



<MULTICULTURAL NOTES・^{たぶん}多文化コラム>

Let's Learn Daily Japanese Part⑧:

“Words Related to Expiry Dates”

まいにち にほんご⑧ ^{しょうひ}消費・^{しょうみ}賞味・^{しょうきげん}使用期限に関する言語を覚えましょう

In this month's notes, let's check the words related to the expiry dates labelled on the products. [Expiry date (for consumption) / 消費期限 (Shohi-kigen), Best-before date / 賞味期限 (Shomi-kigen), or Expiry date (for usage) / 使用期限 (Shiyo-kigen)]: These three words have different letters, but they all indicate validity periods. Expiry date (for consumption) is relatively short, while best-before date usually indicates a longer period.

Japanese	English & Description	Example of Product
消費期限 (Shohi-kigen)	Expiry date (for consumption): This label is found on foods that cannot be stored for a long time , such as lunchboxes, cakes and other foods that need to be kept in refrigerators, indicating <u>the expiry date that is safe to consume</u> when stored according to the instructions.	
賞味期限 (Shomi-kigen)	Best-before date: This label is found on foods that can be stored for a relatively long period of time , such as soft drinks, snacks and canned goods in general, indicating <u>the expiry date that should be consumed while maintaining their flavor quality.</u>	
使用期限 (Shiyo-kigen)	Expiry date (for usage): This label is found on medicines, vitamins and the like, indicating that <u>the product should be used until the expiry date</u> and that <u>it should not be used after the expiry date.</u>	