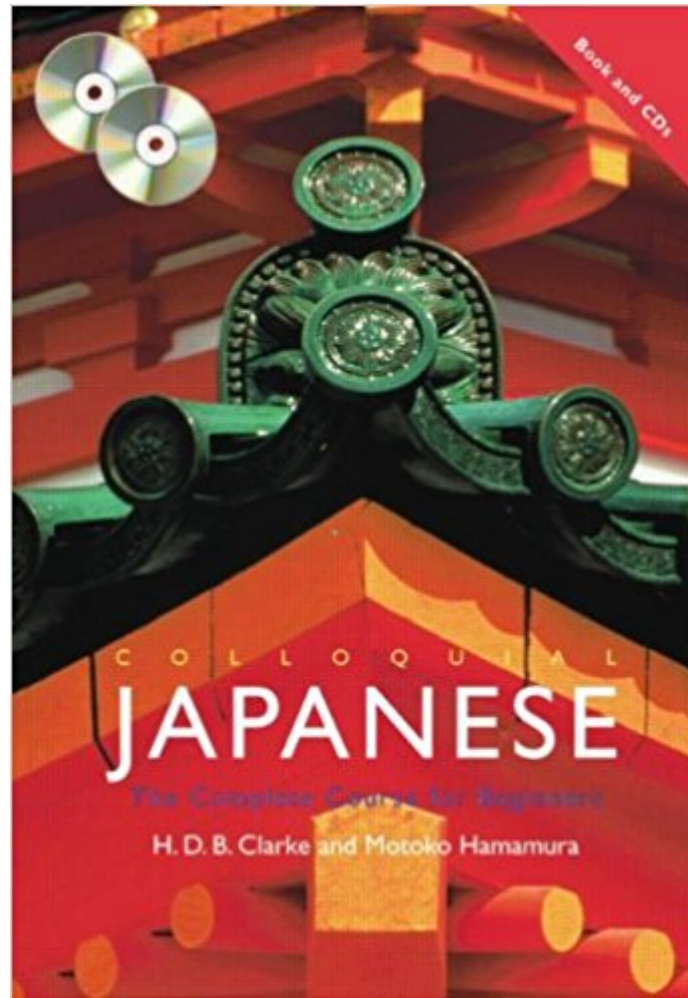




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Colloquial Japanese (Colloquial Series)



Synopsis

COLLOQUIAL JAPANESE is easy to use and completely up to date! Specially written by experienced teachers for self-study or class use, the course offers a step-by-step approach to written and spoken Japanese. No prior knowledge of the language is required. Learning to read and write Japanese is made as easy as possible, with kanji, katakana and hirigana introduced gradually throughout the course. COLLOQUIAL JAPANESE is also suitable for use by those who do not wish to learn the script. Other features include: *Dialogues covering a range of social and business situations*Exercises with answer key*Grammar reference section*Extensive vocabulary lists, including Japanese script and romanization*Index of kanji, giving on and kun readings By the end of this rewarding course you will be able to communicate confidently and effectively in Japanese in a broad range of everyday situations. This pack contains the book and 120 minutes of audio material, provided on CDs. Recorded by native speakers, this material will help you develop your pronunciation and listening skills. Course components: The complete course comprises the book and audio materials. These are available to purchase separately in paperback, ebook, CD and MP3 format. The paperback and CDs can also be purchased together in the great-value Colloquials pack. Paperback: 978-0-415-19478-5 (please note this does not include the audio) CDs : 978-0-415-27911-6 eBook: 978-0-203-98691-2 (available to purchase from http://ebookstore.tandf.co.uk/audio_viewbooks.aspx. Please note this does not include the audio) MP3s: 978-0-415-47080-3 (available to purchase from http://ebookstore.tandf.co.uk/audio_viewbooks.aspx) Pack : 978-0-415-45391-2 (paperback and CDs)

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Customer Reviews

Hugh Clarke and Motoko Hamamura both teach Japanese at the University of Sydney, Australia, where Hugh Clarke is Head of the Asian Studies Department. They are the authors of the existing *Colloquial Japanese*, which was originally published in 1981. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Great book, with grammar well explained. Prompt delivery! Thanks!

Great product and service.

*i have bought teachyourself, barrons and pimsleur but if you want to teach your self how to read japanese, this is on que with teachyourself-maybe better. if i may offer some advice to any would-be language enthusiast, pimsleur is just spoken word(no booklet)so i recommend it for getting 'the bare bones'-so to speak-of how the language sounds and its basic structure. listen to it when you go to sleep, over and over and you will soon develop a very basic understanding of japanese. teachyourself is also good but it has way too much romanji so you cannot learn how to read japanese(i'm talking about the regular course,i haven't tried the "complete japanese" course), but for a fast basic course that will take you beyond pimsleur. besides it is better having a booklet right there for easy access rather than going through the separate DVD lessons hopelessly trying to find what you want to review. barrons is VERY good for the word order and colloquial is best for learning all three. why? because it has the dialogs written in japanese, then in ramonji, then in english so you can figure out what one syllabary sounds like and what sequence of syllabaries mean what word in english. it also covers hiragana, katakana, and kanji so your set for all three. READ!!!--> the one drawback is that the booklet and the dvd usually come separate so be careful and read the full title of what your buying so you dont have to wait and pay for separate shipping and handling for the DVD and the booklet.oh and good luck and study hard.

This book isn't bad. It is useful if you stick with it but there are so many other resources out there. You can get better study guides from free websites.

As opposed to another review I'm past the 5th chapter and I've yet to find more than one instance where the vocabulary wasn't comprehensive. Then the word was still available in the glossary in back. In the forward the author does say that in later chapters they will deliberately not include a comprehensive vocabulary because part of learning the language is learning to utilize the appropriate reference materials. But I haven't reached that point yet. Though, even then, the glossary in the back is comprehensive. There are however a number of typos throughout. Most are rather obvious because they are nearly all in the vocabulary sections where romaji and kana are in parallel text. Thus, the romaji will nearly always be correct and kana characters will either be missing or misplaced. I'm sticking with a 5 though because I find these typos obvious and they didn't confuse me. The rest of the book is great. I've found each chapter leads into the next very well with comprehensible explanations and each section just the right size. Kana and Kanji are introduced from the beginning slowly and reinforced each chapter. Unfortunately, it makes everything so comprehensible that many will press on before fully learning each chapter. So I recommend going back to the beginning and reviewing everything at least once every other day until the book is complete. I'm doing this and every time I see some detail I missed all the other times. So it may feel tedious but it does pay off. Also, it's a good idea to keep each study period under 30 minutes so you don't burn out. Review, review, review. My favorite feature about this book is it is not a "Japanese for business" book. If your interest in learning Japanese is more for leisure purposes then this is a really good self study course. It is also one of the very few courses that teaches Kanji from day one. So it is at least in the top 3 courses for those who feel learning to read Japanese is a high priority. My only real gripe is the CD is sold separately. It isn't in any of the bookstores I go to, so I must order it.

This book is fantastic, I love the way it eases you into the different scripts and the realistic dialogs in each chapter. Unlike some other books it's also easy to follow and learn from. It teaches you some very useful sentence structures right off the bat and then eases you into different grammatical concepts. Of course anyone using this book would find having a Japanese dictionary, grammar reference and Kanji dictionary very helpful to fill in any gaps that pop up. (I really like the Oxford starter Japanese dictionary, Oxford Japanese grammar & verbs and Kodansha Kanji learner's dictionary). This book does a way better job than my \$100 university text and 2 other self study guides I have had the misfortune of wasting my money on but there are still a few topics that could use more in depth explanations. I've had a year of formal Japanese instruction in university so I didn't have any problems grasping the early dialogs. Although it doesn't look like the author intends complete beginners to understand every word since there are some fairly advanced grammar in

them. I guess some people will find this an interesting prelude and others will find it annoying. I personally liked it because it kept things interesting. The only real complaint I have is there are quite a few obvious spelling errors throughout the book, hopefully they get corrected in a future edition.

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