



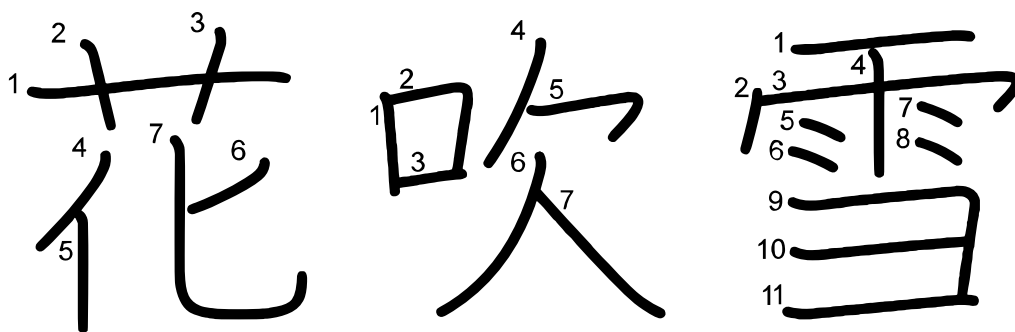
TEACHING TUESDAY

KANJI: HANAFUBUKI

APRIL 4, 2017

Every year in late March to early May the famous cherry blossoms bloom to their full beauty in Japan. At the end of their life span, the petals will fly through the air as the wind blows. This phenomenon is known as hanafubuki (花吹雪).

We've previously covered that the kanji for hana means that flowers are the part of a plant 艹 that changes 匕 most conspicuously, and the kanji for snow or 'yuki' means a type of rain 雨 that can be shaped with one's hands 凵. These two are combined with a third kanji, 吹, generally means "to blow" and is composed of the characters for mouth (口) blowing (欠) air. So put all together, the word hanafubuki literally means "flower snowstorm"!



Meaning: Flower snowstorm; cherry blossom petals falling in the wind