

Describing Japanese things Used to practice

Choose one of the things below and describe the past and present uses until your partner guesses what you are talking about. Do they agree with your description?

Useful language for contrasting the present and the past

People used to... (and some people still do).

People used to (use this to)..., but nowadays...

These days people only use this..., but in the past...

Until... years ago,...

The only way to... used to be...

People didn't use to... until... Instead, they used to...

Japanese things to describe

- Abacus
- Akachochin lamp
- Arranged marriage
- Black market
- Bousouzoku
- Brown rice/ Rice mixed with barley etc
- Bullet train
- Burakumin/ Eta untouchable caste
- Butsudan/ Kamidana household shrines
- Byobu folding screen
- Calligraphy brush
- Chabudai Japanese-style table
- Chasen
- Chashitsu
- Chugen mid-year gift
- Confucianism
- Daimyo
- Fundoshi
- Furoshiki
- Fusuma sliding screen
- Futon
- Geta wooden clogs
- Group calisthenics
- Hachimaki
- Hakama
- Hanko/ Inkan personal seal
- Happi coat
- Harakiri/ Seppuku
- Hibachi
- Japanese-style breakfast
- Japanese-style castle
- Japanese-style wedding
- Jimbei
- Kabuto helmet
- Kakejiku hanging scroll
- Katana swords
- Kimono/ Yukata

- Kofun burial mound
- Kotatsu table
- Koto
- Kowtowing
- Kyusu
- Lucky charm
- Lunar New Year/ Chinese New Year
- Machiya town house
- Matchmaker
- Minka thatched cottage
- Minshuku bed and breakfast
- Netsuke
- Ninja
- O-choko
- Obi belt
- Oshi-ire
- Palanquin
- Parasol/ Umbrella
- Red bean jam sweet
- Rice wine/ Sake
- Rickshaw
- Ryokan inn
- Sailor suit
- Samurai knight
- Sentou public bath
- Shamisen
- Shichirin stove
- Shinai bamboo sword
- Shogun
- Shouji paper screen
- Shuriken throwing star
- Six-day week
- Sokaiya
- Street car/ Tram
- Street market
- Street stall
- Tabi socks
- Tansu chest
- Tatami flooring
- Tokkuri
- Tokonoma
- Traditional Chinese medicine
- Washlette toilet
- Zabuton cushion
- Zaibatsu
- Zori sandals