## Key Facts

Hokusai is best-known for his series of woodblock prints Thirty Six Views of Mount Fuji.
Hokusai was the first artist to use the term 'manga', which roughly means 'random drawings'. Hokusai's largest work was a series of 4,000 sketches published in fourteen volumes in 1814. He always wanted to improve, and believed he would produce his best work when he was 110, but died aged 88.


From his book Quick Lessons in Simplified Drawing. The book was written in Japanese, but also showed pictures, to help nonJapanese speakers.


## Key Work



The Great Wave off Kanagawa Part of Thirty Six Views of Mount Fuii (1831). A woodblock print. Perspective to show the size of the wave comes from the men in the boat.

Traditional Japanese Art Traditional Japanese artwork included a lot of symbolism, where things in pictures represented ideas. Many Japanese artists did not try for 'realism', or making their art look as realistic as possible, but used more imaginative techniques to construct their pictures. Buddhist temples often have walls covered with detailed paintings, and have done for centuries.
For a long time, Japanese art was influenced by Chinese art; it also eventually showed Western ideas.


Fine Wind, Clear Morning Alternatively called Red Fuji. Also from Thirty Six Views of Mount Fuji (1831). The series of pictures was created at a time when there was much domestic travel in Japan.


