In English, we can combine two nouns to get a compound noun, such as in ‘mailbox’ or ‘sandcastle’. We can do this in Japanese as well, but just sticking the two words together isn’t enough. Instead, the words themselves undergo predictable changes:

- **ikebana** → ‘flower arranging’
- **asagiri** → ‘morning fog’
- **hoshizora** → ‘starry sky’

- **ike** → ‘arrange’
- **hana** → ‘flower’
- **asa** → ‘morning’
- **kiri** → ‘fog’
- **hoshi** → ‘star’
- **sora** → ‘sky’

Compound words can then be compounded again, creating compounds with three or more members. Study the diagrams below carefully. You’ll notice that the order in which the compound is built affects both the meaning and the final form of the word.

- **nurihashibako** → ‘lacquered box for chopsticks’
- **nuribashibako** → ‘box for lacquered chopsticks’

- **hashibako** → ‘box for chopsticks’
- **nuribashi** → ‘lacquered chopsticks’

- **nuri** → ‘lacquered’
- **hashi** → ‘chopsticks’
- **hako** → ‘box’

**F1.** The following is a list of several Japanese words with their English meanings. Use this word bank to write definitions of the Japanese compounds (a)-(f). Be very specific with how you phrase your definition. If your definition is ambiguous (has two meanings), it will not be counted.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>sakura</th>
<th>cherry blossom</th>
<th>kami</th>
<th>paper</th>
<th>nise</th>
<th>fake</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>shiru</td>
<td>soup</td>
<td>tana</td>
<td>shelf</td>
<td>tsukuri</td>
<td>maker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iro</td>
<td>color(ed)</td>
<td>tanuki</td>
<td>raccoon</td>
<td>hako</td>
<td>box</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(a) **nisetanukijiru**
(b) **nisedanukijiru**
(c) **irogamibako**
(d) **irokamibako**
(e) **nisezakuradana**
(f) **nisesakuradana**
(F) Fakepapersonshelfmaker (2/2)

F2. Match the following four-member Japanese compound words on the left with their English meanings on the right. (Some will require you to stretch your imagination a bit!) One of the Japanese words will correspond to two possible English meanings.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>(1) a fake (fraudulent) shelf-maker made of paper</th>
<th>(A) nisegamidanadzukuri</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(2) a maker of fake shelves for paper</td>
<td>(B) nisekamitanadzukuri</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(3) a fake (fraudulent) maker of shelves for paper</td>
<td>(C) nisegamitanadzukuri</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(4) a shelf-maker made of fake paper</td>
<td>(D) nisekamidanadzukuri</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(5) a maker of shelves for fake paper</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

F3. Explain your answers to F1 and F2 in the space provided below.