

## What Japanese Audio CDs do you recommend?

In our opinion, two types of listening skills are essential to quality cross-cultural communication --one of those skills is developing listening in the foreign language.

In supplement to classroom studies with a professional educator and foreign language training strategist, students can significantly help train themselves to have a foreign language ear by listening to Japanese audio practices at regular intervals. Students can perform simple self-experiments to determine whether a daily or every other day or every three day interval is right for their learning style.

We encourage students to listen to Japanese audio CDs on their way home from work. Experientially, not many students listen to the audio CDs that go with their text book. Typically, this is due simply to the typical high cost of these products and/or time management challenges in trying to listen uninterrupted at home or work breaks with their textbook to follow along.

Therefore, we recommend students just visit their local favorite book store and purchase a \$10-30 set of brand name audio CDs. Select a set that is dialog driven. Having listened to most, we can affirm that all the typical names in foreign language learning CDs all teach similar content and vocabulary. Most beginning sets or level 1 CDs teach the appropriate level of polite Japanese for any situation. KC members can borrow audio CDs from our classroom library, so we feel we should report that generally students did not like vocabulary driven audio CD sets.

The goal of listening to Japanese audio CDs is to merely help train your ear to a variety of native Japanese speakers. Like any good music CD, after a while the ear will tire of the "music". So purchasing two different sets affords the ear some variety of listening options and the mind some different aural and oral exercises.



Sensei Says features responses to questions from visitor questions to our website.

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