>
I have diarrhea.	<i>Geri o shite imasu.</i>
Where is a chemist/pharmacy?	<i>yakkyoku wa doko desu_ka.</i>
Do you have a painkiller?	<i>itamidome ga arimasu_ka.</i>
Please call an ambulance.	<i>Kyuukyuuusha o yonde kudasai.</i>
Please give me a receipt in English.	<i>Eigo no ryoushuusho o kudasai.</i>

[extra language tip] Useful Words

change (returned balance)	<i>otsuri</i>
coin(s)	<i>kozeni</i>
glasses	<i>megane</i>
hat/cap	<i>boushi</i>
luggage	<i>nimotsu</i>
money	<i>okane</i>
note (money)	<i>osatsu</i>
passport	<i>pasupooto</i>
suitcase	<i>suutsukeesu</i>
sunglasses	<i>sangurasu</i>
ticket(s)	<i>chiketto</i>
toothbrush	<i>haburashi</i>
umbrella	<i>kasa</i>
wallet/purse	<i>saihu</i>
airport	<i>kuukou</i>
bus stop	<i>basu tei</i>
bus terminal	<i>basu taaminaru</i>
chemist/pharmacy	<i>yakkyoku</i>
convenience store	<i>konbini</i>
department store	<i>depaato</i>
doctor	<i>isha</i>
entrance (to a venue)	<i>iriguchi</i>
exit	<i>deguchi</i>
hospital	<i>byouin</i>
hotel	<i>hoteru</i>
station	<i>eki</i>
supermarket	<i>suupaa</i>
toilet	<i>toire</i>
Sunday	<i>nichi_youbi</i>
Monday	<i>getsu_youbi</i>
Tuesday	<i>ka_youbi</i>
Wednesday	<i>sui_youbi</i>
Thursday	<i>moku_youbi</i>
Friday	<i>kin_youbi</i>
Saturday	<i>do_youbi</i>