

# From the Viewpoint of “Easy Japanese”: What Can the Pedagogical Grammar of Japanese Say to “Grassroots” Japanese-Language Classrooms?

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As the number of foreigners in Japanese society—most of whom cannot study Japanese in classrooms—increases, the need to communicate with them becomes more important. The media of communication should be Japanese; furthermore, the form of Japanese used should be a simplified one (referred to in this paper as “Easy Japanese”), because there are few official Japanese-language courses for such foreigners and they cannot take the intensive fundamental courses that foreign students are able to take.

In this paper, I present a grammatical framework for “Easy Japanese.” Two steps are distinguished for basic-level courses; there is also a proposed list of grammatical elements that are essential to living in Japan and to communicating with Japanese individuals. All elements of “Easy Japanese” are discussed in terms of Japanese grammar from a pedagogical standpoint.