TEEN TOKYO
VOCABULARY LIST

Ginza (gheen-zah): Tokyo's old most popular downtown district.

Hachiko (ha-chee-ko): The name of a famous dog who's statue in Shibuya is a famous place for friends to meet.

Shibuya (shee-boot-yah): A popular shopping and entertainment district for young people in Tokyo.

Chibi Maruko (Chee-bee Ma-roo-ko): A cartoon character who is Japan's equivalent of Bart Simpson.

Akihabara (ah-key-hah-bah-rah): The electronics heart of Tokyo where you can find over 600 shops selling electronics and appliances at discount prices.

Shinjuku (sheen-ju-ku): One of the biggest entertainment districts in Tokyo famous for its vast underground shopping center and giant street video screen.

Karaoke (kah-rah-o-kay): This literally means "empty orchestra". This is a sing-along booth. There are over 40,000 of these in Japan and they are especially popular with teenagers.

Yoyogi (yo-yo-ghee): Yoyogi is a Tokyo district known for its many cram schools and for Yoyogi Park where student bands play on Sundays.

Manga (mahn-gah): Japanese comics enormously popular with teens.

Anime (ah-nee-may): Animated films and weekly cartoon shows. In Japan there are many full length animated films that are produced for older as well as younger kids.

Gairaigo (gah-ee-rah-ee-go): Words that have been adopted into Japanese from other languages.

Gambatte (gahm-baht-tei): "Good Luck!"

Gitaigo (ghee-tie-go): Words that sound like what they mean, or onomatopoeia.

Suidobashi (Soo-ee-doh-bah-shee): The district in Tokyo where the gigantic "Big Egg" sports stadium is located.
Sumo (Soo-mo): A traditional Japanese sport where two wrestlers try to push each other out of a ring.

Rikishi (re-key-shee): The term used to describe the Sumo wrestlers. It means "strong warrior."

Dohyo (doh-hyo): The dirt ring where a Sumo match is held.

Mawashi (mah-wah-shee): The belt that goes around the stomach of a Sumo wrestler.

Chanko-nabe (chahn-ko-nah-bay): A one-pot meal that Sumo wrestlers eat. It helps them gain the extra weight they need for the sport.

Ogikubo (Oh-ghee-koo-bo): A central but more residential district of Tokyo.

Uranai (oo-rah-nah-ee): Fortune telling.

Omajinai (oh-mah-gee-nah-ee): Charms and fun things you can do to make wishes come true.

Omikuji (Oh-me-koo-gee): Fortune telling by drawing lots. Your fortune is told on a strip of white paper.

Juku (Joo-koo): An after school and weekend cram school that helps students prepare for entrance examinations.

Kendo (Ken-doh): Traditional Japanese fencing. You wear head and body coverings and fence with sticks of bamboo.