

Fluent Forever Bug Reports for Japanese Pronunciation Trainer

Bugs Reviewed Prior to Version 3.0				
Bugs Reported	Date Reported	Fixed/Not Fixed	Reason	Gabe's Comments
<p>Is there an IPA error for Card 15 (Actual Sort Order, Japanese Spelling Rules and Examples)? The Hiragana and MP3 indicate (to me) the consonant of the "ji" (d̥zi) syllable is doubled, but not the vowel. However the IPA instead shows the first "o" vowel is long (as for the second "o" in the word, correctly). Am not sure how to write the IPA, maybe "[dod̥z̥:ibo↓:ɾu]??</p> <p>Card Content given is:</p> <p>"ドッチボール"</p> <p>[do:d̥zibo↓:ɾu]</p> <p>dodge ball</p>	4/26/2018	Fixed	N/A	Yes, long sign in IPA should be 1 spot later: dod̥z̥:ibo↓:ɾu
<p>Card (Sort Field) 76: Word 1 (におう) is pronounced [nio↓u], whereas should it not be [nio↓:]? This would then seem to agree with the pronunciation rules on the videos, as well as with the Pronunciation card 19.3 for the word "きんこう", where こう is pronounced as [ko:] (long O) rather than [kou].</p>	2/28/2018	Not Fixed	N/A	For Row 2, no change needs to be made. Let's clarify to that reader that while [o] + う is often [o:], there are cases where it's actually [o.u]. I have a feeling it has to do with the pitch accent coming in between the two vowels but I have yet to learn of specific rules to know this in advance, so until I find something like that (if it exists!), it's something that you need to keep your ears open for.
<p>In the card [with the picture of a lion] the answer is written in katakana, but the question ask me to spell this word in hiragana. I'm not seeing this..perhaps it's an earlier version?</p>	2/12/2018	Not Fixed	Trainer was checked regarding this feedback, but the user feedback was deemed to be was mistaken, irrelevant, not worth fixing or already fixed.	N/A
<p>I am a Chinese reader of your book Fluent Forever. Having used your Japanese Pronunciation Trainer for a couple weeks and gone through all the cards at least once, I find myself still struggle to distinguish the unaspirated voiceless sounds (e.g. the た in あた) from their voiced counterparts (e.g. だ in あだ). After doing a little research, I found this is a common problem which the native speakers of Chinese and Korean will encounter when they are learning Japanese. Someone has made a short video (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GDQEP5d3un8) to explain why. Could you consider adding some minimal pairs (e.g. あた vs あだ) to help the Chinese and Korean speakers overcome this problem? Keep this on the list till we add it in the future</p>	4/26/2018	Fixed	N/A	N/A
<p>Minimal pairs 171 and 173. The English word "ski" isn't recorded properly. Sounds more like "sgi" making the minimal pair test far too easy Keep on list for future recordings.</p>	2/12/2018	Not Fixed	N/A	N/A
<p>I think the IPA of this word is incorrect, but I'm not sure. Contrasting with the recording I think it should be something like [ke:buɾu↓ka:] (This refers to the cable car card with Katakana ケーブルカー)</p>	4/26/2018	Fixed	Trainer was checked regarding this feedback, but the user feedback was deemed to be was mistaken, irrelevant, not worth fixing or already fixed.	Agree. Cards 4.35, 4.7, 6.9: IPA for word should be: ke:buɾu↓ka:
<p>For cards with sort fields 13.2, 13.5, 13.95, these cards seem to show SHI [シ] instead of TSU [ツ] in the stroke order animation.</p>	2/28/2018	Not Fixed	N/A	Disagree. This is just a font issue. Compare to シ in 13.05
<p>For cards with sort fields 10.25, 10.55, 11.75, these have the word sportswear but I think the spelling is incorrect (It should be " スポーツウェア " instead, with a small " エ ").</p>	4/26/2018	Fixed	N/A	Agree. Change to スポーツウェア (both Example word for that spelling/sound combination and Word with Letter Missing fields, in all 3 cards where it appears)

<p>I have been using the Fluent Forever Japanese pronunciation trainer and so far I have found it great overall. I was a little confused, however, by the choice to ask about the modified pronunciation of the character katakana ハ when used as a topic particle (card 14.15). From my admittedly very limited understanding, only the hiragana form は would be used as a particle and get the sound "wa" instead of "ha." In the same session, other cards showed me hiragana (そ and り) have both showed up), so I don't understand why you wouldn't use は. Teaching people that ハ can have the sound "wa" seems like it might be counterproductive. I'm sure you know all this and whoever prepared the cards knows what they are doing, but these did seem like it might be a mistake. If not, I'd like to know your thinking on it.</p> <p>Thanks,</p> <p>P.S. There is a question about the use of the "katakana" ハ as a particle as well, although this matters less since it is the once case where katakana and hiragana are the same, even if it's a little confusing to ask "What sound does this Katakana character make?" (14.2)</p>	4/25/2018	Not Fixed	N/A	<p>No change.</p> <p>User is correct that it's almost never ハ (in Katakana), but there are rare cases where the topic particle は is written in Katakana. See the MS Office pic and discussion over here: https://japanese.stackexchange.com/questions/6691/is-the-wa-particle-in-katakana-ワ-or-ハ</p>
<p>I think I've found an error in the Japanese trainer. The English and Japanese audio clips for "そ・so" appear to be switched. I believe the button on the left plays the English, the one on the right plays Japanese.</p>	4/22/2018	Not Fixed	Trainer was checked regarding this feedback, but the user feedback was deemed to be was mistaken, irrelevant, not worth fixing or already fixed.	N/A
<p>Upon reviewing the word list for Japanese, I believe I have found an error in the pitch accent indication for the verb 着る. Pertinent section follows:</p> <p>着る ru-verb きる kiru ki⁺tu to wear</p> <p>According to the NHK Pitch Accent dictionary, this is a 平板 type word, starting low and terminating on high tone, however the IPA transcription seems to show the opposite (unless I'm grossly misreading it).</p>	4/22/2018	Not Fixed	Trainer was checked regarding this feedback, but the user feedback was deemed to be was mistaken, irrelevant, not worth fixing or already fixed.	N/A