LESSON 1: INTRODUCTION TO THE JAPANESE PROGRAM

There are three types of letters used in the Japanese Writing System: kanji (Chinese characters), hiragana and katakana (Japanese syllabaries).

Japanese consists of 2 scripts Hiragana and Katakana.

Katakana is used primarily for foreign words.

NB: Chinese characters called Kanji in Japanese are also heavily used in Japanese writing.

ENGLISH	Α	E	1	0	U
HIRAGANA	あ	え	V	お	う
KATAKANA	ア	エ	イ	才	ウ

INTRODUCTIONS

Good morning- Ohayou gozaimasu

Good afternoon- Konnichiwa

Good evening - Konbanwa

How are you? - Genki desu ka.

I'm fine. – genki desu.

ASKING YOUR NAME

What's your name? Anata no namae wa nan desu ka.

My name is Watashi wa _(name)_____desu.

Pleased to meet you! – Hajimemashite, (dozo yoroshiku onegaishimasu).



CHARACTERISTICS OF JAPANESE GRAMMAR

As taken from the "Japanese for JETS" booklet,

- 1. Word Order: a predicate always comes at the end of the sentence. Ex. Watashi wa Sumisu desu. My name is Smith.
- To form a question, "ka" is added to the end of the sentence.
 Ex. Ano kata wa Tanaka san desu. That person over there is Mr. Tanaka.

Ano kata wa Tanaka – san desu ka. Is that person over there Mr. Tanaka?



- Ohayou gozaimasu
- (Greet the person as well by stating good morning)
- Genki desu ka.
- (I am fine).
- Anata no namae wa nan desu ka.
- State your name.
- Hajimemashite.
- Hajimemashite.

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