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| Teachers’ Notes: Japanese Language |
| **Q1. What do you say when you answer the phone?**あ：まだまだ　い:　だめだめ　う：そろそろ　え:　もしもしThe phrase “moshi moshi” comes from “moushimasu” (which means “I am speaking”), and is only used when answering the phone. “Moshi moshi” is said to have come from the verb “mousu” being used twice, “mousu mousu”, which eventually changed to “moshi moshi” over time.**Q2. Which expression do you use before a meal?**あ：よろしく　い:　ただいま　う：ごちそうさま　え:　いただきます“Itadakimasu”, literally translates to “I am receving this”, and is an expression of gratitude used before eating a meal. After eating, the expression “gochisousama” is used. **Q3. Which greeting is spoken by a samurai?**あ：ごきげんいかがでござるか　い:　ごきげんよう　う：おはよっ　え:　おー、ようきたのう“Gozaru” was widely used in the 14th century, and is the polite form of the currently used “desu”. This form can still be seen within the greeting “ohayou gozaimasu”. **Q4. How many types of letters are there in Japanese?**あ：ひとつ　い:　ふたつ　う：みっつ　え:　よっつIn Japanese, there are three types of letters, Hiragana, Katakana, and Kanji. Originally in Japanese there were no letters, until monks adopted Kanji from Chinese characters. Hiragana and Katakana were then created from Kanji. **Q5. How many hiragana are there?**あ：40　い:　46　う：50　え: 56This doesn’t include “dakuon” (such as “da” 「だ」), “handakuon” (such as “pa”「ぱ」), or “yo-on” (such as “kya”「きゃ」).**Q6. Which number is 8?**あ：八　い:　一　う：七　え: 十The kanji for 8 originally had the meaning “to split”. This is said to be because the number 8 can be split evenly in half from 8 to 4, 4 to 2, and 2 to 1. Nowadays in Japan, the kanji for 8 (八), due to the fact that it starts off small at the top and becomes larger at the bottom, is associated with the notions of expanding and developing. This is seen as a good omen, and so 8 is considered to be a lucky number.**Q7. There are kanji for countries in Japanese. Which one is Australia?**あ：米　い:　豪　う：中　え:　英In Chinese, the names of foreign countries are all written in kanji (Chinese characters), and these exact characters were also adopted in the Japanese language. Usually kanji are characters which can not only be read, but also hold a meaning. However in the case of country names, because the characters were taken straight from the Chinese language, their original meaning is not relevant. **Q8. What is McDonalds called in Tokyo?**あ：マック　い:　マッカズ　う：マクド　え: マッキーIn the eastern parts of Japan, McDonalds is called “Makku”, while in the western parts it is called “Makudo”. |
| Reference |
| **Q1:**電話着信音　<http://musicisvfr.com/free/se/phone01.html> <http://musicisvfr.com/free/license.html> **Q2:**いただきます（イラスト）　みんなの教材サイトより**Q3:**アニメ・まんがサイトからサムライことば**Q8:**マクドナルド<http://art52.photozou.jp/pub/538/166538/photo/114436015_624.jpg>  |