

## ■ マンガいろいろ Different Kinds of manga

Some manga fall into the category of 少女 (girls) マンガ, 少年 (boys) マンガ, and 青年 (youths) マンガ, but manga actually cover an enormous range of genres and topics. These include スポーツマンガ、歴史マンガ、サラリーマンマンガ、恋愛マンガ、SF マンガ、ホラーマンガ and ギャグマンガ (Guess what they are!).

Themes range from sex and violence to character growth and spirituality. 学習マンガ are used for educational purposes such as reading the classics and learning history.

## ■ マンガを読む Reading manga

マンガ are sold at 本屋 (book shops), コンビニ (convenience stores) and 駅のキオスク (train station kiosks). But many people read manga by 立ち読み (lit. standing-reading, browsing in a shop without buying) or by going to a マンガ喫茶 (manga cafe).



You can also borrow manga from a レンタルマンガ店 (rental manga shop), or share with friends through 回し読み (reading and passing on).

## ■ 女ことば、男ことば Girls' language, boys' language

The informal conversational style of manga brings out differences in boys' and girls' language.

- Words used only by males are おれ(わたし)、おまえ(あなた)、めし(ご飯)、食う(食べる)、うまい(おいしい)、おやじ(お父さん)、おふくろ(お母さん). Examples of words used predominantly by females are すてき(lovely) and ~かしら(perhaps).
- Sentence final particles ぞ and ぜ are used by males. The female final particle is no longer commonly used by young women, but is used in manga to emphasize a character's femininity.

Examples from the story are 「行くぞ」「おくれるわよ」.

- Boys typically ask questions by adding ～か？ to the plain form. Girls ask by adding ～の？ or just using rising intonation (in actual conversation men also use this soft question form).
- To give a command, boys use the imperative form, whereas girls use the て form (e.g. <sup>かえ</sup> 帰れ！ / <sup>かえ</sup> 帰って!). To express prohibition, boys use ～な, and girls use ～ないで (e.g. <sup>く</sup> 来るな！ / <sup>こ</sup> 来ないで!).

Expressions used only by males may sound abrupt and rude, so they should only be used in informal situations such as between school friends etc.

### ■ マンガの擬声語 Manga onomatopoeia

Japanese is rich in onomatopoeic expressions, and a unique characteristic of manga is the liberal use of onomatopoeia to express sounds, actions and feelings. Try to match the expression to the picture!

(Answers below)

- |        |        |
|--------|--------|
| 1. バシッ | 5. どきん |
| 2. バン  | 6. ふいつ |
| 3. ガシッ | 7. にやり |
| 4. ダッ  | 8. ぞくっ |



Answers 1.(e) 2.(d) 3.(g) 4.(a) 5.(h) 6.(f) 7.(c) 8.(b)

 しょうりゃく  
**省略** Abbreviations

Abbreviations frequently occur in spoken language, and so are often found in manga.

- ~てる ← ~ている

e.g. 「<sup>し</sup>知ってる？」 'Do/did you know that...'

- ~ちゃう/~じゃう ← てしまう/でしまう

e.g. 「<sup>み</sup>見ちゃった」 'I saw (it, them etc.)!'

- ~なきゃ/~なくちゃ ← なければ/なくてはならない

e.g. 「<sup>い</sup>もう行かなきゃ」 'I have to go.'

~じゃん ← じゃない

e.g. 「バカじゃん？」 'You stupid fool!'

**Manga for loan** か貸し出しだしています

There are many manga books available from The Japan Foundation, Sydney library. (You may need to vet the content for use with your classes.) <http://www.jpf.org.au/library/index.html>