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Drive Time: Japanese (CD): Learn Japanese While You Drive (All-Audio Courses)



Synopsis

Now anyone can learn a foreign language while commuting to work, running errands, or even taking a trip with the family. The new all-audio Drive Time series starts with an ingenious "On-Ramp" CD that eases language learners into Spanish, French, Italian, German, or Japanese with simple, practical expressions and engaging warm-up exercises. Three additional CDs contain 18 lessons that cover all of the essentials: vocabulary, pronunciation, grammar, and basic conversation. Drive Time also includes a 64-page reference guide for anyone who would like to see spellings or read dialogues as a review "from the passenger seat, of course!"

Book Information

Series: All-Audio Courses

Audio CD: 64 pages

Publisher: Living Language; Com/Pap Un edition (May 16, 2006)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1400021286

ISBN-13: 978-1400021284

Product Dimensions: 5.3 x 1.1 x 7.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 3.5 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 35 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #3,222,666 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #48 in Books > Books on CD > Languages > Language Instruction > Japanese #664 in Books > Textbooks > Humanities > Foreign Languages > Japanese #5708 in Books > Books on CD > General

Customer Reviews

I'm slowing going through these CD's and they are ok. There is the required amount of repetition that you can rewind and get what they are saying in Japanese and the exercises on the CD are appropriate to get a beginner learning of the language. Not great with writing and alphabet. There is no explanation of the Japanese writing styles hiragana, katakana nor kanji nor is there any indication of the Japanese alphabet only sounds are given against the English alphabet, which is strange. The grammar and number explanation is otherwise good and explained simply so you get it. Not good with building up your vocab as the CD sticks to a few basic words e.g. karuma - is used in many examples. You do learn a few basic words, but don't practice a range of vocab. So it is good to get a beginner started and I would recommend it if you are going to travel to Japan.

Coming from the Pimsleur method of learning Japanese, this audio course felt rushed, and I felt I couldn't absorb as much information. The vocabulary words are shot at you 10-15 at a time, and there is little review before the next set of vocab, causing me to have to listen to each 1-minute-long "mile marker" over and over again. This is to Pimsleur as trying to memorize a dictionary is to learning from a textbook. It just doesn't seem prudent to listen to in the car because I find myself either listening to the 1-minute tracks on repeat until they sink in, or listen to a bunch at a time, and retaining nothing because the quizzing and recall flies by so quickly. Also, the response time is extremely short. I can barely answer the question in English in that amount of time. ALL THAT SAID, a strong vocabulary is necessary obviously, and I am eager to get to a level where this tape will be useful for me. For right now, I'm going to settle for the Pimsleur method of simple vocabulary, and focusing on grammar and sentence structure.

Great program! Got a lot of compliments on my Japanese when visiting Japan. Definitely recommend this to anyone visiting Japan, whether for business or pleasure. I liked to listen to it in the car on the way to/from work.

Love my drive time Japanese ... I'm always play it for my commute to work.. And I've been surprisedly learning pretty quick

This was great for me because I got to hear how words are pronounced by a native speaker instead of trying to figure out how to pronounce them on my own. If you have long commutes it's great, or put it on your ipod to listen to throughout the day.

Great tapes. I've been listening in my way to work every day for only 3 weeks and I feel like I know a lot already! Would definitely recommend this product!

My husband and I moved to Japan with the US Military and thankfully, we knew about a year in advance of this life-changing event. I ordered Drive Time because I had also previously bought this program in German for long commutes to work. I listened to the Japanese CDs during our long moves across country, to my commutes to work, and even occasionally on runs or bike rides. When we arrived in Japan I knew enough to get by and the locals were very excited and thankful that I took the time to learn their language. Everything in this program is what is taught in the first few lessons of a Japanese class, so I was ahead of the game when I decided to brush up. It won't make

you fluent, but it will definitely get you where you need to go in small conversations.

I love this set of cd's. At first I was a little intimidated but soon realized that I can hit the repeat button as many times as needed. I was showing off all I learned this weekend to my family and they were impressed! There is lots to learn and it's fun and also a great value for the money. My son lives in japan and is fluent in japanese, and he said I am learning more than some of his college friends that are learning japanese!

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