Congratulations on Reaching Level 3
of Crystal Hunters Japanese!

Now that you've reached book 3, the Japanese in Crystal Hunters is noticeably more natural than it was in books 1 & 2. Book 3 also introduces sound effects and a bit of banter! You're well on your way mastering Japanese!

Let's cover a few new things that appear in book 3 and then get back to the magic and adventure!

Advanced Katakana

Although we covered the basics of Katakana in book 1, there are a few other ways to use it, especially when dealing with words borrowed from other languages (these are called "loan words"). But don't worry, we don't need to learn any new katakana letters, we'll just be mixing and matching the letters we already know in new ways.

The Letter of the Day is "W"

Katakana has two letters which start with a 'w' sound: ワ & ヲ。

Strangely though, while ワ is often used for loan words, ヲ is almost never used.

Example:
ワイン ＝ wine

Another way to make a 'w' sound in Japanese is to use ウ and then put a second small vowel after it. By doing this we can make ウィ、 ウェ、 & ウォ. But, making the 'w' sound this way makes the 'w' sound become softer. It's about halfway between a 'w' and an ウ sound.

Examples:
ウィザード = wizard
ウェイター = waiter
ウォールナット = walnut

The last way to represent a 'w' sound actually has no 'w' sound. When representing a 'wu' or 'woo' sound, Japanese just uses ウ.

Example:
ウール = wool

New Vocabulary

Chapter 6			
Japanese Word	**English Spelling**	**Kanji**	**Meaning in English**
アーウィン	a-a-wi-n		Irwin (character name)
ぼく	bo-ku	僕	I/me*
ドカーン	do-ka-a-n		BOOM
どういたしまして	do-u-i-ta-shi-ma-shi-te		thank you
がっこう	ga-k-ko-u	学校	school
はしる	ha-shi-ru	走る	to run
いわ	i-wa	岩	big rock/boulder
なげる	na-ge-ru	投げる	to throw
おまえ	o-ma-e	お前	you*
おれ	o-re	俺	I/me*
ポーション	po-o-sho-n		potion
たすける	ta-su-ke-ru	助ける	to help/to save
つかまえる	tsu-ka-ma-e-ru	捕まえる	to catch/to grab/to capture
ぞ	zo		emphasis particle*

Chapter 7			
Japanese Word	**English Spelling**	**Kanji**	**Meaning in English**
こおり	ko-o-ri	氷	ice
そう	so-u		that's right
とまる	to-ma-ru	止まる	to stop*
わるい	wa-ru-i	悪い	bad

Chapter 8			
Japanese Word	**English Spelling**	**Kanji**	**Meaning in English**
アンバー	a-n-ba-a		Amber (character name)
ガシャーン	ga-sha-a-n		SMASH
いもうと	i-mo-u-to	妹	little sister
こうげき	ko-u-ge-ki	攻撃	attack
それに	so-re-ni		in addition/also

means there will be further clarification in the sections below.

Review, But New!

MORE YELLING!

Just like you've seen with あああ！！ adding more letters means the characters are yelling longer and stronger.

However, many Japanese letters have consonants in them, and yelling the consonant+vowel pair over and over just doesn't have the same effect as screaming that last vowel at the top of your lungs.
(Ex: NONONO vs NOOOOO in English)

So, when this happens in Japanese, you use the vowel only letter to extend the sound.

Example:
だめえええ！！ = NOOOOO!!

Stop! In the Name of Love!

止_とめる and を are lovers, and they love each other so much that they break rules for each other.

In our first guide, we said that verbs in their "can" form are paired with が. Well, 止める doesn't pair with が, it stays loyal to を. Sometimes words follow grammar rules, and other times love overcomes those rules. It's just the way things are.

Example:
私達を止められない！ = (You) can't stop us!

More Ways to Say "What?"

We already know that sometimes kanji can be read different ways. And we also know that だ likes to do its own thing. Well, put those things together and we get a new reading for 何. When we pair 何 and だ together, the reading for 何 changes from "なに" to "なん".

Example:

それ、何(なん)だ？ = What's that?

New Grammar

Review finished! Let's go over some new grammar and one language quirk real quick, and then get back to the manga!

Pronoun Style!

Some of the coolest things we learn in book 3 are two new ways to say "I". Adding these really helps the manga feel much more natural.

The Young and the Mild Mannered

The first new way to say "I" is 僕, and the people who use 僕 are generally younger boys or mild mannered men. 僕 is not considered rude, and there are many men, even in business, who use it.

Very rarely, some girls/women use 僕 too if they want to be seen more like a boy. But be careful, this does not mean that tomboys will use 僕. There are many tomboys who want to be seen as girls/women and still use 私. The most common way that girls/women use 僕 is in song lyrics, and this is often because it has 2 syllables instead of the 3 that 私 has.

In Crystal Hunters, Bansom is a 僕 character. (Subasa is not).

The Manly Men

The most manly way to say "I" is 俺（おれ）, and because of this it can sometimes come off as coarse and/or arrogant. In some business situations it can be too rude to use, and if this happens 俺（おれ） type men will switch to 私（わたし） and not 僕（ぼく）, as 僕（ぼく） has too much "boy" flavor to it.

Although many boys use 僕（ぼく） there are also many boys who use 俺（おれ） (even in elementary school) if they want to seem stronger or more manly. There are also many boys who use 僕（ぼく） when they are younger and then switch to 俺（おれ） as they get older.

As with 僕（ぼく）, there are some girls/women who use 俺（おれ）. These girls/women usually want to be seen as men, although there are some who use it purely for shock value. There are also some high powered business women who use 俺（おれ） since it can command more respect with their subordinates than 私（わたし） can.

In Crystal Hunters, Kal and Devan are both 俺（おれ） characters.

More Particle Style!

Now that we've learned 俺(おれ), let's add some particle style to go with it! We've already learned a lot about how to use よ, and both 私(わたし) and 僕(ぼく) type people use it commonly.

However, depending on the situation, 俺(おれ) type people might find よ too neutral or feminine (especially true when bantering or hanging out with their male friends), so instead of よ they use ぞ to sound more manly. This does not mean that they will always use ぞ instead of よ, they'll just use it when they want to add that extra manly oomph.

Example:
行(い)くよ！ → 行(い)くぞ！ ＝ (I'm) going! / (I'm) coming! / Here I go!

Do As I Say! The Hard Command!

When you no longer care about pleasantries, and you need things to happen immediately, then hard command is for you.

Hard command is streamlined to get information to people as quickly as possible, so conjugating it is super easy. For normal verbs, you just change the last letter of the verb from one that ends in an 'u' sound, to one that ends in an 'e' sound with the same starting consonant.

Examples:
行(い)く → 行(い)け
待(ま)つ → 待(ま)て
使(つか)う → 使(つか)え

岩(いわ)、行(い)け！

For "-eru" verbs, it's even easier. You just change the る to ろ.

Examples:
考える → 考えろ
やめる → やめろ

But, negative hard command form is the absolute easiest. Just add な to any verb.

Examples:
逃げる → 逃げるな
待つ → 待つな

Personal Style & Relationships with Hard Command

As you've learned from our pronoun and particle style sections, the way Japanese is spoken is highly dependent on how masculine or feminine you're feeling. Command forms are no exception to this, and which command you use is not only dependent on who you are, but who you're talking to.

From here, we're going to need to divide the people that our characters know into close friends or relatives ("inner circle") and other people ("outer circle"). This is very important because the relationships people hold often affect the way they speak in Japanese.

First Type: Always て Command

For women who are especially effeminate, even when super angry or in dire situations, they will almost always use て form over hard command.

This is how Knites would speak. Even in a life threatening situation, this is how she would yell:

やめてえええ！＝ STOOOPPP!!!

Second Type: Usually て, sometimes Hard

This style is also primarily for women, but can also happen for 僕（ぼく） type men. In most situations they'll use て, but if they're really emotional and they're not talking to someone who's in their inner circle, they'll use the hard command.

In our team so far, this applies to Bansom and Daphne.

For example, let's say Bansom is telling someone to stop doing something:

To Kal and not emotional → やめて

To Kal and emotional → やめて

To Devan and not emotional → やめて

To Devan and emotional → やめろ

However! It should be noted that some words do just not sound strong enough in their て form, and so they much more easily change into hard command form. 走（はし）って is one of these words, it just does not sound very strong. If emotional enough, 走（はし）れ can be said by people of this type to their inner circle too.

Unfortunately, there are no hard and fast rules for how strong a word sounds in its て form. You just kinda have to get a feel for it. We'll just leave it at that for now because going over all possible verbs and situations would be boring and exhausting.

Third Type: Usually Hard, sometimes て

This style is for tomboys and friendly 俺〔おれ〕 type men. Like the previous style, relationships are very important in deciding which command to use, and they'll generally use て with their close friends or relatives, although this not applicable when they're angry at said friends/relatives.

This style applies to Kal and Subasa.

For example, let's say Kal is telling someone to stop doing something:

To Bansom and not angry → やめて

To Bansom and angry → やめろ

To Devan (any emotion) → やめろ

The weakness of 走〔はし〕ってand some other verbs can also be felt for this type too. Even if Kal is talking to Bansom and is in a good mood, he still might use 走〔はし〕れ. That said, he would be more likely to use 走〔はし〕って with Knites (because he likes her) or Daphne (because she's young).

Fourth Type: All HARD

This style is for assholes. Even with their friends and family they'll use the hard command form for everything.

This type applies to Devan, and there's no reason to list any examples because he only uses hard command form.

Fifth Type: Friends Make You Hard

If you're bantering with your friends, you're more likely to use hard command form. That said, the further you are from normally using hard command form (for example: First Type), the less likely you are to use hard command even if you are bantering with friends.

Pronoun Style – Part 2!

Adding to our previous pronoun additions of 僕 and 俺, we're also introducing a new pronoun for "you" this chapter, and that pronoun is "お前"。

お前 is definitely a ruder version of あなた, and its use is roughly in line with the five types of people/relationships listed above for hard command form.

So, for example, this means that Kal:

won't call Knites or Daphne お前,

he'll only call Bansom お前 if he's pissed at him or bantering,

and he'll always call Devan お前.

お前はヒーローじゃない。

New Ying & Yang Verb Pair!

Our newest Ying & Yang verb pair is 止<ruby>と</ruby>まる and 止<ruby>と</ruby>める. The "passive" one is 止<ruby>と</ruby>まる, and the "active" one is 止<ruby>と</ruby>める.

Let's reword the definitions of these two to make them easier to understand:
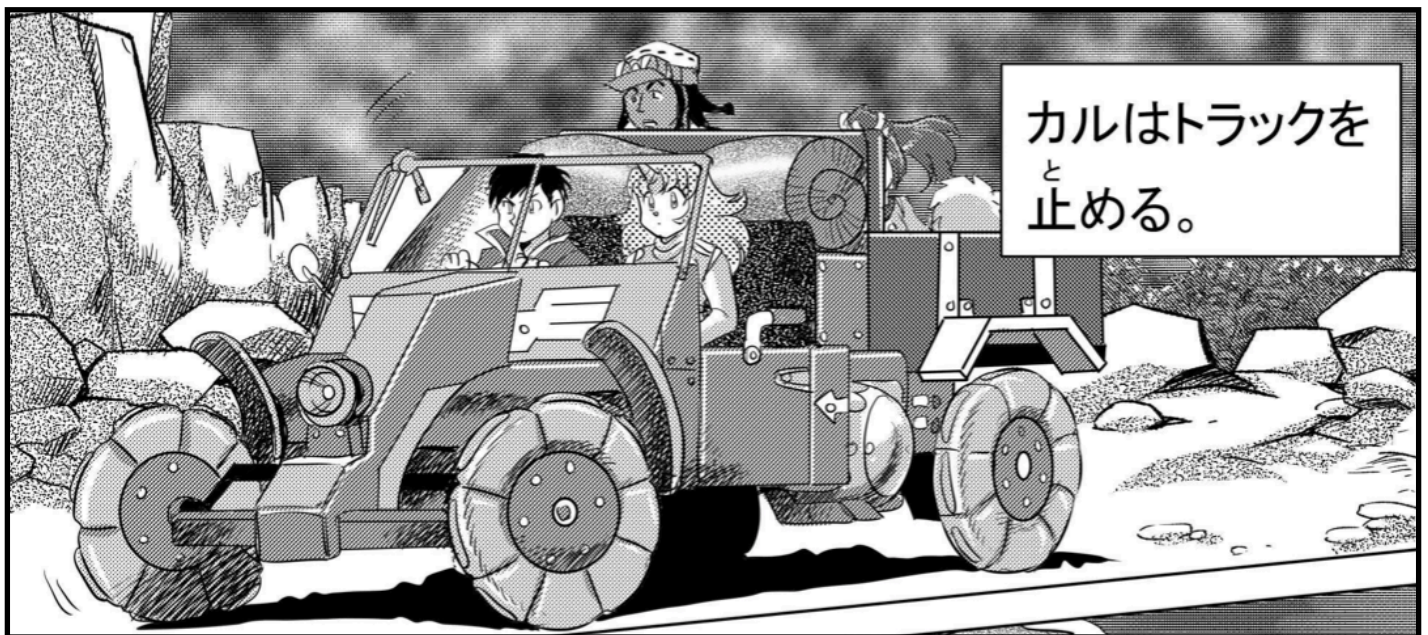
止<ruby>と</ruby>まる = to stop (yourself/itself)
止<ruby>と</ruby>める = to make something stop

We just learned hard command form, so let's see how these two differ when yelled as hard commands.

止<ruby>と</ruby>まれ！ = STOP! (this is what stop signs in Japan have on them)
岩<ruby>いわ</ruby>を止<ruby>と</ruby>めろ！ = STOP THE BOULDER!

カルはトラックを
止<ruby>と</ruby>める。

<u>Timely Ninjas and Honorary Promotions!</u>

So we already know that we can remove subjects from sentences. But, let's say there was a reference to time in that sentence. What happens then?

Japanese has a really unique way of dealing with this. Let's use the following example sentence:

今、私は嬉しい。 ＝ Now, I am happy.

You might think that you would just take out the "私は" and be done with it (and you would not be wrong, this way is also possible!), but the more common and natural way to do this is to delete the "、私".

Example:
今は嬉しい。 ＝ Now (, I) am happy.

When we do this, 今 is promoted to the status of "honorary subject", and we treat it grammatically like we would treat a normal subject.

Here's another example:
今、俺達はお金を持っていない。 → 今はお金を持っていない。

...今は持っていない。

Changelings - When Verbs Become Nouns

We have it really easy with verbs and nouns in English since many words have the same spelling for both their verb and noun form.
(Ex: "Punch the monster!" & "Machine punch!")

Unfortunately, it's not that easy in Japanese. Verbs have a way to change into nouns, and nouns have a way to change into verbs. But luckily, it's not super difficult to do either. We'll cover how to change verbs into nouns in this guide, and then we'll cover how to change nouns into verbs in a later guide.

Changing a verb into a noun is very similar to conjugating into hard command form. For normal verbs, you change the last letter of the verb from one that ends in an 'u' sound, to one that ends in an 'i' sound with the same starting consonant.

Examples:
行く → 行き
使う → 使い

For "-eru" verbs, you delete the る.

Examples:
考える → 考え
止める → 止め

By making our verbs into nouns we can use them in new cool ways.
For example:

クオリア行き ＝ (transportation which is) going to Qualia

クリスタル投げ！ = Crystal throw!

More Things, More も

Although English has different ways to say "too" for when it is positive and negative (ex: "neither"), Japanese makes it easy for us and uses も for both. Thanks Japanese!

Example:
バンソムもいない。 = Bansom isn't here either.

Also, unlike in English where we can spread one "or" or "and" to cover multiple things, everything on the list in Japanese needs its own も.

Example:
クリスタルもお金（かね）もない。＝ (I) have neither crystals nor money. /
Neither crystals nor money (are here).

俺（おれ）はカルの剣（けん）もスバサの弓（ゆみ）も使（つか）えるぞ。=
I can use both Kal's sword and Subasa's bow.

Japanese Language Quirk

Last quirk before the manga! Let's do this!

Alpha & Beta Lone Wolves
Sometimes kanji lone wolves refuse to make a wolf pack with other lone wolves, but still work together to form compound words. When this happens, they usually just stick together and neither of them change.

Example:

力 ＋投げ＝ 力 投げ (power throw)
<small>ちから　　な　　　　ちから な</small>

But sometimes, if the second word in the compound word starts with a letter that can add a ゛ to it (letters that begin with k, s, t, h), then we add this ゛ to the first letter of the second word and make the second word a "beta". When this happens, the first word remains the "alpha" and is unchanged.

Examples:

力 ＋走り＝ 力 走り (power run)
<small>ちから　　はし　　　ちからばし</small>

女 ＋好き＝ 女 好き (fondness for women)
<small>おんな　　す　　　おんな ず</small>

However! Just because a lone wolf *can* become a beta lone wolf doesn't mean it *will* become a beta lone wolf. In Japanese, especially with kanji, there are always exceptions, so be careful. Alpha & Beta Lone Wolves is not a foolproof rule. It's just something that can happen.

For example, here are some other things that can happen to lone wolf pairings. Now, don't worry about memorizing any of these, but just know that these are some of the things that can happen instead of going Alpha & Beta:

-They become a wolf pack:
　　人＋力＝人力 (human power)

-They go half wolf pack, half beta:
　　中＋火＝中火 (mid heat burner setting)

-They change forms depending on the situation. For example, 何＋人 can become:

　　Alpha & Beta − 何人 (anyone)
　　half wolf pack, half beta − 何人 (anyone - alt. reading)
　　half alpha, half pack − 何人 (what nationality)
　　a full wolf pack − 何人 (how many people, a number of people)

TUTORIAL COMPLETE!!

You're all caught up with the banter and grammar rules you'll need to understand book 3! Enjoy!

Japanese Version: (ebook)
https://www.amazon.com/dp/B08ZSXFXP7

And, if you want a translated version:

English Version: (ebook)
https://www.amazon.com/dp/B08ZSK7JV9