Antedatings of Japanese Loanwords in the \textit{OED}^2

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The first edition of the \textit{Oxford English Dictionary} gave particulars of some 60 Japanese words admitted as having existed or existing in the English language. However, it had an enormous number of unexpected omissions, and went out of date because of the drastic changes in the post-war world. The second edition that had been eagerly awaited appeared in 1989, and the most intriguing of its contents were the numerous additions of words of foreign origin. It contributed a generous quota to the words of Japanese origin, and contained approximately 380 Japanese loanwords, exclusive of their derivatives. The coverage of the words may be sufficient for users, but their lexical descriptions are assumed to be still far from complete.

The \textit{OED} is particularly valuable because it attempts to provide the users with the earliest date and the context of the first appearance of a word in English literature. "The \textit{OED} editors, however, have never claimed that the earliest quotations cited are the first to have appeared in print, and they were fully aware of the hazards of doing so. In fact, James Murray once observed that probably three-quarters of the headwords could be antedated." (Donna Lee Berg: \textit{A Guide to the Oxford English Dictionary}, OUP, 1993, p. 91) It is, therefore, safe to assert that many Japanese words have escaped the notice of hundreds of contributors to the \textit{OED}, and have quotation citations as first appearing in much later works. Nevertheless, to the best of my knowledge, no comprehensive examinations of quotations for Japanese borrowings earlier than those given in the \textit{OED} have been carried out since the publication of "The Influence of Japanese on English" by E.V. Gatenby in 1931. My detailed scrutiny of about forty English books on Japan has revealed that about 100 Japanese loanwords, including derivatives, appeared earlier than the dates assigned in the \textit{OED} and its \textit{Additions Series} (1993). The following is a list of antedatings of the Japanese borrowings, and the texts in which they occur. The former date in round brackets following the word is that of the first recorded appearance found in the \textit{OED} and the latter is an earlier date found by me which is to be given after an arrow in the brackets.


- **Japanese** (1604 $\rightarrow$ 1588) . . . , that these Japones in old time were Chinas, and that they came from that mightie kingdome vnto these ilands, . . . [Vol. II, p. 294] [Japanese in the sense of a native of Japan.]
- **Ryukyu** (1808 $\rightarrow$ 1588) . . . : excepting such as would of their owne good will acknowledge vassalage, and giue him tribute, and remaine friends, as vnto this day the Lechios and other nations do. [I 94]


- **dairi** (1662 $\rightarrow$ 1613) From my castell in Sorongo this 4 daye of the 9 moneth, and in the 18th yeare of our Darye according to our Computacion. [8 October, 1613, p. 137]
- **Japan** (attrib.) (1673 $\rightarrow$ 1613) George Peeterson the Flushinger did willingly exchange with Mr. Cocks 2120 Tayes Japan monye for Royalls, . . . [17 November, 1613, 180]
- **Japanner** (1614 $\rightarrow$ 1613) . . . it is generally thought emongest vs that he is a naturalised Japanner. [29 July 1613, 109]
- **shogun** (1615 $\rightarrow$ 1613) Shongo sama, the Emperors sonne, . . . [2 August, 1613, 113] [Sama is a honorific affix.]
- **tachi** (1948 $\rightarrow$ 1613) And towards evening the King sent 2 varnished Armors, a present to his Majesty the King of England, Allso a
Tatch... and a wagadash a present from him to my selfe. [2 August, 1613, 134]


- Japanese (adj.) (1719 → 1614) the 8 daye wind Souther11 ffayr wether we rod still theis being the 18 daye of the Iappanes reckninge being thvrsdaye [p. 14]
- kotatsu (1876 → 1615) Ittem bought a cotates for fire [59]
- miso (1727 → 1615) Ittem pd for a barrell of misso ... 5 masse [55]
- tabi (1616 → 1615) Ittem bought 8 payr of tabbes cost ...... 012-00 mas [58]


- awabi (1889 → 1616) And Joco Conde Dono sent me a present of 3 hanches salt veneson, with certen shelfish called roby. [March 14, 1616, Vol. I, p. 120]
- Japanese (sb.) (1828 → 1622) And Capt. Camps came and bought the articles which we ment to present to the King of Firandos brother and to Torazemon Dono, wrot in Japons, the coppies whereof we keepe; ... [February 17, 1622, II 243]
- Kabuki (1899 → 1616) Capt. Adames envited all the english to a banket with cabokes. [December 15, 1616, I 220]
- kimono (1886 → 1615) And I made Tushma, my boy, a new kerimon of damask of Canton, with a cloake or gaberdyn of stript taffete. [September 4, 1615, I 51]
- koku (1727 → 1615) I receved 16 boates lading of wheate ashore this day, containing 1,198 sacks, is 300 gocos, wanting 2 sack laid out in henne meate. [June 12, 1615, I 8]
- matsu (1727 → 1616) 79 cakis mates nuque of 2 tattamy long. [April 20, 1616, I 129] [cakis mates nuque: square pine lumber]
- Nippon (1727 → 1615) Capt. Speck and the rest sent to thank me for their good entertainyment, viz, nifon catange. [July 3, 1615, I 18] [nifon catange: according to the Japanese custom]
- obang (1662 → 1615) And Andrea Dittis, the China Capt., brought back a bar of Oban gould,... [September 7, 1615, I 53]


- Hizen (1727 → 1670) But whereas Fesen produces the best Porcelan [sic] in Japan; ... [p. 434]
- Nippon (1727 → 1670) This Spacious and Wealthy Isle, by the Natives call'd Nippon, ... [78] [See the above example.]


- daimio (1839 → 1727) Particular Provinces are govern'd by hereditary Princes, call'd Daimio, which signifies High-named, that is, Princes and Lords of the highest rank. [Vol. I, p. 80]
- Eta (1897 → 1727) They call them by the scandalous name of Katsuwa, which signifies the very worst sort of Rabble, and put them upon the same foot with the Jetta, or Leather-Tanners, the most infamous sort of people in their opinion, ... [I 261]
- hatamoto (1871 → 1727) For they took it frequently into their heads, to oppose the Governors, meerly [sic] to shew [sic] their authority, as Fattamatto, that is, independent Imperial Officers, which often occasion'd great confusion, ... [I 269]
- hiragana (1822 → 1727) The Piro Canna, and Catta Canna characters, as they are call'd at the top of the several colums [sic] wherein they are plac'd, are common to the Japanese in general, and understood by the common people. [II, Table XLV]
- kago (1857 → 1727) Besides going on horseback, there is another more stately and expensive way of travelling in this country, and that is to be carried in Norimons and Cagos, or particular sorts of chairs, or litters. [II 401]
- koniak, koniaku (1884 → 1727) Thus out of the Konjakf, which is a poisonous sort of a Dracunculus, they prepare a sweet mealy pap. [I 122]
- kudzu (1893 → 1727) ...; cakes of the jelly of the Kaads root, which root is found upon mountains, and cut into round slices like
carrots, and roasted; . . . [II 427]
- kura (1880 → 1727) The scot of rice, or corn, amounts to somewhat more than half the crop, which the husband-man must bring to the Okura, or Komegura, (Imperial Magazines, which stand near Mangome, or the North-suburb) . . . [I 292] [O is a honorific prefix.]
- Obaku (1883 → 1727) The same year, on the third day of the fourth month, died in the famous Convent Obaku, the above mention'd Chinese Missionary Ingen, in the fourscore and second year of his age. [I 199-200]
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- Rajtt (1874 → 1727) The ministers of state, and other great men at court, some of whom we were only to visit, and to make presents to others, were the five chief Imperial counsellors [sic] of state, call'd Goradzi, or the five elderly men, . . . [II 527] [Go is a honorific prefix.]
- Ryukyuan (1958 1727) The Liquejans being subjects of Japan, you shall take none of their ships or boats. [II 384]
- sakura (1884 → 1727) Amidst the Plants stands sometimes a Saguer, as they call it, or scarce outlandish tree, sometimes a dwarf-tree or two. [II 426]
- sasanqua (1866 → 1727) Some put it up with common Mugwort flowers, or the young leaves of the Plant call'd Sasanqua, which they believe adds much to its agreeableness. [II, Appendix 15]
- sho (1876 → 1727) In the ninth year he [sc. Monmu] caus'd a square measure, (by the Japanese call'd Seo and Maas, by the Dutch Ganten, . . . [I 173]
- skimmia (1853 → 1727) Often also they [sc. the Japanese] put a branch of the Fanna Skimmia Tree over their doors, which is in like manner believ'd to bring good luck into their houses; . . . [II 418]
- soto (1893 → 1727) Kataisi, is the chief convent and temple of the Sensju, or Sect of Sen, which is of the order (or rather Schism) of Sotofa, or Sotosju. [I 304] [Fa or sju signifies a sect.]
- Tanabata (1880 → 1727) They [sc. The Japanese] give it also the name of Sisseki Tanabatta, which implies as much, and Tanomenoseku, which is as much as to say, an Auxiliar [sic] Festival. [I 221]
- ujigami (1897 → 1727) Amongst the Sin or Cami, that is, the national Gods, I must mention in the first place, the Udisgami of this Town. Udisgami, is the chief God, Saint and Protector of a Province, City, or Village. [I 294]
- uta (1855 → 1727) . . . as he [sc. Senmei] was at the same time a perfect master of the Cabalistic Sciences, he found out certain words, which he brought together into an Uta, or Verse, . . . [II 449]

- sumi (1911 → 1818) English Japanese Loo-Choo Ink — Sum, sumi — Simmee.
various metals are partly blended, partly combined, producing an effect resembling fine enamel, . . . [227]


- *renga* (1877 → 1855) The poems called renga, composed in Chinese only, may extend to a hundred or a thousand verses, each verse dependent (as the name renga implies) upon that which immediately precedes it, or at least upon some word in it. [p. 550]


- *kuroshiwo* (1885 → 1857) Along this part of the coast, the influence of the stream, called by the Japanese, *Kuro-siwo*, was quite perceptible. [p. 495]
- *shogi* (1858 → 1857) On entering, they found some of the inmates playing at a game very similar, as it appeared, to chess. ( . . . ) The game is called *Sho-Ho-Ye*, and is a great favorite among the Japanese. [532]


- *keyaki* (1904 → 1863) *ki-a-ki, s . . . Planera acuminata*. The Japanese elm. This is probably the finest timber in Japan. [Vol. II, p. 480]
- *sayonara* (1875 → 1863) And so ends our journey to Yeddo, and the panorama of the high road. — *Sayonara!* the salutation of the Japanese, loses nothing in softness by contrast either with the French adieu, or the Italian addio; . . . [II 469]
- *tan* (1871 → 1863) In referring to the size of a farm, an *it-than* containing 300 tsobo is the measurement generally mentioned; . . . [I 318] (*it-than*: one tan)
- *to* (1871 → 1863)
  10 Ischo (1 Itho) = 30 1/3 lb.
  10 Itho (1 Its’ko-koo) = 333 1/3 lb [I 318] (*Itho*: one to)

- *uguisu* (1871 → 1863) As we toiled slowly up, leading our horses, we heard some very sweet notes of the *uguisu*, not unlike the notes of a nightingale, and I think nearly the only bird in Japan that sings. [II 127]


- *ronin* (1871 → 1863) On our arrival at Kanagawa we were startled by the intelligence that H. B. M. Legation at Yedo had been attacked the night before by a band of *looinis*, . . . [p. 241]
- *tycoonship* (1964 → 1863) Thus shorn of its jewels, the crown of the Tycoonship becomes that of head of the lower Daimios only. [261-2]


- *ama* (1954 → 1873) Thus *amma*, shampooer, must be pronounced differently from *ama*, a fisherwoman; . . . [p. 2]


- *hinin* (1884 → 1876) The *hinin* (not human) were the lowest class of beggars, the squatters on waste lands, who built huts along the road, and existed by soliciting alms. [p. 280]
- *netsuke* (1883 → 1876) Nearly all the ivory thus imported is put to a single use. It is carved into *nitsuki*, or large buttons perforated with two holes, . . . [364]
- *hanami* (1891 → 1876) The scrap of text, "*hanami*" ("to see the flowers"), is their term for junketing in the woods; . . . [487]
- *haori* (1877 → 1876) We shall see in most of them, however, the clear reflection of that human heart which beats responsive beneath the toga, the camel's-hair raiment, the broadcloth, the silk *haori*. [504]
- *ken* (1882 → 1876) Great changes have taken place in the city since the departure of the prince, and the change of the *han* (feudal tenure) into *ken* (prefecture of the Imperial Government). [536]

Mikadoate (1899 → 1876) *XCIII. THE TEMPORARY MIKADOATE*. [182]

- *mon* (1878 → 1876) Shallow observers—foreigners, of course—on first seeing these stretched canvas screens, supposed they were
forts,” and the crests (mon) of the general, “port-holes” for cannon! [398]
- sensei (1884 → 1876) It is an honor to be addressed or spoken of as old. Every one called me “sensei” (elder-born, or teacher). [449]
- Shin (1877 → 1876) Among these were, in 1202, the Zen (Contemplation); in 1211, the Jōdō (Heavenly Road); in 1262, the Shin (New); in 1282, the Nichiren. [162]
- shūgo (1893 → 1876) Also — and here was another step to military government and feudalism — that a shūgo — a military chief, should be placed in each province, ... [141]

- geisha (1891 → 1880) ... geishas (professional women with the accomplishments of dancing, singing, and playing) danced, accompanied by songs whose jerking discords were most laughable; ... [Vol. I, p. 97]
- go (1890 → 1880) This great resource is called go, and is played with 180 white discs cut from a species of cockle shell, and 181 black ones, made from a black pebble. The board is divided into 361 squares, and the game consists in enclosing a certain space, and preventing the opponent from doing the same. The table on which the board is set, called the go-ban, has a square hollow beneath it, ... [II 32]
- gobang (1886 → 1880) [See go. This is the original sense of gobang.]
- kagura (1884 → [1880]) The kagura fuyé, or Japanese flute, claims an antiquity of twelve centuries, ... [II 209]
- kakemono (1890 → 1880) ... the kakemons, or wall-pictures on their side-walls, were extremely beautiful; ... [I 98]
- shō (1888 → 1880) A young girl, daughter of a noble who has filled several high official positions, played on a most exquisitely made antique instrument, called the shō, formed of several reeds beautifully lacquered in gold, branded with silver, and set in a circular box of fine gold lacquer. [II 204–5]
- shochu (1938 → 1880) The only drinks in common use are tea, hot water, saké, and strochiu, less palatable even than saké, a form of alcohol, which is taken cold at odd hours during the hot season. [I 240]
- soroban (1891 → 1880) Between your offers the saleswoman makes great use of the soroban, a frame enclosing some rows of balls moving on thick wires, which is used in all business transactions in Japan, ... [I 142–3]

- mitsumata (1889 → 1880) Paper is also made from the mitsumata plant (Edgeworthia papyrifera), the first order of the eighth class, a deciduous shrub growing to seven or eight feet in height. [Vol. II, p. 43]
- Nashiji (1881 → 1880) In 410 an officer (Minamoto-no-Juin) published another work, in which he speaks of lacquers of gold, and likewise of other lacquers known as nashiji, which are of orange colour sown with sparks of gold, and the makers of which he speaks of as “very celebrated.” [II 32–3]
- Seto (1881 → 1880) A select display of the beautiful porcelain ware of Seto (Owari) had been brought together to interest us. [II 272]
- Shijō (1884 → 1880) Shiyo Riu. This school was founded, as previously stated, by Okio, and was characterised by a more direct and loyal resort to nature than his predecessors had allowed themselves; ... [II 92]
- sumi-e (1938 → 1880) The practice of painting in Chinese (or “Indian”) ink is exceedingly common in Japan, and this form of art is designated Sumie. [II 92]
- tanto (1885 → 1880) Stilettos a foot long or less, known as tanto and mamorii katana, were sometimes worn by nobles, officers, and gentle- men in place of the more cumbrous wakizashi. [II 270]

- shogunal (1899 → 1891) shogunal Pertaining to a shogun or the shoguns, or to the period when they flourished. [p. 5583]

- maiko (1904 → 1892) But you would be wrong to think that any Japanese woman may put on the splendid and showy kimonos borne by the Maiko. [p. 300]

- **suzuribako** (1967 → 1894) In the temple of Hachiman, Kamakura, also, there are several pieces of lacquer dating from the end of the 12th to the beginning of the 14th centuries, remarkable for their good taste and quality, among them, a suzri-bako, or writing box, of nashiji, with chrysanthemums by a fence in gold; [p. xli]


- **haniwa** (1931 → 1896) So the things of clay were first set up at the tomb of Hibasu-hime no Mikoto. And a name was given to these clay objects. They were called Hami-wa. [Part I, pp. 180–181]
- **muraji** (1901 → 1896) Adzumi no Muraji is a title corresponding exactly to such English titles as “Duke of Wellington,” Adzumi being the name of a place and Muraji a title of honour. It is derived from mura, a village or assemblage, and ushi, master. [I 27, Note 7]
- **omi** (1901 → 1896) Omi is a title of rank, probably derived from o, for oho, great and mi, person. The Chinese character with which it is written means minister or vassal. [I 36, Note 3]


- **terakoya** (1909 → 1901) Nearly every temple had a terakoya attached to it, where the children of peasants, mechanics, and tradespeople were instructed in reading, writing, and arithmetic. [p. 235]


- **yokozuna** (1966 → 1901) The honour next fell on Yoshida Oikase, . . . , and who is alone empowered to bestow upon the champion wrestler that badge of distinction which every ambitious follower of the order seeks as the ultimate reward of all his training and skill in over-


- **Kempeitai** (1947 → [1904]) These Kem-pei, as they are called, are a splendid body of men, armed with rifle, sword, and revolver, and perfectly drilled, doing constabulary duty on the high roads and byways, on lonely moors and rugged mountain-paths, . . . [p. 120]
- **sumotori** (1973 → 1904) With professional wrestlers it is still de ringueur; a large magé, about the size and shape of a door-knocker, is as distinctive of the fat sumōtori, the huge wrestler who towers over his compatriots like an obese giant, . . . [69]


- **Japaneseness** (1965 → 1904) She [sc. the beautiful Countess Kuroda] received gentlemen as well as foreign ladies, but she retained her Japaneseness none the less. [p. 232]
- **kata** (1954 → 1904) I could not make out what was Kata and what was Jujitsu . . . [186]
- **Tokyoite** (1973 → 1904) The poor Tokyoite packs everything in his house in boxes slung on a bamboo, . . . [108]


- **onsen** (1933 → 1909) But the onsen, or hot-water springs, are distributed more widely than the active volcanoes. [p. 8]


- **dojo** (1942 → 1912) They opened temple-seminaries (tera-koya) and exercise halls (dōjō) . . . [p. 448]


- **shibui** (1947 → 1927) We also speak of great refinement of the art coming his rivals, the yokozuna, a belt braided of two strands of white silk. [p. 234] [This is the original sense of yokozuna.]
that conceals art, as an astringent (shibui) taste, reminding one of the tannin in tea. [p. 109]

The above antedatings will surely be incorporated into the third edition of the OED which is to be published in 2005. And the following is an alphabetically arranged table of the antedatings of the Japanese loanwords.

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</table>

Note: Japanese\(^1\) (a native of Japan)
Japanese\(^2\) (the Japanese language)

(1996年12月20日受理)
Japanese is an East Asian language spoken by about 126 million people, primarily in Japan, where it is the official language and national language. The influx of Japanese loanwords can be classified into two periods, Japanese colonial administration period (1942–1945) and globalisation of Japanese popular culture (1980-now). As Indonesian is written using Latin script, Japanese romanisation systems influence the spelling in Indonesian. The use of Japanese loanwords in the English language could offer some answers to these questions; by tracing the history of such word use, it is possible to track changes in perceptions of Japan and its standing in the world at large. Buzzword rankings. In April, U.S.-based firm Global Language Monitor, which tracks and analyzes societal trends in English-language usage, published a tentative ranking list for popular words and phrases of 2014. There are many other instances of Japanese words passing into English. If you delve into the OED, you will find over 500 words of Japanese origin. The chronological table shows a selection of these, indicating when the words first appeared in English-language publications such as books and newspapers. Kuge tops the table.