

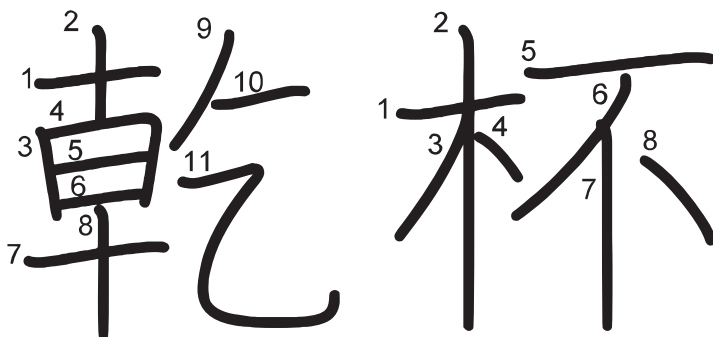


TEACHING TUESDAY

KANJI: KANPAI

OCTOBER 3, 2017

The word *kanpai* 乾杯 is a traditional toast in Japan, often said before drinking. Although often translated as “cheers”, literally it means to “drink one’s glass dry”. The first kanji, 乾, means “to dry” or “to empty” and is made up of the radicals for intense heat and dehydration. The second kanji is for cup, 杯, literally wood 木 that has been hollowed out 不 to make a cup. So when you say “kanpai!” you are literally inviting someone to empty their entire glass in celebration.



Reading: かんぱい
kah-n-pah-ee

Meaning: Cheers; bottoms up