

Similarities of Japanese and Kazakh Languages

Words

Words with close pronunciation and same meaning:

Japanese	pronunciation	Kazakh	meaning
Nouns			
天理	tenri	Tangri	rule of heaven
日	hi	kun	day, sun
水	sui (onyomi) ¹	su	water
家	ie	uy	house, home
玩具	omocha	oyinshiq	toy
腹	hara	qarin	stomach
大人	otona	ata-ana	grown-up (parents)
おばあ	oba	apa	Granmother
種	tane	dan	seed
棘	toge	tiken	splinter
Verbs			
有る	aru	bar	to be
入る	iru	kiru	to enter
焼く	yaku	jagu	to dab, spread
謳う	utau	aytu	to say
供える	sonaeru	usinu	to offer
吸う	suu	soru	to suck
押す	osu	basu	to press

撃つ	utsu	atu	to shoot
急ぐ	isogu	asigu	to hurry, to rush
織る	oru	oru	to weave
争う	arasou	jarisu	to compete
摺る	zuru	suyreu	to drag
来る	kuru	kelu	to come
耐える	taeru	tayanu	to stand/endure
要る	iru	kerek (bolu)	be necessary

Adjectives and Adverbs

信, 真	shin (onyomi)	shin	true, truth
黒い	kuroi	qara	black
白	haku	aq	white
硬い	katai	qatti	solid, rigid
内	uchi	ishi	inside
外	soto	sirti	outside
後	ato	arti	behind, after
暑い	atsui	istiq	hot
近い	chikai	jaqin	near
道理	doori	duris	right, correct
濃い	koi	qoyu	deep (color), dense
ゆっくり	yukkuri	aqirin	slow
いい	ii	igi	good
だけ	dake	tek	just, only

Various

何	nani	neni ²	what
ません	masen	yemes	not so
より	yori	gori	than
あの、その	ano, sono	anau, sonau	that, those
やばい	yabai	oybay	exclamation phrase
ちゃん	chan	jan	diminutive suffix

Notes:

1. **onyomi** refers to adapted Chinese reading of the character.
2. Kazakh question word "**neni**" refers to an object, e.g. *bringing what?* / *Neni akelu?* For subject "**ne**" is used.

Particles, Endings

The Japanese particles で, へ, の, を vs similar Kazakh endings:

JP	KZ	Function	Example
で -de	-da/-de	Indicative: where? (location)	さやは家で遊んでいます。 Saya uyde oynap otir. Saya is playing at home.
へ he	-ka/-ke -ga/-ge	Indicative: towards, to (destination)	さやは学校へ歩く。 Saya mektepke baradi. Sya goes to school.
の no	(n) ¹ -ing	Possessive: belongs to	さやの家がある。 Sayaning uyi bar. Saya has a house.
を wo	(n) ¹ -i	Object: who or whom	今日はさやを見ました Bugin Sayani kordim. I saw Saya today.

か ka	-qa/-ke ²	Question particle in Kazakh only in "why not?" context	なぜそれをしないのですか Oraga nege barmasqa? Why not go there?
-な -na	-nai	JP: ending of adjective group KZ: emphasis ending of adjectives	大きな Ulkeni-nay! きれいな Ademisi-nay!
-なさい -nasai	-sai/-sei	Verb ending for command or suggestion.	見なさい Qarasay!

Notes:

1. "n" is inserted if previous sound is vowel.
2. Kazakh endings come in pairs due to *vowel harmony*, where hard/soft ending comes after hard/soft syllable, as in:
avtubusqa, mektepke.

Verbs Forms

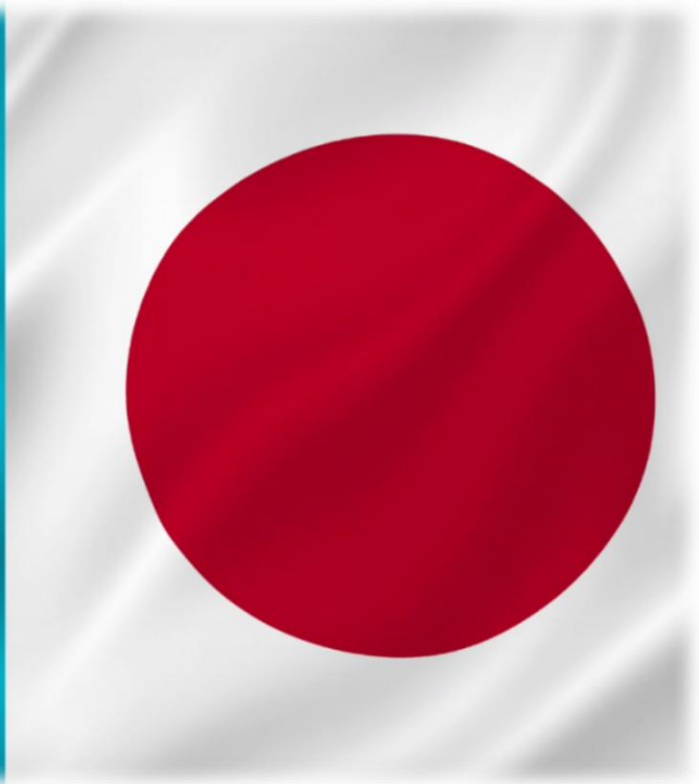
Both languages:

- end verb infinitives end with -u.
- form progressive tenses with auxiliary verbs:
JP: *verb's (-て、-で) form + helping verb (いる)*
KZ: *verb's (-p, -a, -e) form + helping verb (jatir/otir)*
食べている *jep otir*
行っている *bara jatir*
- form questions with interrogative particles:
食べていますか *jep otir ma*
行っていますか *bara jatir ma*

- are agglunative: i.e. show tense, politeness, voice, negation, etc., by attaching a sequence of suffixes to verbs root.

Form	EN	JP	KZ
Present +	do, does	iru	kiru
Present -	do/does not	iranai	kirmeu
Past +	did	itta	kirdi
Past -	did not	iranakatta	kirmedi
Continuative +		itte	kirip
Continuative -		iranaide	kirmey
Continuative -	(reason)	iranakute	kirmegendikten
Progressive +	doing	itte iru	kirip baru/jatu
Progressive -	not doing	itte inai	kirmey baru/jatu
Imperative +	do!	ire, irinasai	kir, kirsey
Imperative -	do not do!	iruna	kirme
Volitional +	let's do	irou	kireyik
Volitional -	let's not do	irumai	kirmeyik
Request +	please do	itte (kudasai)	kiriniz
Request +	please do not	ittenaide	kirmeniz
Conditional +	if X does/is	ireba	kirse
Conditional -	if X does not	iranakereba	kirmese
Provisional +	if/when X did	ittara	kirgende
Provisional -	if X did not	iranakattara	kirmegende
Potential +	able to do	ireru	kire alu

Potential -	not able to do	irenai	kire almau
Causative +	to make do	iraseru	kirgizu
Causative -	not make do	irasenai	kirgizbeu
Wishfull +	want to	iritai	kirgi(-m/...) kelu
Wishfull -	not want to	iritakunai	kirgi(-m/) kelmeu



P.S. There may be other similarities between these languages, but obviously much more differences. *Last modified: 09.10.2026*