



Liberia

Introducing *Liberia for Japanese*: Language Learning for the Mobile Era

The **CJK Dictionary Institute** (CJKI) is proud to present **Liberia for Japanese**, the newest application in the **Liberia** series for English speakers learning Japanese. **Liberia**, an innovative bilingual text reading platform for the iPad, combines the strengths of traditional parallel texts with the latest advances in tablet technology. This cutting-edge platform provides learners with a new mode of accessing foreign language texts, making language learning more effective and enjoyable than ever before.

“Parallel text” refers to a source text and its translation into another language aligned side by side. **Liberia for Japanese** is a powerful tool that enables language learners to quickly read Japanese-English parallel texts without the need for tedious dictionary lookups, provides new vocabulary in an *authentic* context, and offers a natural and satisfying learning experience.

The **Liberia** platform uses a new form of hypertext called **Interactive Parallel Texts** (IPT) to move these strengths from the physical to the virtual page. Up to four texts – from translated versions to alternative script forms (e.g. kana or romanized text) – appear side by side for easy viewing.

<p>☰ Chapter 1 Sentence 3 ▾</p> <p>カシムは^{かねも}金持ちの^{しょうにん}商人でした。なぜなら^{かれ}彼は^{かねも}金持ちの^{しょうにん}商人の^{むすめ}娘と^{けつ}結婚し、^{こん}彼と^{かれ}商売^{しょうばい}をしていたからです。</p>	<p>▶ + āc</p> <p>Qasim was a rich merchant because he had married the daughter of a rich merchant, and he worked with him in trade.</p>
<p>娘 mu'sume 名詞</p> <p>1. daughter 2. girl, young woman</p> <p>W Word Info</p>	<p>Ka'shimu wa ka'nemo'chi no' sho'onin deshita'. Na'zenara' ka're wa ka'nemo'chi no' sho'onin no mu'sume to kek'kon shi, ka're to' sho'obai o shi'te ita' kara desu.</p>

A critical feature of **Libera** is that the texts are precisely linked at the *segment* (word or phrase) level: tapping a segment in one text simultaneously highlights the linked segment in each text, making cross-lingual correspondences clear and unambiguous; for example, in the phrase “*to pick the crying baby up*”, tapping any of the words of the split segment “to pick up” highlights the whole segment as well as linked segments in alternative scripts and the translated text.

Furthermore, activating a bitext link immediately generates additional helpful information, such as vocabulary glosses, grammar notes, and recordings of native pronunciation. **Libera** places each of these tools at the user’s fingertips, taking the pain out of reading in a new language and encouraging learners to read on.

Libera for Japanese, the newest of over 60 mobile language learning applications from CJKI, provides a powerful learning tool in a user-friendly, aesthetically pleasing environment ideal for serious language learners. The app currently offers the classic fable of *Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves* in both Japanese and English, and users will soon have access to a broad range of Japanese texts. Key learning tools include full audio recordings and multiple transcriptions, which allow learners to improve their pronunciation in addition to their reading skills. Notably, the romanization indicates *pitch accent*, an essential but overlooked component of Japanese pronunciation.

To aid in reading kanji, **Libera** offers both optional *furigana* as well as a dedicated kanji dictionary. Simply tapping an unknown word displays the reading and meaning of each kanji, instantly taking the pain out of reading Japanese texts. Additionally, tapping a word brings up a customized Japanese-English dictionary with the relevant meaning highlighted in red.

In short, **Libera for Japanese** offers an ideal language learning experience, providing everything needed to quickly and effectively learn the Japanese language in a user-friendly and aesthetically pleasing environment. By making the learning experience genuinely enjoyable, **Libera** promises to transform the face of computer-aided language learning.

KEY FEATURES

- **Customized Japanese-English dictionary** shows word meanings in context
- **Segment bar** offers a compact alternative to the dictionary
- **Kanji dictionary** helps in reading and understanding Chinese characters
- **Hiragana-only text** with spaces shows word breaks explicitly
- **Optional furigana** offer a familiar way to read unfamiliar kanji
- **Multiple romanizations** indicate precise pronunciation and pitch accent
- **Word Info screen** enables in-depth word study with examples
- **Favorite word list** allows users to review new vocabulary
- **Grammar Notes** highlight issues in grammar and usage
- **Full audio recordings** aid in pronunciation and listening
- **Multi-panel interface** displays up to four different texts side by side