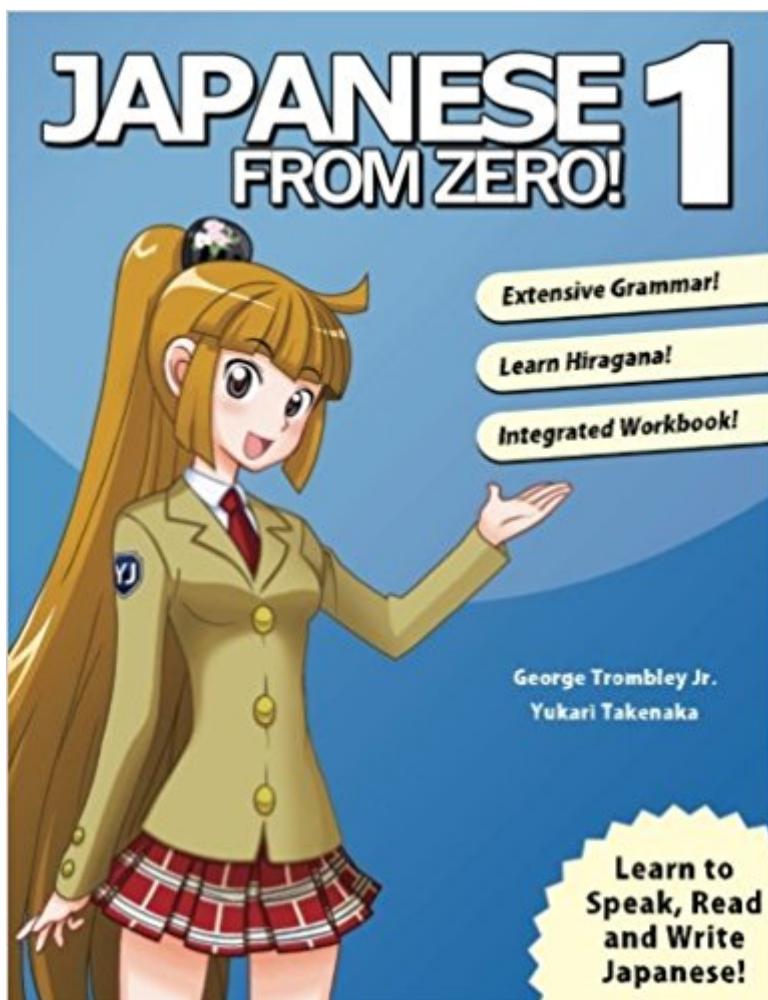


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# Japanese From Zero! 1: Proven Techniques To Learn Japanese For Students And Professionals (Volume 1)



## Synopsis

Japanese From Zero! is an innovative and integrated approach to learning Japanese developed by professional Japanese interpreter George Trombley and co-writer Yukari Takenaka. The lessons and techniques used in this series have been taught successfully for over ten years in classrooms throughout the world. Using up-to-date and easy-to-grasp grammar, Japanese From Zero! is the perfect course for current students of Japanese as well as absolute beginners. In Book 1 of the Japanese From Zero! series, readers are taught new grammar concepts, over 800 new words and expressions, and also learn the hiragana writing system. Features of Book 1: \* Integrated Workbook with Answer Key \* Over 800 New Words and Expressions \* Learn to Read and Write Hiragana \* Easy-to-Understand Example Dialogues \* Culture Points about Japan \* Bilingual Glossaries with Kana and Romaji ...and much more!

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

George Trombley is a professional Japanese interpreter who over the past 16 years has interpreted for corporations such as Microsoft, IBM, NTT DoCoMo, Lucent Technologies, and in countries throughout North America, Europe, Asia and the Middle East. In addition to Japanese, George has also co-authored the Korean From Zero! series and consulted on Chinese, French, and Spanish language books. Yukari Takenaka moved from Himeji, Japan to the United States, and taught Japanese for over 10 years while co-authoring custom lessons for students that eventually became the basis of the Japanese From Zero! book series. Prior to becoming an author, Yukari worked in

Japan as a professional in the medical industry. She continues to write Japanese related materials to support her passion for teaching Japanese.

This book is amazing. Coupled with videos online, the material is properly paced to learn the right things in Japanese without burning you out. The book doesn't milk the simple stuff though. You go through material pretty quickly. I now know all the hiragana and katajana and some kanji. The book also explains grammar in the most amazing way. It just makes sense. I cannot wait to move on to the next book (I'm over halfway). I have studied more because the book makes so much sense. It's kind of addicting... Have fun and totally buy this book. You will not regret it!

Over the past year I have been attempting to teach myself Japanese but a few months ago I found myself hit a wall. I was beginning to struggle with the grammar/particles and my dependency on romaji was beginning to catch up to me. I was stuck and losing motivation fast so I quickly went on to find something to help me get it back. After reading the reviews I quickly purchased both Japanese from Zero 1 and 2 and it was one of the best decisions I ever made. Unlike other textbooks I've tried this book is great for self-taught students. Everything is explained so simply and clearly that I rarely have any questions that aren't answered by the next page. The pace is just perfect for somebody who doesn't have other resources (like a professional Japanese teacher) to learn from and the integrated workbook is a godsend for somebody on a budget. The large letters, cute images, and child-like activities make this book appear a lot less difficult than it is which in turn makes me a lot less stressed. In regular textbooks the tiny print, and wordy pages overwhelm me and often make it appear more challenging than it probably is. This book makes learning easy and stress free (as well as perfect for nearly any age). One of the highlights of this book is the progressively introduced hiragana. In the past I have found textbooks that show you the alphabet and then magically expect you to have memorized them by the next page. This book introduces them slowly and at a good pace, ensuring that you have practice writing/reading them before replacing the romaji with the hiragana letters. I remember how giddy I was when I found myself sounding out sentences like I was in first grade all over again. I was extremely proud when I finished lesson 9 and found myself reading the sentences easy and efficiently as if I had been reading Hiragana my entire life. Another nice thing about this book is the grammar and particle explanations. In the past year I have attempted to learn Japanese I often memorized the sentences presented to me with very little understanding of why a certain particle was used and how the grammar worked (hence the wall I hit). I thought it was going to be impossible to understand grammar or

particles and yet this book made it as clear as day. I finally found myself capable of applying grammar to my own sentences rather than simply memorizing the one's presented to me. There are only a few downsides to the book. As others have mentioned there are a few mistakes. Nearly once every lesson I came across a hirigana letter that I didn't recognize and it would take me a good 5min each time before I realized that it was a mistake and we hadn't actually been introduced to the letter yet. I suggest the authors hire a good copy-editor to make sure each page is consistent and correct. I also wish there was an ending section to the book with 'extra practice problems' or 'put it all together' activities to apply everything you learned in the entirety of the book. I found myself having to make notes on each chapter with 'practice problems' so that I could review before moving onto JFZ 2. Such a section would only require 5-10 extra pages. Either way this book was great. I used it alongside my current study routine (Japanesepod101.com) and used the flashcards from Memrise (the entire vocab from this book is on there) to help me memorize the vocabulary. I plan on purchasing the entirety of the series!

Overall, this book is great for someone who is looking to learn Japanese. Being that it has an integrated workbook; to me, this made the book way more enjoyable, and not just words you would have to practice on your own, which adds to the experience of learning. From start to finish, it has a great sense of progression, with simple introduction and pre-lessons. As the book goes on, it replaces the romaji (Japanese words written in Roman characters) with the corresponding kana or kanji, which by the end of the book you slowly gain more and more fluency and reading/ writing becomes second nature. The lessons show things other than just learning the language, things like bowing, and when to be polite and casual when speaking. This is a huge help for anyone who is currently living/ planning to go to Japan. This book is 323 pages long, including a glossary, a map of Japan with the regions labeled in romaji and in Kanji, which is helpful. All in all, if you are looking to learn Japanese, this is the book to get. 100%!!

Progressing much quicker with this book than any other and I've tried tons of books and CDs this will actually teach you sentence structure. Also people say it doesn't help with pronunciation however those people may not be aware of the free online lessons you can get at Yesjapan.com which you can click on words to hear them spoken. I recommend this over anything else to learn Japanese.

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Japanese from Zero! 2: Proven Techniques to Learn Japanese for Students and Professionals

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