

LET'S READ

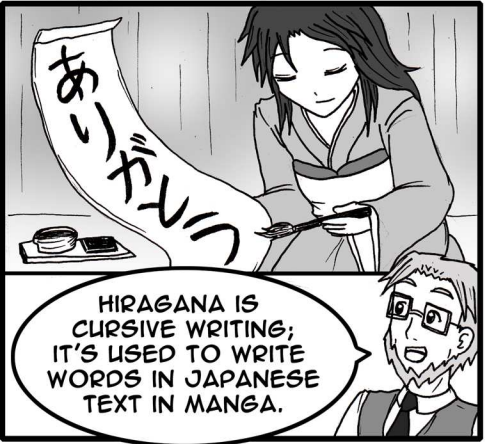
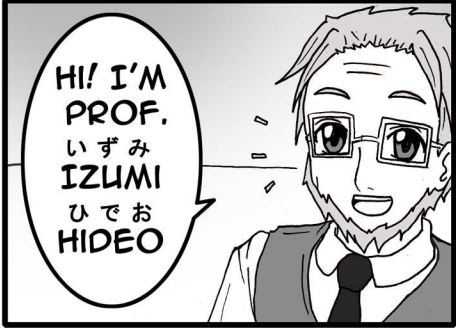
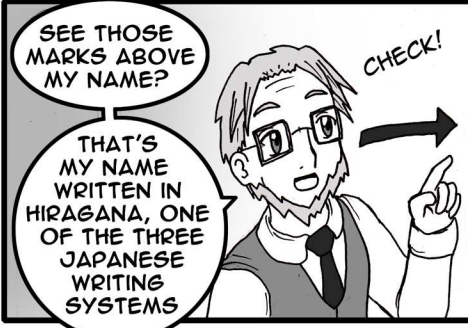
ひらがな

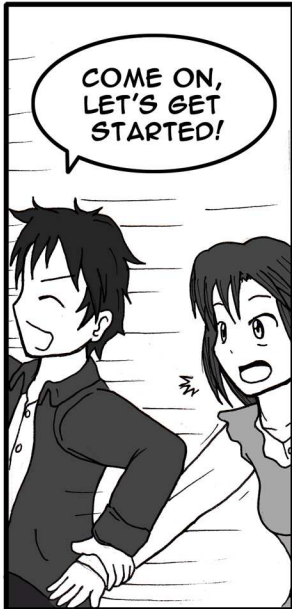
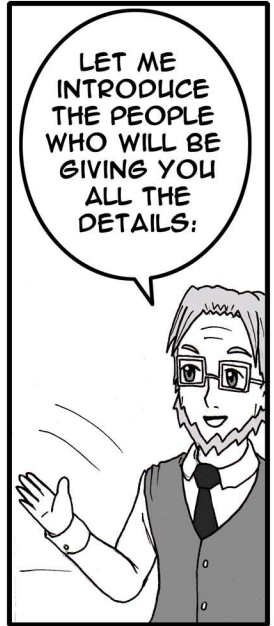
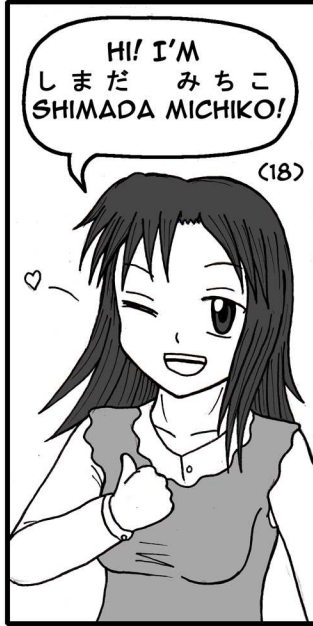
HIRAGANA

An Introduction to Basic Japanese with Manga

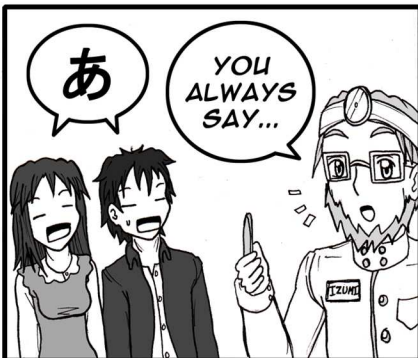
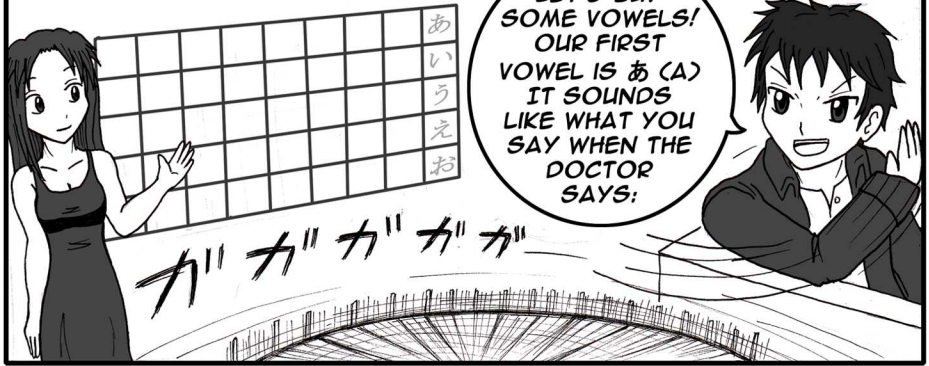
Written By: David Eisenberg
Art By: Alex Kobayashi

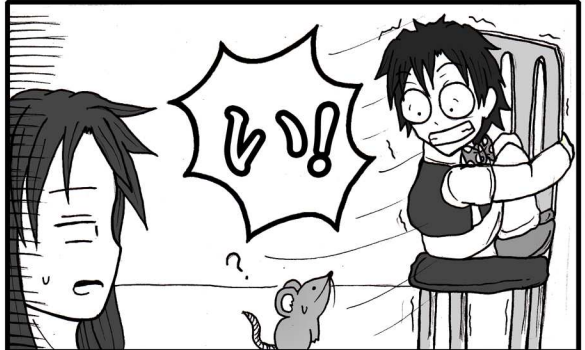
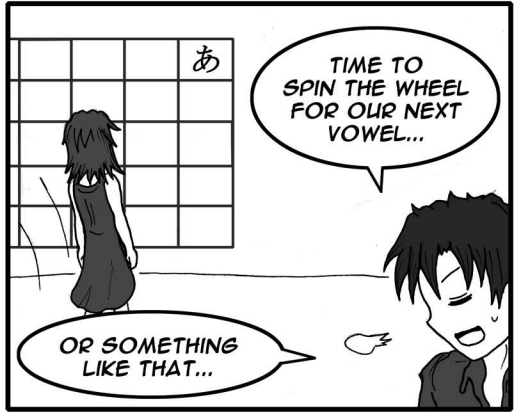
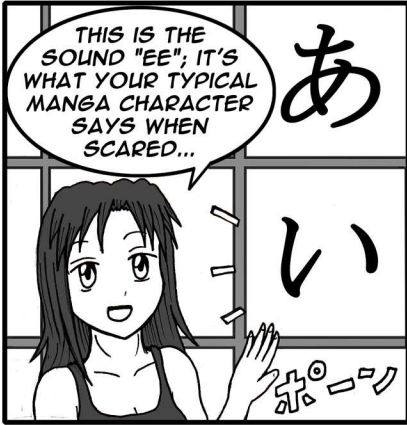


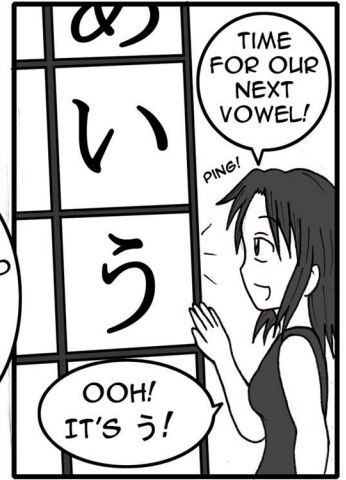
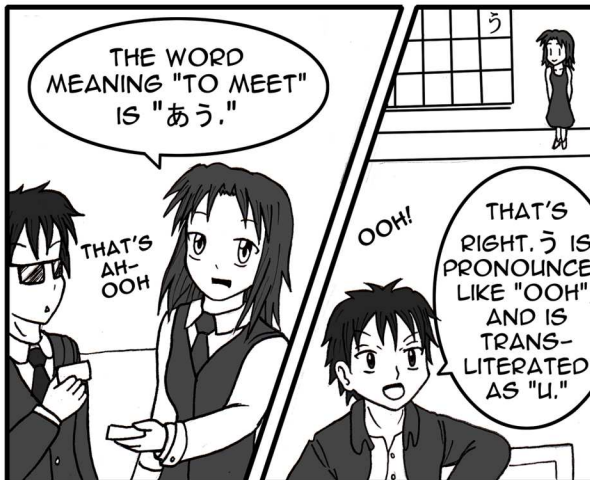
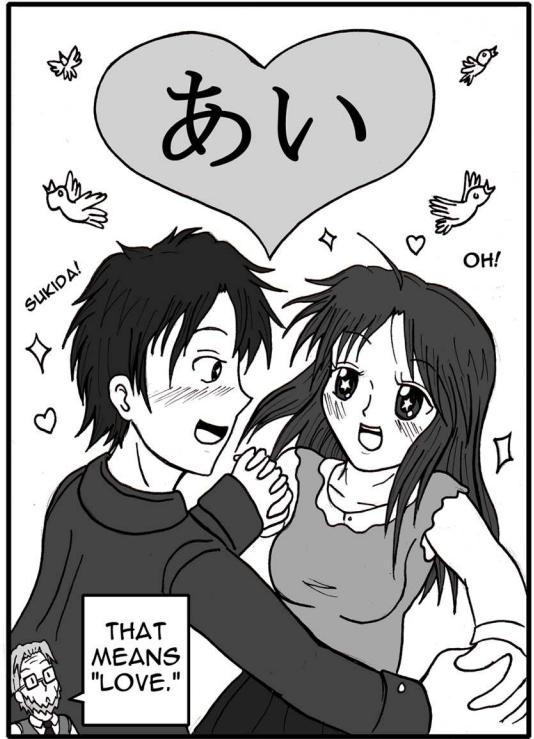




WHEEL OF HIRAGANA







... WITH THAT VOWEL え, PRONOUNCED "EH" AND ROMANIZED AS "E," I CAN MAKE A NEW WORD: うえ.

え

OUR NEXT VOWEL IS... HEY!!

え?

DON'T GIVE ME "EH," NAKAMURA-SAN! GET TO WORK!

ZZZ

うえ MEANS "ON TOP," IT'S PRONOUNCED OO-EH, AND ROMANIZED AS "UE."

GET OFF

WHAT DO YOU MEAN "NO"? うえ DOES MEAN "ABOVE."

NO...

HEH...

IT CAN ALSO MEAN "UP" OR "ABOVE," DEPENDING ON HOW IT'S USED.

I SAID GET OFF

え

AND NOW, OUR FINAL VOWEL ...

NO... I MEAN... YES. I MEAN...

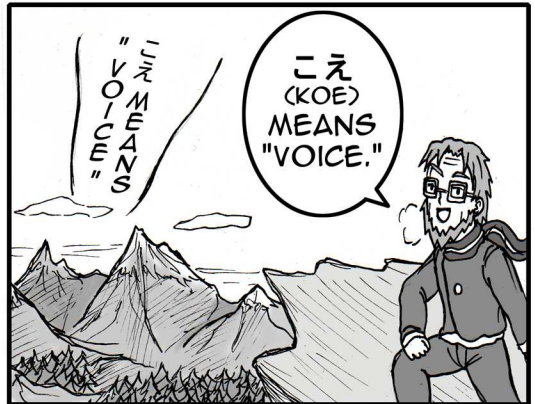
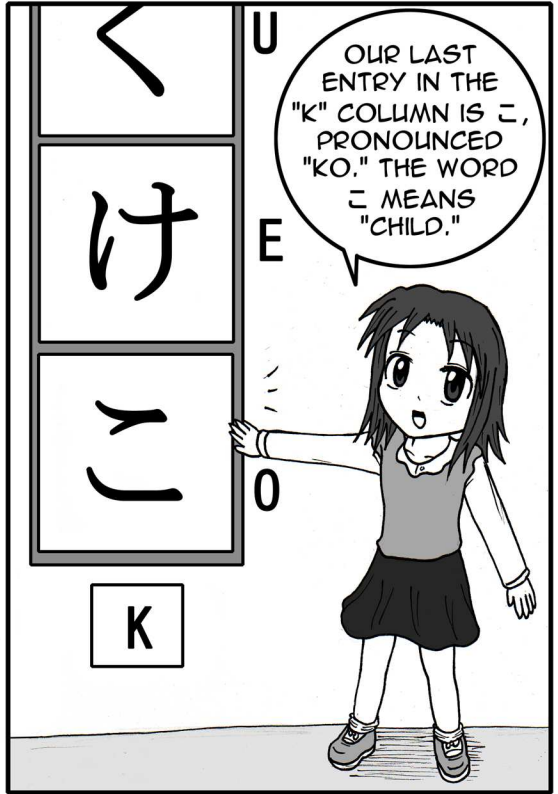
NO, I MEAN THAT WE CAN NOW MAKE THE JAPANESE WORD FOR "NO."


いいえ (IIE) MEANS "NO."

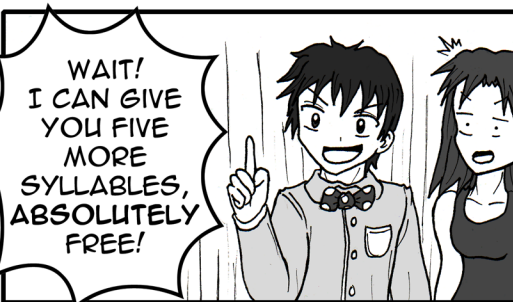
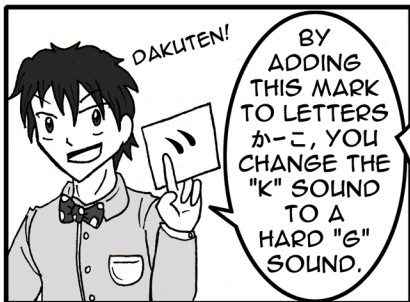
NO!

いいえ

THERE'S WRITING
PRACTICE...



			か	あ	A	
			き	い	I	
			く	う	U	
			け	え	E	
			こ	お	O	



か → が

"KA" CHANGES TO "GA",
PRONOUNCED "GAH!"

き → ぎ

"KI" CHANGES TO "GI",
PRONOUNCED AS IN "GEEK"

く → ぐ

"KU" CHANGES TO "GU",
PRONOUNCED AS IN "GOO"

け → げ

"KE" CHANGES TO "GE",
PRONOUNCED AS IN "GET"

こ → ご

AND "KO" CHANGES
TO "GO".

...AND INFORMATION
ABOUT JAPANESE
CULTURE

DAKUTEN




AND THIS SYMBOL ...

CHANGES THE PRONUNCIATION TO た (DA)



T




A

I

NEXT UP!

THE FIRST LETTER IN THIS SET OF SYLLABLES IS た (TA).



MY NAME, **ただし!**
(TADASHI)

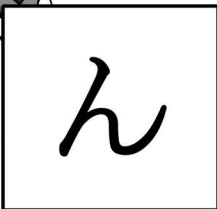


WHICH LETS YOU SPELL THE MOST IMPORTANT WORD IN JAPANESE:



SIGH...

AND HERE IT IS:



N


THIS "SYLLABLE" ONLY HAS A CONSONANT SOUND- "N" WITHOUT A VOWEL

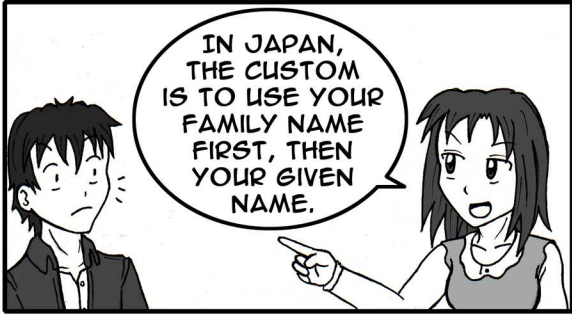
AND, TO DISCUSS IT, WE NEED A LETTER THAT'S LITERALLY OFF THE GRID.



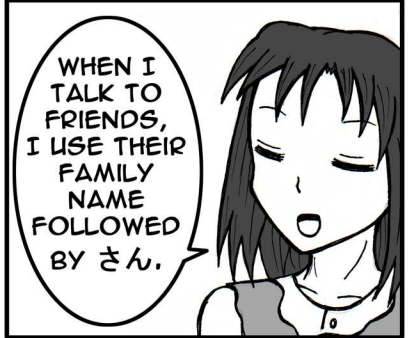
HMMM...

DESPITE HIS BATTLESHIP SIZED EGO, **ただし** DOES BRING UP AN INTERESTING POINT ...

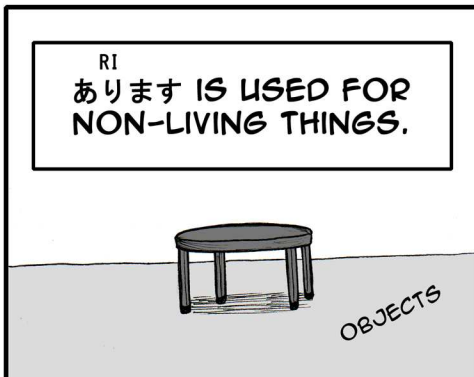
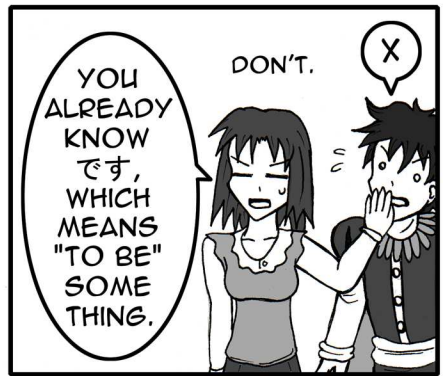
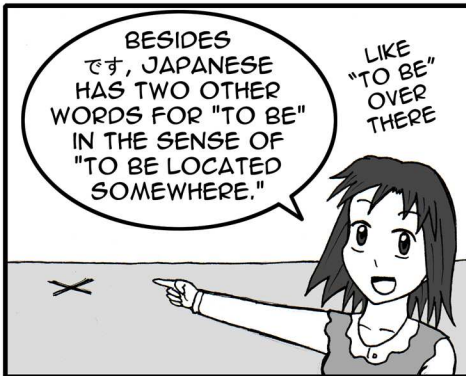


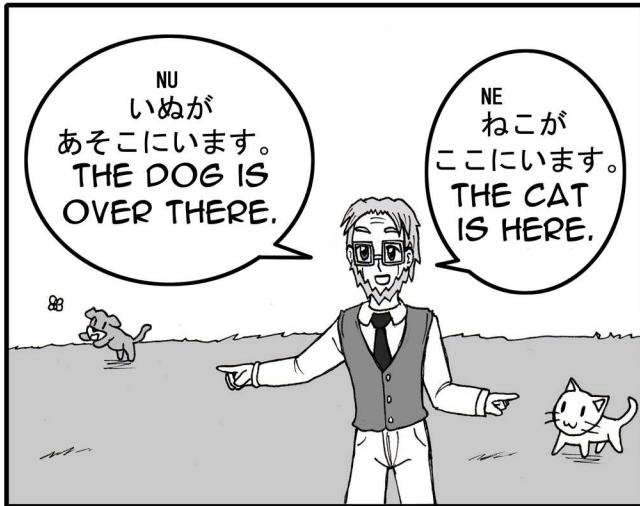
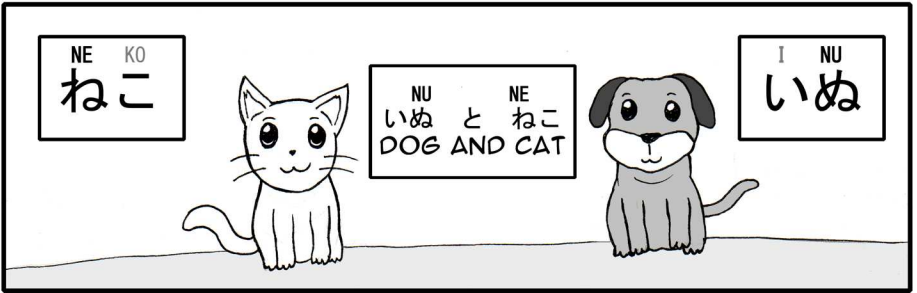
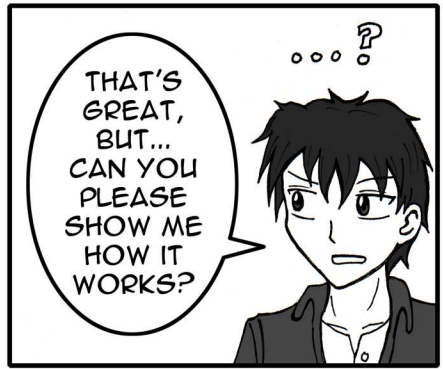
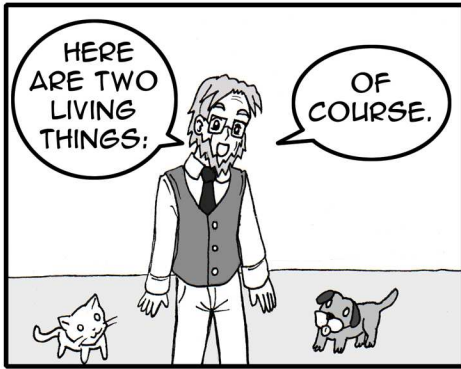


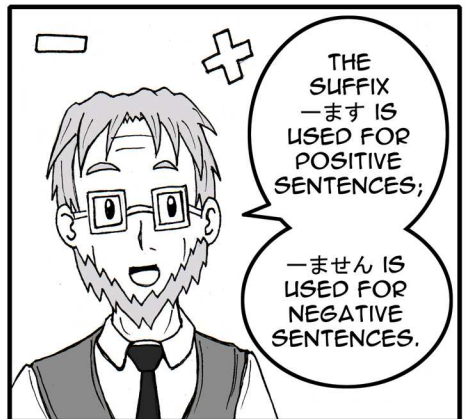
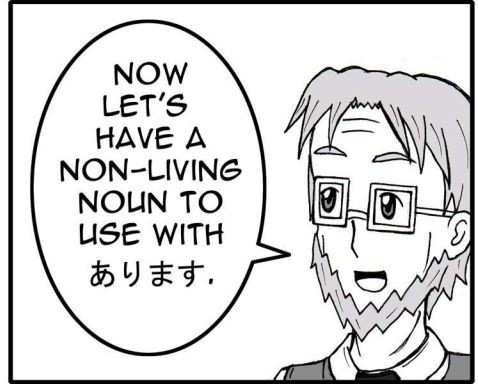
JAPANESE NAMES



YOU'LL LEARN HOW
TO BUILD BASIC
SENTENCES...





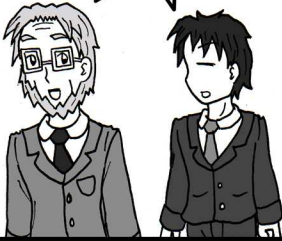


...AND LEARN COMMON
JAPANESE PHRASES

GOOD DAY.
(NOON TO 5 PM)



こんにちは^{WA}



GOOD MORNING. (USE UNTIL NOON)



おはよう
ございます

IN
こんにちは
AND こんにちは,
PRONOUNCE
THE は AS
"WA."

CHECK!



GOOD EVENING.
(AFTER 5 PM)

こんばんは^{WA}



A
SIMPLE
"GOODBYE"
IS
さようなら.



GOOD NIGHT.

おやすみ
なさい

