



# TEACHING TUESDAY

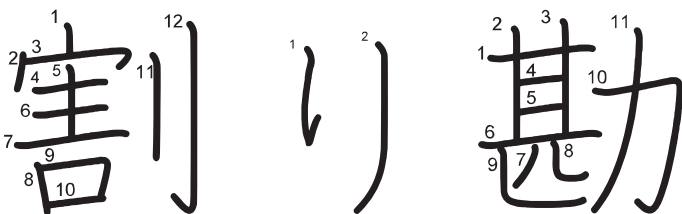
## KANJI: WARIKAN

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When going out to a Japanese izakaya or restaurant, don't be surprised when the group asks for warikan (わりかん). Warikan stands for warimae kanjou where warimae means "a share" and kanjou means "calculation." Together, it means "calculating a bill by dividing by shares" or to split the bill equally.

In the United States, it is common to pay for only what you ordered even when going out in groups. This is because plates are often made as a complete meal and include a main and side dish. In Japan, however, portions may be smaller and many restaurants, especially izakaya, tend to offer small plates meant to be shared. Thus, it may be difficult to keep track of who ordered what. Next time you order a number of small plates, 割り勘にしましょうか (Warikan ni shimashou ka/Shall we split the bill equally)?



**Reading:** わりかん  
wah-r/lee-kah-n

**Meaning:** split the bill  
equally