



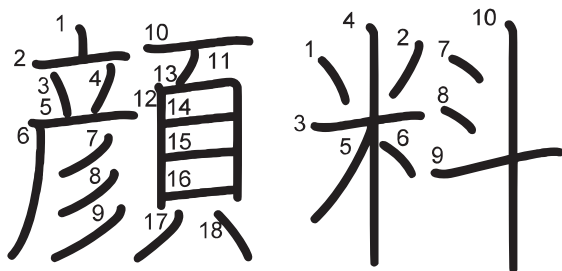
TEACHING TUESDAY

KANJI: PIGMENT

MAY 8, 2018

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Ganryou, 顔料, is the pigment used in nihonga, or Japanese paintings. Ganryou consists of two words, 顔(gan), meaning face, and 料(ryou), meaning material. The character for face, 顔, consists of two parts. The left part 彦 is a combination of 文, to tattoo or write, 厂, forehead, and 彡, beautiful hair. The right part 頁 means the head area of the body. It is said that in ancient times, men decorated their foreheads with paint for the coming of age ceremony. Those colors or pigments came from natural materials such as minerals and shells. By adding 料, material, the combination 顔料 literally meant material for the face, or makeup. In modern times, 顔料 stands for pigment.



Reading: がんりょう **gah-n-r/lyoh-oo**

Meaning: Pigment, Paint, Colors