

Congratulations on Reaching Level 4 of Crystal Hunters Japanese!

Book 4 is a bit longer than our other books, so there's more to learn in this one! There's 25 new words, new ways to be polite, more particle style, and our first adverbs. Let's dive in!



Advanced Hiragana & Katakana

Before we get into all the stuff listed above, let's look at a new way to use one of the hiragana and katakana characters that we already know.

You already know that the small つ & ツ double the consonant that follows them (ex: しっぽ = shippo, トラック = torakku). However, they can go at the ends of words and before vowels too! And they make a different sound when they do!

The sound that small つ & ツ make at the end of words and before vowels is the sound you make when you stop air in your throat. For example, it's the sound we make in between "uh" and "oh" in "uh-oh". Here is "uh-oh" written phonetically in hiragana and katakana:

Hiragana: あっおお Katakana: アッオー

Typically though, the small つ & ツ are used at the end of words to add effect, usually to add suddenness and/or strength to it.

For example:

あああ！ = AHH!! (Running away scared)

あっ！ = Ah! (Noticing you forgot something important)



New Vocabulary



Chapter 9			
Japanese Word	English Spelling	Kanji	Meaning in English
ドカッ	do-ka'		BAM!
どう	do-u		how
から	ka-ra		from
かえる	ka-e-ru	帰る	to go home / to return
な	na		~right? / ~OK? / like / So ~*
ね	ne		~right? / ~OK? / like / So ~*

Chapter 10			
Japanese Word	English Spelling	Kanji	Meaning in English
ちがう	chi-ga-u	違う	to be incorrect or different
できる (form of する)		出来る	can do*
ほんとうに	ho-n-to-u-ni	本当に	really
かう	ka-u	買う	to buy
ください	ku-da-sa-i		please
くる	ku-ru	来る	to come*
まだ	ma-da		still / not yet
おはよう	o-ha-yo-u		good morning
~さん	sa-n		title of respect similar to "Mr." / "Mrs." / "Ms."
する	su-ru		to do*
たたかう	ta-ta-ka-u	戦う	to fight
たくさん	ta-ku-sa-n		a lot of

Chapter 11			
Japanese Word	English Spelling	Kanji	Meaning in English
けいさつ	ke-i-sa-tsu	警察	police
はいる	ha-i-ru	入る	to enter / to go in

Chapter 12			
Japanese Word	English Spelling	Kanji	Meaning in English
バシャーン	ba-sha-a-n		SPLASH!
ぼうし	bo-u-shi	帽子	hat
で	de		activity particle*
ごめんなさい	go-me-n-na-sa-i		sorry
とる	to-ru	取る	to take

*means there will be further clarification in the sections below.



Irregular Conjugations

Fortunately, there are not so many irregular verbs in Japanese, but we've got two this chapter. And they're important ones so memorizing all their forms is actually really important!

These two irregular verbs are する ("to do") and くる ("to come"). Here are their conjugations for all of the verb forms we've learned so far.

Dictionary form	する	くる
Negative form	しない	こない
Past tense	した	きた
"て" Form	して	きて
"Let's" Form	しよう	こよう
"Can" Form	できる	こられる
Hard command	しろ	こい
Noun form	し	き

For the most part, する is easy. Just use a し base, and then add a typical ending for that verb form. However! It's "can" form is a completely different verb – できる!!

Luckily though, like all other "can" form conjugations, できる acts like an "eru" verb. (できない、できた、できて、etc.) Just remember that "can do" has its own verb in Japanese, and the rest is easy!

As for くる, its base can be either き or こ, which is a bit less convenient since you just have to memorize which goes where. But at least we're not learning any new verbs for くる!



....Well, at least not yet.

Speaking of which, verbs changing into other verbs is not a rare occurrence in Japanese, although this kind of change is normally limited to different honorific levels, and both する and くる have multiple different verbs depending on the honorific level.

But don't worry, we don't need to learn them now so we won't get into them. But they're definitely something to look forward to! Yay!!

Non “-eru” Style “-eru” Verbs

Since we're talking about irregular conjugations already, let's talk about ^{かえ}帰る (“to go home/return”). ^{かえ}帰る doesn't conjugate like regular “-eru” verbs, it conjugates like regular verbs.

For example:

^{いえ} ^{かえ}家に帰った。 = I went home.

^{いえ} ^{かえ}家に帰っている。 = I'm going home.

^{いえ} ^{かえ}家に帰れる。 = I can go home.

^{いえ} ^{かえ}家に帰ろう。 = Let's go home.

^{いえ} ^{かえ}家に帰れ！ = Go home!



Review, But New!

Negative Questions

Asking a question with a negative verb conjugation is something you already know how to do! Just do a regular sentence, but with a negative verb conjugation (and maybe a か), then add a question mark and you're good to go!

Example:

みず^い
水が要らないか？



But! Negative questions like this do not have the same connotation that they do in English!

In Japanese, negative questions like this are both politer and softer (less forceful/pushy) than their non-negative counterparts, such as:

みず^い
水が要る？

Using these examples, “水^いが要らないか？” is more like “Are you in need of water?” and “水^いが要る？” is more like “Do you need water?” It adds just a touch of politeness and consideration.

So now you know a new way to be polite, and you didn't even need to learn any honorifics! Getting better at Japanese one step at a time ;)



Noun Users

We already know how to change 使う into its noun form (使い)。 What you haven't learned yet is that 使い doesn't just mean "using", it can also mean "user".

For example:

まほうつか
魔法使い = magic user = magician/wizard.

Hurray for learning new words without actually having to learn new words!!



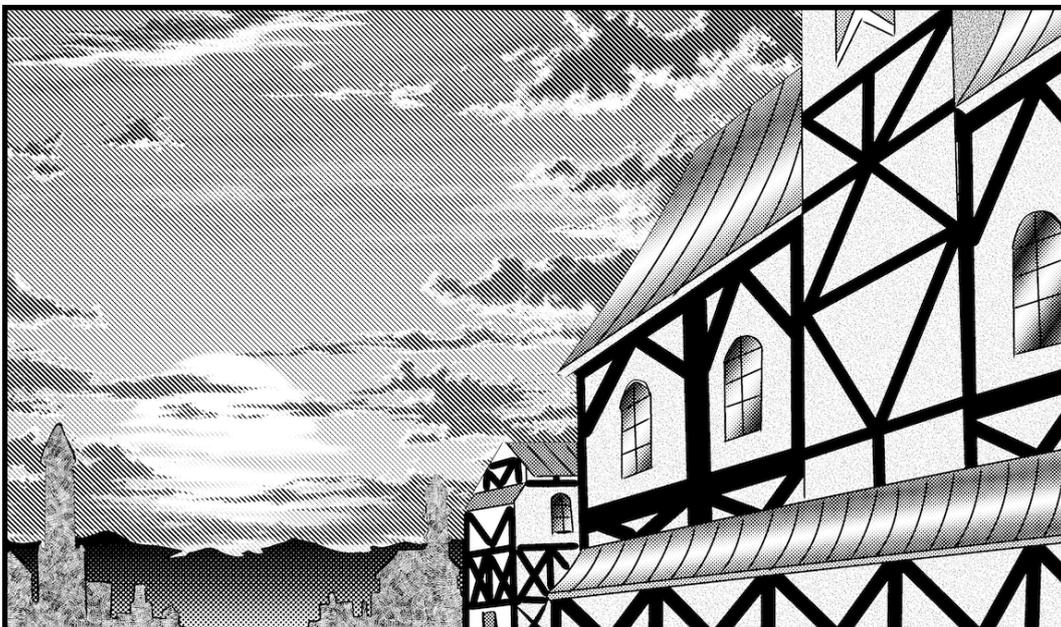
New Grammar:

We actually have a few grammar points to go through for book 4, but they're all fairly easy so we should be able to go through them pretty quickly!

で, Action Particle!

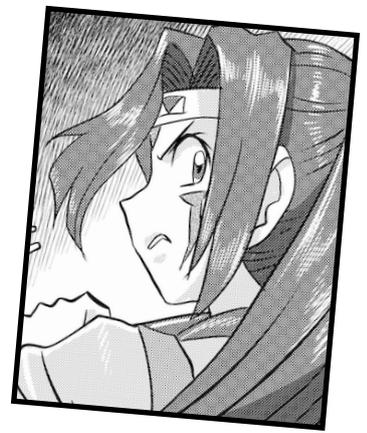
Our first grammar point is a fun one! で is an action particle, and it likes to be where things are happening!

Now, the concept of で is not something we really have in English (at least not most of the time), so we can't really translate it directly. We'll just introduce you to で, and you can get a feel of what makes で tick.



“Where” It’s Happening

で tells us where things happen. That’s pretty easy, right?
Maybe で isn’t so bad.



For example:

^{がっこう}学校でトラックをの乗る。 = (I) ride trucks at school. で tells us that something is happening at school, and the thing that is happening is truck riding.

But wait! We did a location particle right? What happened to に?
Why don’t we use に here?

Well, に is a “location” particle. We only use it for where things are, or where they are going. We don’t use it for actions. If we use に in the above sentence, the meaning of the sentence completely changes.

^{がっこう}学校にトラックをの乗る。 = (I) ride a truck to school.

See? Completely different. And this で and に difference persists even when not much is happening.

For example:

ここに^と止まる。 = (I’ll) stop here (at this specific location).

ここで^と止まる。 = (I’ll) stop here (and chill for a bit, maybe spend the night).

So yeah, で and に are nothing alike. Completely different. Don’t mix them up!



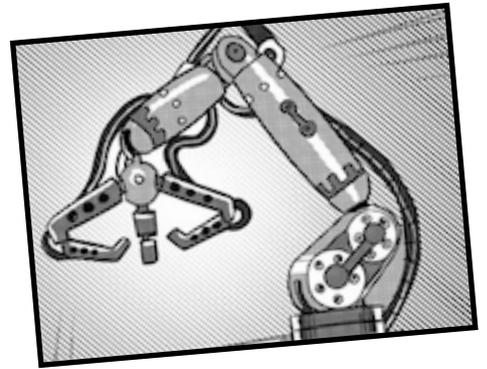
“How” It’s Happening

で also tells us how things happen, or about the way things happen.

For example:

トラックで^{がっこう}学校^いに行く。 = (I) go to school by truck.

お金で^{かね}機械^{きかい}を^か買った。 = (I) bought a machine with money!



As you can see, we’ve had 4 example sentences with で, and each time it translates into English differently. So yeah, don’t worry about trying to directly translate で. It’s more important to remember the concept, (and that concept is で likes the happenings!!)

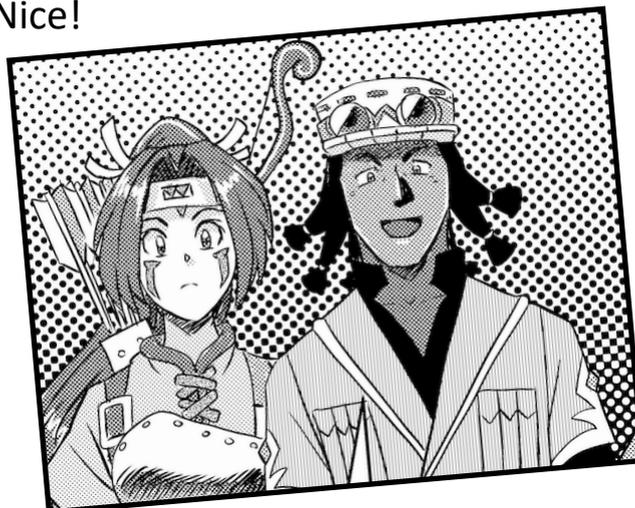
“Why” It’s Happening

We don’t use で like this in Crystal Hunters yet, so we won’t go into this quite yet, but just know that で can pair up with other words to make “why” (何^{なん}で) and also “because” (ので).

We’ll describe this in more detail in future Crystal Hunters guides. Something to look forward too! Anyway, for now, just remember that で is around when things are happening!! Go-Go Action で!!!

Double the Verbs, Double the Fun!

We’re introducing not just one, but two new ways to use multiple verbs in a single sentence this chapter. Plus, we don’t even have to learn any new conjugations or words to do it! We can just use the ones we already know in different ways! Nice!



Going and Coming to Do Things

The first way we're putting verbs together in this book is super easy in English. Things like "go see" or "come take", we just smash "go" or "come" into a verb to show that we're moving in order to do something.

It's not quite this easy in Japanese, but it's not so bad. It just takes two steps.

The first step is to change the verb that's not "go" or "come" into its noun form.

For example:

見る → 見
取る → 取り

Then, we just add "～に行く" or "～に来る" to the end of it.

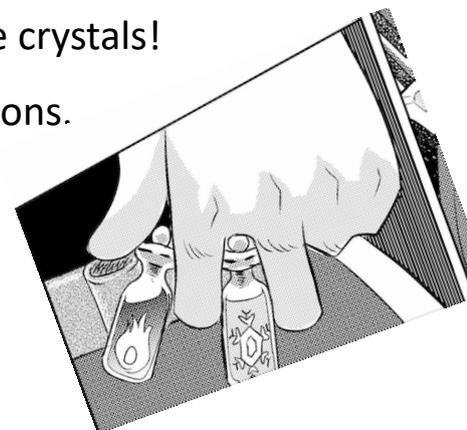
Examples:

見 → 見に行く = go see
取り → 取りに来る = come take

Then, just like English, we use these smashed-together verbs similarly to how we would use a single verb. If conjugation is necessary, you conjugate the 行く/来る part.

クリスタルを見に行こう！ = Let's go see (look at) the crystals!

ポーションを取りに来て。 = Come take (get) the potions.



Our First Complex Sentences!

The second way to put two verbs together in one sentence is even easier than the first! Just use て form!

Seriously, just end one sentence with a て form verb, maybe add a comma, and then stick the other sentence on! And POOF! Complex sentences!

Examples:

いえ かえ きかい つか
家に帰って機械を使う。 = (I) go home and use a machine.

かいぶつ いわ と な
怪物は岩を取って、バンソムに投げた。 =

The monster picked up a boulder and threw it at Bansom.



ダフニー、
おとこ
この男を
し
知っているか?

As you can see from the second example, you use て form on the first verb even if it's past tense!! The last verb in the sentence is past tense, so that makes the whole sentence past tense.

Please Please Me!

Using “please” in Japanese is easy! You use it just like a verb (which is because it is a verb! It just has a conjugation we haven't gotten into yet.)

Anyway, for nouns just add を before ください, and for verbs just stick it on after a て form verb like we do with complex sentences.

Examples:

みず
水をください。 = Water, please.

ぼうし か
帽子を買ってください。 = Buy a hat please.



クリスタル
です。お金^{かね}を
ください。

Verb C-C-C-Combo!

Since we've learned two new ways to use verbs (three if you include ください), let's throw them all together to make a super complex sentence!

お^{かね}金^もを持って、機^き械^{かい}を^か買^いい^いに行^いって^いください。 =

Please grab (bring) some money and go buy a machine.



More Particle Style! The Social Particle!

This book we're adding ね and な to the mix, and they're definitely the most social particles (with ね being more feminine and な being more masculine).

These particles are used A LOT in Japanese. And the reason for that is that they can be used in so many different ways. Social people rejoice!

Honestly, the easiest way to describe ね and な in English is the Canadian usage of “~eh”, but for all you American people not from Minnesota, or from places without this word in your version of English, here are all the ways it can be used.

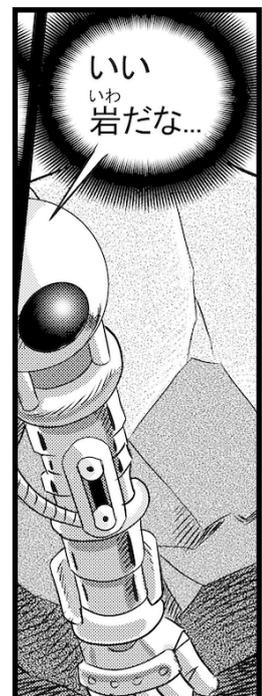
Plus there are two ways ね and な are different from Canadian “~eh” too, so there's a little something for everyone!

First way: Seeking Agreement/Confirmation

When you want to build solidarity or just seek validation from a small observation, use ね or な ! In American English, this is like “~right?” or “~isn't it?”

ぼうし
帽子だね。 = (This is) a hat, isn't it?

かね ほ
お金が欲しいな ! = (I) want some money! Right?



Second way: Answering in Agreement/Confirmation

When someone calls for solidarity or validation, you give it back to them the same way they asked for it, with **ね** or **な**!! Plus, you can have fun with it and respond in so many different ways!

So, in response to “帽子^{ぼうし}だね”, you can say all of these:

“はい、帽子^{ぼうし}だね” / “はい、帽子^{ぼうし}だな”

“帽子^{ぼうし}だね” / “帽子^{ぼうし}だな”

“そうだね” / “そうだな”

“そうね” / “そうな”

“ね” / “な”



Yup, that's right, answering with just “ね” or “な” is fine because the solidarity/validation is the most important function of **ね/な** here!

Actually, the importance of the solidarity in **ね/な** is so strong that it even has a slight pull on whether the person answers with **ね** or **な**. For example, if a person asks with **ね**, the answer is more likely to be **ね** to mirror them (although not always, as sounding more masculine with **な** can be more important depending on the person or situation).

Third way: Giving Confirmation

ね or **な** can also be used to give confirmation even if someone didn't request it. When used like this it's more like “isn't he/she/it”, “aren't I/you/we/they”, or “didn't I/you/we/they” with no “?” mark.

Example:

もう友達^{ともだち}だな! = “We're already friends, aren't we!”

できたね! = “You did it, didn't you!”

(Subject could also be “I”, “we”, or “they” here depending on context)



Another way this can be used is the “Like” button on Facebook, which is “いいね” in Japanese. And speaking of which, “いいね” is such a common phrase in Japan that it far outweighs “いいな” when used like this, and even masculine men will say it.



Fourth way: Demanding Confirmation (な only)

Another reason why “いいね” is more common than “いいな” is that “いいな” has another completely different meaning. When used like this, な is like “~OK?” or “Understood?” in American English.

For example:

いいな！ / ^わ分かったな！ =

“This is how it’s gonna be, OK?” / “Understood?”



(* from natural version)

Fifth way: Filler Word

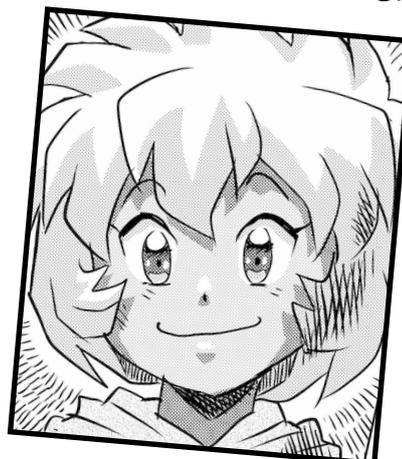
Going back to both ね and な, you can use them as filler words in the middle of your sentences like we can with “like” in American English

For example:

^{まち}町にね、^い行ってね、^みそれでね、トラックを^か見てね、^か買ったね！

—> I like, went to like town, and then like, I like saw a truck, and I like bought it!

Just like in English, speaking like this gives the impression of a certain type of speaker in Japanese. Although in Japanese it sounds more like an excited elementary school student. Because of this (and also because using な after verbs sometimes has a different meaning) ね is more common than な for this.



Sixth way: Getting Attention

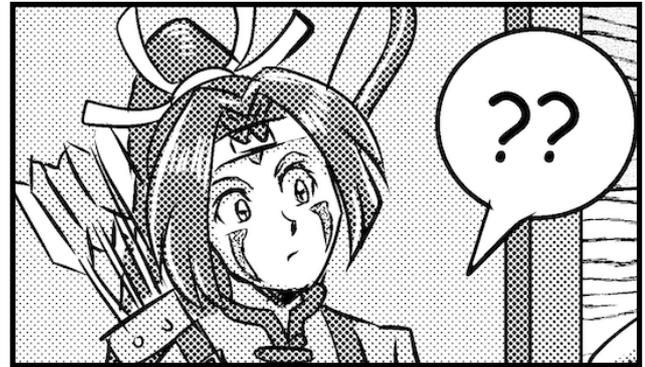
Sometimes in order to get that solidarity/validation/confirmation that you need, you need to get people's attention first. This means you can use **ね** and **な** for those situations too! This is similar to "Hey" in English (and is one of the times when **ね** or **な** is different than "~eh" in Canadian English!)

For example:

“ねー、ねー” = “Hey, listen.”

“あのね” / “あのな” = “Hey, by the way...”

“あのな！” = “Hey! Listen here you little...”



Seventh way: Prolonged Emphasis

This is the other way “eh” is different from **ね/な**, although this one isn't exactly “ね” or “な”. It's more “ねえ” or “なあ” and you extend the “ね” or “な” sound.

When you do this it has a “so” plus ellipses (...) feel to it.

For example:

まずいなあ... = This is so not good....

いいねえ... = That's so nice...

For this one, “なあ” is more common than “ねえ”, and even feminine women can use “なあ”.

And done! Phew! That's a lot of ways to use **ね** and **な**! Being social can be exhausting!



Lots and Lots!

Ok, last new grammar point. Let's do this!

たくさん is one of those words that can function as both an adjective and an adverb, just like "a lot" can in English. And just like in "a lot", たくさん is used as is with verbs, but adds the equivalent of "of" (の) before nouns.

For example:

たくさん^か買った。 = (I) bought a lot.

でも、たくさん^{かね}^ものお金を持っている。 =

But, (I) have a lot of money.



That said, たくさん can also go before a noun without a の. When used like this, it has the basically same meaning as when it's used before a verb, but with the additional effect of slightly emphasizing the word that comes directly after it.

For example:

たくさん^{きかい}^{つか}機械を使っている。 = (I'm) using machines a lot.

You can also do this if there is an adjective before the noun, but this changes the highlight to the adjective.

For example:

たくさん^{わる}^{きかい}^{つか}悪い機械を使っている。

= (I'm) using bad machines a lot.



バンソムさん!
あ、
会えてうれしい! 私たちは
たくさんいいトラックを
も
持っているよ!

Japanese Language Quirks

New Grammar is done! Just a couple quirks to go through and then you're off to the manga! Let's do this!

A Little Bit of "What" in the "How"

Japanese uses 何 for a whole bunch of things! But, it uses どう a lot too! In fact, どう takes over some of the times we would use "what" in English.

For example, it's not "what do you think?", it's "how do you think?" in Japanese.

どう^{おも}思う? = What do you think?

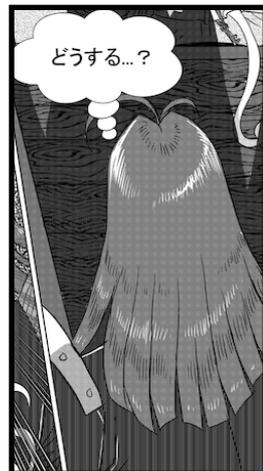


You can also pair どう with a bunch of different forms of する to get a bunch of different meanings.

どうする? = What do (I/we) do?

どうしよう? = What should (I/we) do...?

どうして? = Why?



And with that last example, you now know how to say "why?" three different ways!! (なぜ、何^{なん}で、どうして). There are slight nuances between these three, but in most situations they can all correctly be used as "why".



できる Can Do a Lot of Things!

In addition to meaning “can do”, できる can also mean “to (be able to) finish” and “to (be able to) make”.

For example:

なかま
仲間ができた。 = “(I) made a friend/friends.”

きかい
機械ができた! =

“(I) finished making a machine!” or

“The machine was made!”



TUTORIAL COMPLETE!!

You’re all caught up with the politeness and grammar necessary to understand book 4 of Crystal Hunters! Happy reading!



[Japanese Version](#)

And, if you want a natural version:

[Natural Japanese Version](#)

Book 5 of Crystal Hunters is available now!



[Book 5 Guide](#)

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