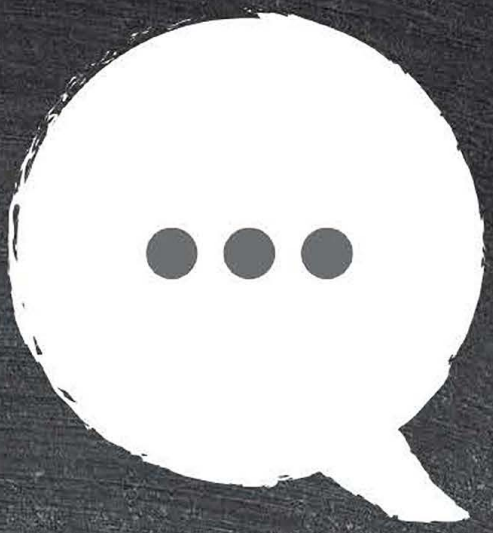
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LESSON NOTES

Lower Beginner #1
A Formal Japanese Introduction

CONTENTS

Kanji
English
Rōmaji
Hiragana
Vocabulary
Sample sentences
Vocabulary phrase usage
Grammar
Cultural insight

#1

KANJI

1. Emily: みなさん、こんにちは。
2. わたしはエミリー・マーティンです。
3. しゅっしんはオーストラリアのブリスベンです。
4. 25さいです。
5. らいげつ、かれしと日ほんにいきます。
6. よろしくおねがいします。

ENGLISH

1. Emily: Hello, everyone.
2. My name is Emily Martin.
3. I'm from Brisbane in Australia.
4. I'm twenty-five years old.
5. Next month, I'm going to Japan with my boyfriend.
6. It's a pleasure to meet you.

RŌMAJI

1. Emirī: Mina-san, kon'nichi wa.
2. Watashi wa Emirī Mātin desu.
3. Shusshin wa Ōsutoraria no Burisuben desu.
4. Ni-jū go-sai desu.
5. Raigetsu, kareshi to Nihon ni ikimasu.
6. Yoroshiku onegai shimasu.

HIRAGANA

1. Emily: みなさん、こんにちは。
2. わたしは エミリー・マーティンです。
3. しゅっしんは オーストラリアの ブリスベンです。
4. にじゅうございです。
5. らいげつ、かれしと にほんにいきます。
6. よろしく おねがいします。

VOCABULARY

Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English	Class
らいげつ	らいげつ	raigetsu	next month	
みなさん	みなさん	mina-san	everyone	noun
です	です	desu	roughly means 'to be'	
こんにちは	こんにちは	Kon'nichiwa	hello, good day (daytime greeting)	expression
かれし	かれし	kareshi	boyfriend	
しゅっしん	しゅっしん	shusshin	place you are from, the place of origin (hometown)	noun
オーストラリア	オーストラリア	Ōsutoraria	Australia	proper noun
よろしくおねがいします	よろしくおねがいします	yoroshiku onegai shimasu	Nice to meet you. It's a pleasure to meet you.	expression
いきます	いきます	ikimasu	to go	verb

SAMPLE SENTENCES

らいげつ、日ほんに　いきます。 *Raigetsu, Nihon ni ikimasu.* I go to Japan next month.	みなさん、こんにちは。 *Mina-san, Kon'nichiwa.* Hello, everyone.
わたしはジョン・スミスです。 *Watashi wa Jon Sumisu desu.* I am John Smith.	皆さん、こんにちは。 *Mina-san, kon'nichiwa.* Hello, everybody.

かれしと 日ほんに いきます。 *Kareshi to Nihon ni ikimasu.* I go to Japan with my boyfriend.	しゅっしんはアメリカのハワイです。 *Shusshin wa Amerika no Hawai desu.* I'm from Hawaii, the US.
私はオーストラリア人です。 *Watashi wa Ōsutorariajin desu.* I'm Australian.	たなかたろうです。よろしくおねがいします。 *Tanaka Tarō desu. Yoroshiku onegai shimasu.* I'm Taro Tanaka. It's a pleasure to meet you.

6がつ、とうきょうにいきます。

Roku-gatsu, Tōkyō ni ikimasu.

I'm going to Tokyo in June.

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

★ らいげつ (*raigetsu*)

This means "next month." *Rai* means "next" or "coming," and *getsu* means "month." Let's check out the related vocabulary.

Japanese	*Romanization*	"English"
せんげつ	*sengetsu*	"last month"
こんげつ	*kongetsu*	"this month"
らいげつ	*raigetsu*	"next month"

★ かれし (*kareshi*)

Kareshi means "boyfriend." In casual conversation, this is often abbreviated as かれ (*kare*). On the other hand, "girlfriend" is かのじょ (*kanojo*), and this is not abbreviated.

★ ～さい (*~sai*, suffix for one's age)

～sai, a suffix for one's age, means "- years old" or "-year-old." Just as in English, it comes after the number. But some ages have slightly tricky or irregular readings. Let's take a look at them.

Age	Japanese
1	いち + さい =　いっさい　(*issai*)
8	はち + さい = はっさい　(*hassai*)
10	じゅう + さい = じゅっさい　(*jussai*)
11	じゅういち + さい = じゅういっさい　(*jūissai*)
20	にじゅう + さい = はたち (*hatachi*)**
21	にじゅういち + さい = にじゅういっさい　(*nijūissai*)

**Note: The word for "twenty years old" is *hatachi* (instead of *nijussai*, which you might expect it to be).

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is Introducing Yourself.
わたし　は　エミリー・マーティン　です。
Watashi wa Emirī Mātin desu.
"My name is Emily Martin."

In this lesson, you'll learn how to introduce yourself using the *watashi wa --- desu* sentence structure. You'll also learn how to say where you are from.

Introducing Yourself in Japanese

To give your name, simply state your name after *watashi wa* and follow it with *desu*. Please see the tip below on how to properly pronounce *desu*.

Japanese	*Romaji*	"English"
わたし は [name] です。	*Watashi wa* [name] *desu.*	"I'm [name]."

To give where you are from, you say *shusshin wa* (which literally means "origin is"), then give the name of your country. You then add *no* and say the name of the city you're from.

Japanese	*Romaji*	"English"
しゅっしんは [name of a country] の [name of a city] です。	*Shusshin wa* [name of a country] *no* [name of a city] *desu.*	"I'm from [name of a city], [name of a country]."

When introducing yourself, simply combine the two phrases above!

For Example:

1. わたし　は　キム・スミス　です。しゅっしんは アメリカ　の　ハワイ です。
   Watashi wa Kim Sumisu desu. Shusshin wa Amerika no Hawai desu.
   "I'm Kim Smith. I'm from Hawaii in the United States."

Language Tip: Pronouncing *Desu*

Note that when we are pronouncing *desu*, the *-u* at the end is silent. So the word *desu* sounds just like [dess].

This rule also applies for verbs in formal speech (which end in *masu*), which we will go over later on in this series.

Examples from This Dialogue

1. わたし　は　エミリー・マーティン　です。　しゅっしんはオーストラリアのブリズベンです。
   Watashi wa Emirī Mātin desu. Shusshin wa Ōsutoraria no Burisuben desu.
   "My name is Emily Martin. I'm from Brisbane in Australia."

Reference

Please also review the following Grammar Points.

- *Kon'nichiwa* → Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 1
- *A wa B desu.* → Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 7
- *[age]-sai desu.* → Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 17
- *[person] wa [place] ni ikimasu.* → Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 23
- *Yoroshiku onegai shimasu.* → Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 2

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Japanese Name Order

Name order in Japanese is different from the Western order. Family names or last names come first, followed by the first name. So if you hear a Japanese name, for example, "Suzuki Makiko," the first part, "Suzuki," is her family name; the latter part, "Makiko," is her first name. Regarding non-Japanese people's names, most Japanese people understand that the name order for Western names is the opposite, so you can introduce yourself as you do in English: for example, "Eliza McCagg." Of course, you can also apply the Japanese order to your name if you wish!

LESSON NOTES

Lower Beginner #2 Which Famous Tokyo Tower is That?

CONTENTS

2 Kanji
2 Kana
3 Romanization
3 English
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4 Sample Sentences
5 Vocabulary Phrase Usage
6 Grammar
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2

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KANJI

1. (Bus)

2. EMILY: どうぞ。

3. OLD WOMAN: ありがとうございます。...アメリカから?

4. KEN: いいえ。オーストラリアのブリスベンからきました。

5. OLD WOMAN: そうですか。

6. KEN: すみません、あれは、とうきょうタワーですか。

7. OLD WOMAN: あれ？あれは、とうきょうスカイツリーです。
634メートルです。

8. KEN: ろっぴゃく、さんじゅう、よん...。

KANA

1. (Bus)

2. EMILY: どうぞ。

3. OLD WOMAN: ありがとうございます。...アメリカから?

4. KEN: いいえ。オーストラリアのブリスベンからきました。

5. OLD WOMAN: そうですか。

6. KEN: すみません、あれは、とうきょうタワーですか。

CONT'D OVER

7. OLD WOMAN: あれ？あれは、とうきょうスカイツリーです。
634メートルです。

8. KEN: ろっぴゃく、さんじゅう、よん…。

ROMANIZATION

1. (Bus)

2. EMIRĪ: Dōzo.

3. OLD WOMAN: Arigatō gozaimasu.... Amerika kara?

4. KEN: Iie. Ōsutoraria no Burizuben kara kimashita.

5. OLD WOMAN: Sō desu ka.

6. KEN: Sumimasen, are wa, Tōkyo Tawā desu ka.

7. OLD WOMAN: Are? Are wa, Tōkyō Sukai Tsurī desu.
Roppyaku san-jū yon-mētoru desu.

8. KEN: Roppyaku, san-jū, yon...

ENGLISH

1. (Bus)

2. EMILY: Please have a seat.

CONT'D OVER

3. OLD WOMAN: Thank you so much. ...Are you American?

4. KEN: No. We're from Brisbane, Australia.

5. OLD WOMAN: Is that so?

6. KEN: Excuse me, is that Tokyo Tower?

7. OLD WOMAN: That? That's the Tokyo Sky Tree.
It's 634 meters tall.

8. KEN: Six hundred, thirty, four...

VOCABULARY

Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English
どうぞ	どうぞ	dōzo	go ahead, here you are
です	です	desu	roughly means 'to be'
は	は	wa	topic marking particle
そうですか。	そうですか。	Sō desu ka.	Really? Is that so?
メートル	めーとる	mētoru	meter, m
きます	きます	kimasu	to come;V3 -masu form
あれ	あれ	are	that(one over there)
すみません	すみません	sumimasen	Excuse me, I'm sorry, Thank you

SAMPLE SENTENCES

はい、どうぞ。 *Hai, dōzo.* Here you go.	私はジョン・スミスです。 *Watashi wa Jon Sumisu desu.* I am John Smith.
今日はクリスマスです。 *Kyō wa Kurisumasu desu.* Today is Christmas.	え？そうですか？ *E? Sō desu ka?* Huh? Is that so?
とうきょうタワーは332メートルです。 *Tōkyō tawā wa san-byaku san-jū ni-mētoru desu.* Tokyo tower is 332m high.	たなかさんはパーティーにきますか。 *Tanaka-san wa pātī ni kimasu ka.* Is Mr./Ms. Tanaka coming to the party?
あれは何ですか。 *Are wa nan desu ka?* What's that?	すみません。もう一度お願いします。 *Sumimasen. Mō ichi-do onegai shimasu.* I'm sorry. Could you say that again?

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

あれ (*are*)

Kore is the word that means "this," but let's also review the related words "that" and "that (over there)." Please also check out Absolute Beginner series Season 1 Lesson 11 for a detailed usage explanation.

Japanese	*Romaji*	"English"
これ	*kore*	"this"
それ	*sore*	"this"
あれ	*are*	"that (over there)"

そうですか。 (*Sō desu ka.*)

Sō desu ka. means "Really?" or "Is that so?" and we use it in Japanese to respond to what someone has said. In Absolute Beginner series Season 1 Lesson 9, you first learned the phrase *sō desu*, which means "yes" or "that's right." Please check that out too.

から (*kara*)

Kara means "from." Unlike in English, where "from" is followed by a place, in Japanese *kara* follows a place and describes where someone is from.

For Example:

1. アメリカからきました。
   Amerika kara kimashita.
   "I came from the United States."/"I'm from the United States."

2. オーストラリアからきました。
   Ōsutoraria kara kimashita.
   "I came from Australia."/"I'm from Australia."

メートル (*mētoru*)

This means "meters" and indicates the length or height of something. You can use this word as in English simply by putting it after the number. When the height or length in question has numbers after the decimal point, say てん (*ten*) for "point." The numbers after the decimal point are always read just as simple individual numbers, as in English.

Number	Japanese	*Romaji*
634	メートル	*Roppyaku san-jū yon-mētoru*
165.2	メートル	*Hyaku roku-jū go ten ni-mētoru*
177.65	メートル	*Hyaku nana-jū nana ten roku go-mētoru*

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is Asking Questions.
あれは、とうきょうタワーですか。
Are wa Toukyou tawaa desu ka.
"Is that Tokyo Tower?"

In the previous lesson, you reviewed how to say what something is with the sentence pattern [A] *wa* [B] *desu* ("A is B"; for example "This is water"). In this lesson, you'll review how to turn that very sentence into a question: "Is A B?" ("Is this water?") You'll also learn

how to say where you are from.

Making Questions

Let's take a sentence that uses our "A is B" sentence pattern, which we learned in the previous lesson.

For Example:

1. これ は おかし です。
   Kore wa okashi desu.
   "These are sweets."

Let's say you have a plate of snacks in front of you that look sweet...but you can't really tell whether they are! To turn the sentence above into a question ("These are sweets" → "Are these sweets?"), we simply add ***ka*** to the end of the sentence.

So now you can ask:

1. **これ は おかし ですか。**
   Kore wa okashi desu ka.
   "Are these sweets?"

Let's try it with some other sentences:

Sentence	"English"	→	*Question*	"English"
これはみずです。 (*Kore wa mizu desu*)	"This is water."	→	**これはみずですか。** (*Kore wa mizu desu **ka**?*)	"Is this water?"
これはにくです。 (*Kore wa niku desu.*)	"This is meat."	→	**これはにくですか。** (*Kore wa niku desu **ka**?*)	"Is this meat?"
それはさかなです。 (*Sore wa sakana desu.*)	"That is fish."	→	**それはさかなですか。** (*Sore wa sakana desu **ka**?*)	"Is that fish?"

それはやさいです。 (*Sore wa yasai desu.*)	"That is a vegetable."	→	**それはやさいですか。** (*Sore wa yasai desu **ka**?*)	"Is that a vegetable?"
あれはフルーツです。 (*Are wa furūtsu desu.*)	"That is a fruit (over there)."	→	**あれはフルーツですか。** (*Are wa furūtsu desu **ka**?*)	"Is that a fruit (over there)?"

Language Tips: Saying "Yes" or "No"

We have touched on the phrase *sō desu*, which we also use to affirm something. Let's review how to say "yes" and "no":

1. "Yes" → はい。/はい、そうです。
   Hai./Hai, so desu.

2. "No" → いいえ。/いいえ、ちがいます。
   Iie./Iie, chigaimasu.

Saying Where You Are from

There are some variations in pattern to say where you are from. One of them is the pattern you learned in the previous lesson: *shusshin wa* [name of a country] *no* [name of a city] *desu*, which means "I'm from [name of a city], [name of a country]." Here you'll learn the second pattern, which literally means "I came from [name of a city], [name of a country]," or "I'm from ~". All you need to do is simply state the name of your country and city then continue with *kara kimashita*.

Japanese	*Romaji*	"English"
しゅっしんは [name of a country] の [name of a city] です。	*Shusshin wa* [name of a country] *no* [name of a city] *desu.*	"I'm from [name of a city], [name of a country]."

[name of a country] の [name of a city] から きました。	[name of a country] *no* [name of a city] *kara kimashita.*	"I'm from [name of a city], [name of a country]." *Literally: "I came from [name of a city], [name of a country]"

For Example:

1. *アメリカのハワイからきました。*
   Amerika no Hawai kara kimashita.
2. "I'm from Hawaii, in the United States."
3. *イタリアのフィレンツェからきました。*
   Itaria no Firentse kara kimashita.
   "I'm from Florence, Italy."
4. *イギリスのロンドンからきました。*
   Igirisu no Rondon kara kimashita.
   "I'm from London, in the United Kingdom.

Examples from This Dialogue

1. あれは、とうきょうタワーですか。
   Are wa Toukyou tawaa desu ka.
   "Is that Tokyo Tower?"
2. オーストラリアのブリズベンからきました。
   Ōsutoraria no Burisuben kara kimashita.
   "We're from Brisbane, Australia."

Reference

Please also review the following Grammar Points.

- *---jin* → Absolute Beginner Season 2 Lesson 3
- big numbers(100 200 300...) → Absolute Beginner Season 2 Lesson 11

- *Sō desu ka.* → Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 21
- *are* → Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 11
- *kimasu* → Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 23
- past form of verb → Absolute Beginner Season 2 Lesson 19

CULTURAL INSIGHT

The Tokyo Sky Tree

The city of Tokyo welcomed the Tokyo Sky Tree on May 2012. It took about three and a half years to build, and it is 634 meters high: almost twice the height of Tokyo Tower. This area is now known as とうきょうスカイツリータウン (*tōkyō sukai tsurī taun*) "Tokyo Sky Tree Town," and it has a shopping mall, observation deck, and of course the Tokyo Sky Tree itself. As of November 2012, this is the tallest tower not only in Japan but also in the world, as recorded in the *Guinness Book of World Records*. You can walk to the Tokyo Sky Tree from Asakusa or Ueno. You can also take the Toei Asakusa line or the Tokyo Metro Hanzōmon line to Tokyo Sky Tree Station (or Oshiage Station).

LESSON NOTES

Lower Beginner #3
Networking in Japan

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2 Kanji
2 Kana
2 Romanization
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4 Vocabulary Phrase Usage
5 Grammar
8 Cultural Insight

3

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KANJI

1. （At a party)
2. COLLEAGUE: Woodさん、こちらはあかさかデザインの森さんです。
3. KEN: はじめまして。Ken Woodともうします。
4. MS. MORI: 森です。よろしくおねがいします。
5. KEN: もり・・・。「もり」はみょうじですか。
6. MS.MORI: はい。これは、わたしのめいしです。どうぞ。
7. KEN: ありがとうございます。

KANA

1. （At a party)
2. COLLEAGUE: Woodさん、こちらはあかさかデザインのもりさんです。
3. KEN: はじめまして。Ken Woodともうします。
4. MS. MORI: もりです。よろしくおねがいします。
5. KEN: もり・・・。「もり」はみょうじですか。
6. MS.MORI: はい。これは、わたしのめいしです。どうぞ。
7. KEN: ありがとうございます。

ROMANIZATION

CONT'D OVER

1. (At a party)

2. COLLEAGUE: Wood-san, kochira wa Akasaka Dezain no Mori-san desu.

3. KEN: Hajimemashite. Ken Wood to mōshimasu.

4. MS. MORI: Mori desu. Yoroshiku onegai shimasu.

5. KEN: Mori... "Mori" wa myōji desu ka.

6. MS.MORI: Hai. Kore wa, watashi no meishi desu. Dōzo.

7. KEN: Arigatō gozaimasu.

ENGLISH

1. (At a party)

2. COLLEAGUE: Mr. Wood, this is Ms. Mori from Akasaka Design.

3. KEN: How do you do? My name is Ken Wood.

4. MS. MORI: My name's Mori. It's a pleasure to meet you.

5. KEN: Mori... Is "Mori" your family name?

6. MS. MORI: Yes. This is my business card. Here you are.

7. KEN: Thank you very much.

VOCABULARY

Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English
～ともうします	～ともうします	-to mōshimasu	I'm...[name]., My name is....
よろしくおねがいします	よろしくおねがいします	yoroshiku onegai shimasu	Nice to meet you. It's a pleasure to meet you.
はじめまして	はじめまして	hajimemashite	Nice to meet you.
これ	これ	kore	this
こちら	こちら	kochira	this person, this direction
みょうじ	みょうじ	myōji	family name, surname
さん	さん	san	polite name suffix, similar to Mr. or Mrs.
めいし	めいし	meishi	business card

SAMPLE SENTENCES

ケン・ウッドともうします。 *Ken・ Uddo to mōshimasu.* I'm Ken Wood.	田中太郎です。よろしくおねがいします。 *Tanaka Tarō desu. Yoroshiku onegai shimasu.* I'm Taro Tanaka. It's a pleasure to meet you.
こんにちは。はじめまして。 *Kon'nichiwa. Hajimemashite.* Hello. Nice to meet you.	あれ？これは私のですか。 *Are? Kore wa watashi no desu ka.* Huh? Is this mine?
こちらは田中太郎さんです。 *Kochira wa Tanaka Tarō-san desu.* This is Taro Tanaka.	「もり」はみょうじです。 *"Mori" wa myōji desu.* "Mori" is my family name.
田中さんは、パイロットです。 *Tanaka-san wa pairotto desu.* Mr./Ms. Tanaka is a pilot.	これはわたしのめいしです。 *Kore wa watashi no meishi desu.* This is my business card.

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

こちら (*kochira*)

This means "this person," "here," or "this way," depending on the context. In the dialogue, we use こちら when the speaker was introducing Mr. Mori to Ken, so it means "this person." Let's have a look at the variations. The rule is the same as for the other *ko-so-a-do* words, like これ, それ, あれ and どれ.

Direction or People

Japanese	*Romanization*	"English"
こちら	*kochira*	"here," "this way," "this person"
そちら	*sochira*	"there," "that way," "that person"
あちら	*achira*	"over there," "that person over there"
*どちら	*dochira*	"which way," "which one"

*"Who" would be だれ (*dare*), どなた (*donata*), or どちら様 (*dochira-sama*)

もういちどおねがいします (*Mō ichi-do onegai shimasu.*)

Mō ichido (もういちど) means "one more time," so this phrase literally means "one more time, please," and you can use it when you are asking someone to repeat something.

みょうじ (*myōji*)

Myoji means "family name" or "surname" in English. People usually call each other by their surnames on business occasions or in formal situations. Please note that some Japanese people might be offended if you call them by their first name on such occasions. If a person calls someone by his or her first name in Japanese, it usually indicates that they are really good or intimate friends. However, some Japanese people will call non-Japanese people by their first name no matter what the situation under the impression that this is "Western culture."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is Introducing Yourself or Others and Giving Your/Their Name and Company Name.

こちらはあかさかデザインの森さんです。

Kochira wa Akasaka Dezain no Mori-san desu.

"This is Ms. Mori from Akasaka

Design."

In this lesson, you'll learn how to introduce yourself or others along with your/their company name using the *kochira wa/watashi wa [name of a company/occupation/title/relation] no [name] desu* sentence structure. You will also learn the extra polite way of giving your name.

Formation

To give someone's name or your name with a company name, simply use the following pattern.

こちら は	[name of a company/ occupation/title/relation] の	[name]さん です。
Kochira wa	[name of a company/ occupation/title/relation] *no*	[name]-*san desu.*
	"This is Mr./Ms. [name] from [name of a company/ occupation/title/relation]."	

わたし は	[name of a company/ occupation/title/relation] の	[name] です。
Watashi wa	[name of a company/ occupation/title/relation] *no*	[name] *desu.*
	"I'm [name] from [name of a company/occupation/ title/relation]."	

For Example:

1. こちら は トコタ の　ジェームズさん です。
   Kochira wa Tokota no Jēmuzu-san desu.
   "This is Mr. James from Tokota."

2. (わたし は)イノベーティブ のやしろ です。
(Watashi wa) Inobētibu no Yashiro desu.
"I'm Yashiro from Innovative."

Notes:

1. When it is obvious that the speaker is giving his or her own name, he or she doesn't have to say *watashi wa*, but when he or she is introducing someone, *kochira wa* must be used.

2. When you are introducing someone else, don't forget to add *-san* to the end of that person's name.

Formation: Extra Polite Pattern

(わたし は)	[Name of a company/ occupation/title/relation] の	[Name] と もうします。
(Watashi wa)	[Name of a company/ occupation/title/relation] *no*	[Name] *to mōshimasu.*
	"I'm [name] from [name of a company/occupation/ title/relation]."	

For Example:

1. イノベーティブ の やしろ と もうします。
Inobētibu no Yashiro to mōshimasu.
"I'm Yashiro from Innovative."

Note: You can use *to mōshimasu* only for your name.

Examples from This Dialogue

1. こちらはあかさかデザインの森さんです。
   Kochira wa Akasaka Dezain no Mori-san desu.
   "This is Ms. Mori from Akasaka Design."

2. Ken Woodともうします。
   Ken Wood to mōshimasu.
   "My name is Ken Wood."

3. 森です。
   Mori desu.
   "My name's Mori."

Reference

Please also review the following Grammar Points.

- *Hajimemashite* → Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 2
- *Yoroshiku onegaishimasu.* → Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 2
- *Kore wa…desu.* → Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 8
- *Dōzo.* → Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 8

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Meishi: "Business Cards"

Meishi means "business card" or "name card." Most Japanese working adults have one and exchange them when they meet someone for the first time, usually when they introduce themselves. A *meishi* usually has the person's name in big letters, the name of his or her company and department, and contact information. Some modern *meishi* are bilingual, while some unique ones are shaped like something related to the person's job.

There are some manners or rules involved with the giving and and receiving of *meishi*. One is that you should hand over your own *meishi* with both hands and also receive the other

person's card with both hands and bow to each other while doing so. This shows respect to the other person.

Do you have a *meishi*?

LESSON NOTES

Lower Beginner #4 Talking about Possession in Japanese

CONTENTS

2 Kanji
2 Kana
2 Romanization
3 English
3 Vocabulary
4 Sample Sentences
4 Vocabulary Phrase Usage
5 Grammar
7 Cultural Insight

4

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KANJI

1. (At a party)
2. MS.MORI: こちらはWood さんのおくさんですか。
3. KEN: おくさん？
4. MS. MORI: あ・・・ワイフ?
5. KEN: いいえ。かのじょです。かのじょのエミリー・マーティンです。
6. EMILY: エミリーとよんでください。よろしくおねがいします。
7. MS.MORI: 森 はな子です。森とよんでください。よろしくおねがいします。

KANA

1. (At a party)
2. MS.MORI: こちらはWoodさんのおくさんですか。
3. KEN: おくさん？
4. MS. MORI: あ・・・ワイフ?
5. KEN: いいえ。かのじょです。かのじょのエミリー・マーティンです。
6. EMILY: エミリーとよんでください。よろしくおねがいします。
7. MS.MORI: もり はなこです。もりとよんでください。よろしくおねがいします。

ROMANIZATION

CONT'D OVER

1. (At a party)

2. MS.MORI: Kochira wa Wood-san no okusan desu ka.

3. KEN: Okusan?

4. MS. MORI: A... waifu?

5. KEN: Iie. Kanojo desu. Kanojo no Emirī Mātin desu.

6. EMILY: Emirī to yonde kudasai. Yoroshiku onegai shimasu.

7. MS.MORI: Mori Hanako desu. Mori to yonde kudasai. Yoroshiku onegai shimasu.

ENGLISH

1. (At a party)

2. MS. MORI: Is this your okusan, Mr. Wood?

3. KEN: Okusan?

4. MS. MORI: Er...wife?

5. KEN: No. She's my girlfriend. This is my girlfriend, Emily Martin.

6. EMILY: Please call me Emily. It's very nice to meet you.

7. MS. MORI: I'm Hanako Mori. Please call me Mori. Pleased to meet you.

VOCABULARY

Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English
の	の	no	particle indicating possession
おくさん	おくさん	okusan	someone else’s wife
[name]～とよんでください	[name]～とよんでください	~to yonde kudasai	Please call me [name].
こちら	こちら	kochira	this, this person, this way (polite)
かのじょ	かのじょ	kanojo	girlfriend

SAMPLE SENTENCES

こちらは森さんのおくさんです。
Kochira wa Mori-san no okusan desu.

This is Mr. Mori's wife.

こちらはおくさんですか。
Kochira wa okusan desu ka?

Is this your wife?

ジョナサンとよんでください。
Jonasan to yonde kudasai.

Please call me Jonathan.

こちらは田中太郎さんです。
Kochira wa Tanaka Tarō-san desu.

This is Taro Tanaka.

かのじょのエマです。
Kanojo no Ema desu.

This is my girlfriend, Ema.

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

おくさん (*okusan*)
This is the polite term for "wife," which we usually use for other people's wives. The related word is *dan'na-san*, meaning "husband."

おくさん (*okusan*) "wife"
ごしゅじん (*go-shujin*) "husband"

かのじょ (*kanojo*)
kanojo means "girlfriend." The opposite word, "boyfriend," is *kareshi*. See more details on this in Lower Beginner Season 1 Lesson 1.

かのじょ (*kanojo*) "girlfriend"
かれし (*kareshi*) "boyfriend"

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is the Usage of the Particle *No*, Which Indicates Possession.

こちらはWood さんのおくさんですか。
Kochira wa Wood-san no okusan desu ka.
"Is this your okusan, Mr. Wood?"

In this lesson, you'll learn how to use the particle *no*, which indicates possession. You'll also learn useful expressions for when you introduce someone to other people as well as how to ask people to call you by a certain name.

Usage of the Possessive Particle *No*

To indicate possession, simply put the person or thing that "possesses" the other person/thing before *no* and add the person or the thing that is "possessed" after it. Please note that the order is the opposite of "the thing of [name]" but the same as "[name]'s thing" in English.

Japanese	*Romaji*	"English"
[A] の [B]	[A] *no* [B]	"A's B" "B of A"

For Example:

1. わたし の めいし
   watashi no meishi
   "my business card"

2. かいしゃ の パソコン
   kaisha no pasokon
   "the company's computer"

3. これはエミリーさんのかばんです。
Kore wa Emirī-san no kaban desu.
"This is Emily's bag."

Introducing Someone to Other People

To give your friend's, family member's, or partner's name to other people, state your relationship followed by *no* and continue with [name] *desu*, just the same as when stating your own name.

Japanese	*Romaji*	"English"
[relationship] の [name] です。	[relationship] *no* [name] *desu.*	"This is [my relationship to the person], [name]."

For Example:

1. かれし の ケン です。
Kareshi no Ken desu.
"This is my boyfriend, Ken."

2. いもうと の ミランダ です。
Imouto no Miranda desu.
"This is my younger sister, Miranda."

3. かない の はな子 です。
Kanai no Hanako desu.
"This is my wife, Hanako."

Telling Your Nickname

To tell people what you'd like them to call you, simply state your name followed by *to yonde kudasai*.

Japanese	*Romaji*	"English"
[name] と よんで ください	[name] *to yonde kudasai.*	"Please call me [name]."

For Example:

1. ケンと よんで ください。
   Ken to yonde kudasai.
   "Please call me Ken."

2. ウッド と よんで ください。
   Uddo to yonde kudasai.
   "Please call me Wood."

Examples from This Dialogue

---

1. こちら は Wood さん の おくさん です か。
   Kochira wa Wood-san no okusan desu ka.
   "Is this your okusan, Mr. Wood?"

2. かのじょ の エミリー・マーティン です。
   Kanojo no Emirī Mātin desu.
   "This is my girlfriend, Emily Martin."

3. エミリー と よんで ください。
   Emirī to yonde kudasai.
   "Please call me Emily."

Reference

Please also review the following Grammar Points.

- Particle *no* → Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 10
- *kochira* → Lower Beginner Season 1 Lesson 3
- *Yoroshiku onegaishimasu.* → Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 2

CULTURAL INSIGHT

How to Refer to Your

Wife

As you see in the dialogue, Ms. Mori used *okusan* to refer to Ken's partner. *Okusan* is the term we most commonly use to address someone else's wife. However, husbands don't use *okusan* to refer to their own wives. Instead, husbands use つま (*tsuma*) or かない (*kanai*). In Japanese, we use respectful terms to refer to other people's family members and non-respectful terms to refer to our own. *Okusan* is a respectful term, so we use it for someone else's wife, whereas *kanai* and *tsuma* are non-respectful, so we use them to refer to the speaker's wife.

In the same way, we use ごしゅじん (*go-shujin*) to refer to someone else's husband, while we use しゅじん (*shujin*) or だんな (*dan'na*) to refer to the speaker's own husband.

LESSON NOTES

Lower Beginner #5
What's Your Japanese Address?

CONTENTS

2 Kanji
2 Kana
3 Romanization
3 English
4 Vocabulary
4 Sample Sentences
5 Vocabulary Phrase Usage
5 Grammar
7 Cultural Insight

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KANJI

1. (taxi)

2. EMILY: イノベーティブマンションまで、おねがいします。

3. TAXI DRIVER: イノベーティブマンション？
じゅうしょはなんですか。

4. EMILY: これです。（handing an address)

5. TAXI DRIVER: あかさか一の二の三。。。

6. TAXI DRIVER: はい、つきました。1380えんです。

7. KEN: せん、さんびゃく、はちじゅうえん・・・はい。
すみません、りょうしゅうしょ、おねがいします。

KANA

1. (taxi)

2. EMILY: イノベーティブマンションまで、おねがいします。

3. TAXI DRIVER: イノベーティブマンション？
じゅうしょはなんですか。

4. EMILY: これです。（handing an address)

5. TAXI DRIVER: あかさかいちのにのさん。。。

6. TAXI DRIVER: はい、つきました。1380えんです。

CONT'D OVER

7. KEN: せん、さんびゃく、はちじゅうえん・・・はい。
すみません、りょうしゅうしょ、おねがいします。

ROMANIZATION

1. (taxi)

2. EMILY: Inobētibu manshon made, onegai shimasu.

3. TAXI DRIVER: Inobētibu manshon?
Jūsho wa nan desu ka.

4. EMILY: Kore desu.(handing an address)

5. TAXI DRIVER: Akasaka ichi no ni no san...

6. TAXI DRIVER: Hai, tsukimashita. Sen sanbyaku hachijū en desu.

7. KEN: Sen, sanbyaku, hachijū en... hai.
Sumimasen, ryōshūsho, onegai shimasu.

ENGLISH

1. (taxi)

2. EMILY: To Innovative Mansion, please.

3. TAXI DRIVER: Innovative Mansion?
What's the address?

4. EMILY: This is it. (handing an address)

CONT'D OVER

5. TAXI DRIVER: Akasaka 1-2-3...

6. TAXI DRIVER: Here we are…1,380 yen, please.

7. KEN: One thousand, three hundred, eighty yen...OK.
Excuse me, can I have a receipt, please?

VOCABULARY

Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English
おねがいします	おねがいします	onegai shimasu	please
じゅうしょ	じゅうしょ	jūsho	address, residence
すみません。	すみません。	Sumimasen.	Excuse me. I'm sorry.
マンション	マンション	manshon	apartment, condominium building
つきます	つきます	tsukimasu	to get to, to arrive at, to reach;V1
りょうしゅうしょ	りょうしゅうしょ	ryōshūsho	receipt

SAMPLE SENTENCES

みずとメニュー、おねがいします。 *Mizu to menyū, onegai shimasu.* Some water and a menu, please.	マンションのじゅうしょはなんですか。 *Manshon no jūsho wa nan desu ka.* What's the address of your apartment?
ほんとうにすみません。 *Hontō ni sumimasen.* I'm really sorry.	ともだちのマンションにいきました。 *Tomodachi no manshon ni ikimashita.* I went to my friend's apartment.

日ほんにつきました。 *Nihon ni tsukimashita.* I arrived at Japan.	りょうしゅうしょ、おねがいします。 *Ryōshūsho, onegai shimasu.* Receipt, please.

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

[place] まで **おねがいし**ます。**([place]** ***made onegai shimasu.*****)**

To tell the taxi driver where you want to go, simply state the place, followed by ・・・まで おねがいします。(*...made onegai shimasu.*). *Made* literally means "until" or "to." The rest of this phrase, *onegai shimasu*, meaning "please," is one of the useful phrases for when you ask someone to do something.

For Example:

1. しぶや まで おねがいします。
   Shibuya made onegai shimasu.
   "To Shibuya, please."

2. なりたくうこう まで おねがいします。
   Narita kūkō made onegai shimasu.
   "To Narita airport, please."

これ (*kore*)

Kore means "this." As you saw in the dialogue, we usually use *kore* when the speaker is pointing out something close to him or her. Also, as we saw in Lesson 2 of this series, *sore* is "that," which indicates something far from the speaker but close to the listener, while *are* is "that (over there)," something which is relatively far away from both speakers. Please also check out Absolute Beginner series Season 1 Lesson 11 for a detailed usage explanation.

Japanese	***Romanization***	**"English"**
これ	*kore*	"this"
それ	*sore*	"that"
あれ	*are*	"that (over there)"

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is Asking What Something Is.

じゅうしょはなんですか。

Jūsho wa nan desu ka.

"What's the address?"

In this lesson, you'll learn how to ask what something is, using the ---*wa nan desu ka* sentence structure.

Asking What Something Is

To ask what something is, simply state what you would like to know and follow it with ---*wa nan desu ka*. See also Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 11.

Japanese	[something] は なんです か。
Romaji	[something] *wa nan desu ka?*
"English"	"What's [thing]?"

To give the answer, you say what the thing is, then add *desu*.

For Example:

1. すみません、それはなんですか。
   Sumimasen, sore wa nan desu ka.
   "Excuse me, but what's that?"

2. すみません、あれはなんですか。
   Sumimasen, are wa nan desu ka.
   "Excuse me, but what's that (over there)?"

3. しゅみはなんですか。
   Shumi wa nan desu ka.
   "What's your hobby?"

Examples from This Dialogue

---

1. イノベーティブマンション？ じゅうしょはなんですか。。
   Inobētibu manshon? Jūsho wa nan desu ka.
   "Innovative Mansion? What's the address?"

Reference

Please also review the following Grammar Points.

- *kore* → Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 11
- *onegai shimasu* → Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 5
- *Kore wa nan desu ka.* → Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 11
- Numbers 0 to 10 → Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 17
- Numbers 100 to 900 → Absolute Beginner Season 2 Lesson 11
- Past tense of verb → Absolute Beginner Season 2 Lesson 19

CULTURAL INSIGHT

What Does *Manshon* Mean in Japan?

On hearing the word "mansion," you might imagine a huge, fancy house. However, the Japanese word マンション (*manshon*) indicates a residential building that has many apartments inside it, which we would call an "apartment block" or "block of flats" in English. On the other hand, we call "detached houses" いっけんや (*ikkenya*). So if your Japanese friend says "I live in a '*manshon*'," don't be surprised. It usually just means that s/he lives in a normal apartment!

LESSON NOTES

Lower Beginner #6 Which Floor of this Japanese Building Do You Live On?

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2 Kanji
2 Kana
3 Romanization
4 English
4 Vocabulary
5 Sample Sentences
5 Vocabulary Phrase Usage
7 Grammar
8 Cultural Insight

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KANJI

1. (elevator)

2. OLD MAN: なんかいですか？

3. EMILY: 四かい、おねがいします。

4. OLD MAN: はい?

5. EMILY: 四、おねがいします。

6. OLD MAN: 四かい？４０１（よんまるいち）ごうしつ？

7. EMILY: はい。

8. OLD MAN: わたしは４０２ごうしつのはやしです。
となりですね。どうぞよろしく。

9. EMILY: エミリー・マーティンです。せんしゅう、日ほんにきました。
よろしくおねがいします。

KANA

1. (elevator)

2. OLD MAN: なんかいですか？

3. EMILY: よんかい、おねがいします。

4. OLD MAN: はい?

CONT'D OVER

5. EMILY: よん、おねがいします。

6. OLD MAN: よんかい？４０１（よんまるいち）ごうしつ？

7. EMILY: はい。

8. OLD MAN: わたしは４０２ごうしつのはやしです。
となりですね。どうぞよろしく。

9. EMILY: エミリー・マーティンです。せんしゅう、にほんにきました。
よろしくおねがいします。

ROMANIZATION

1. (elevator)

2. OLD MAN: Nan-kai desu ka?

3. EMILY: Yon-kai, onegai shimasu.

4. OLD MAN: Hai?

5. EMILY: Yon, onegai shimasu.

6. OLD MAN: Yon-kai? Yon maru ichi-gōshitsu?

7. EMILY: Hai.

8. OLD MAN: Watashi wa yon maru ni-gōshitsu no Hayashi desu.
Tonari desu ne. Dōzo yoroshiku.

CONT'D OVER

9. EMILY: Emirī Mātin desu. Senshū, Nihon ni kimashita. Yoroshiku onegai shimasu.

ENGLISH

1. (elevator)

2. OLD MAN: What floor?

3. EMILY: Fourth floor, please.

4. OLD MAN: Sorry?

5. EMILY: Four, please.

6. OLD MAN: Fourth floor? Apartment four-oh-one?

7. EMILY: Yes.

8. OLD MAN: I'm Hayashi from apartment four-oh-two. We're neighbors. Pleased to meet you.

9. EMILY: I'm Emily Martin. I came to Japan last week. It's very nice to meet you.

VOCABULARY

Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English
かい	かい	kai	counter for floors of a building
ごうしつ	ごうしつ	gōshitsu	suffix for room numbers

せんしゅう	せんしゅう	senshū	last week
どうぞよろしく	どうぞよろしく	Dōzo yoroshiku	Please be kind to me
となり	となり	tonari	next to, neighbour, neighbouring

SAMPLE SENTENCES

なんかいですか。 *Nan-kai desu ka.* Which floor?	わたしのへやは501ごうしつです。 *Watashi no heya wa gō maru ichi-gōshitsu desu.* My room is Room 501.
せんしゅう、日ほんにきました。 *Senshū, Nihon ni kimashita.* I came to Japan last week.	わたしのとなりははやしさんです。 *Watashi no tonari wa Hayashi-san desu.* My neighbour is Mr. Hayashi.

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

[number of floor] かい (*~kai*, suffix for a floor number)
In Japanese, when you count nouns (as in "one table," "two tables," for example), you have to add a word known as a "counter" to the number. In the dialogue, we had よんかい (*yon-kai*), meaning "fourth floor." This is made up of *yon* ("four") and *kai,* the counter for "floor." Here's how to say the other floors of a building. We covered the numbers from zero to ten in Absolute Beginner Season 2 Lesson 1.

Japanese	***Romanization***	**"English"**
いっかい	*ikkai*	"first floor"
にかい	*ni-kai*	"second floor"
さんがい・さんかい	*san-gai/san-kai*	"third floor"
よんかい	*yon-kai*	"fourth floor"
ごかい	*go-kai*	"fifth floor"

なんかい	*nan-kai*	"which floor"

Check out more details on *-kai* in Absolute Beginner Season 2 Lesson 14.

[number of room] ごうしつ (*～gōshitsu,* suffix for a room number)

～gōshitsu, a suffix for one's room number, means "room [number]." Unlike English, it comes after the number rather than before. When you ask which number someone lives at, use *nan-gōshitsu.* Let's take a look at some examples.

For Example:

Room Number	Japanese	*Romanization*
"Room 1"	いち + ごうしつ	*ichi-gōshitsu*
"Room 2"	に　+　ごうしつ	*ni-gōshitsu*
"Room 3"	さん　+　ごうしつ	*san-gōshitsu*
"Room 4"	よん　+　ごうしつ	*yon-gōshitsu*
"Room 5"	ご　+　ごうしつ	*go-gōshitsu*
"Room 6"	ろく　+　ごうしつ	*roku-gōshitsu*
"Room 7"	なな　+　ごうしつ	*nana-gōshitsu*
"Room 8"	はち　+　ごうしつ	*hachi-gōshitsu*
"Room 9"	きゅう　+　ごうしつ	*kyū-gōshitsu*
"Room 10"	じゅう　+　ごうしつ	*jū-gōshitsu*
"which room"	なん + ごうしつ	*nan-gōshitsu*

まる (*maru*, as in number 0)

Maru means "zero," as in the number: for example, in a room number; when referring to "Levi 501 jeans" (ごまるいち); and when referring to "JapanesePod101.com" (いちまるいち). If your apartment number has a zero in it, you use *maru*, instead of *rei* or *zero*.

For Example:

Number	Japanese	*Romanization*
Room 101	いち + まる + いち + ごうしつ	*ichi maru ichi-gōshitsu*
Room 2043	に + まる + よん + さん + ごうしつ	*ni maru yon san-gōshitsu*
Room 505	ご + まる + ご + ごうしつ	*go maru go-gōshitsu*

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is Asking About Numbers With the Counter for Floor/ Room.

なんかいですか？

Nan kai desu ka?

"What floor?"

In this lesson, you'll learn how to ask numbers with counters, using the [number] *kai desu ka?* sentence structure.

Asking a Floor

To ask what floor someone is going to, simply use the following phrase.

Japanese	*Romaji*	"English"
なんかい です か。	*Nan-kai desu ka?*	"What floor?"
さんかい です。	*San-kai desu.*	"Third floor?"

To answer this question, give the number with the counter *-kai*. You can change the counter *-kai* into other counters to ask about, for example, room number or age. Please have a look at the Key Vocabulary and Phrases section for how to say room numbers and Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 17 for how to say ages.

For Example:

1. A: なんかい です か。
Nan kai desu ka?
"What floor?"
B: ごかい、おねがい します。
Go-kai, onegai shimasu.
"Fifth floor, please."

2. A: なんごうしつ です か。
Nan-gōshitsu desu ka?
"What room?"
B: 501ごうしつ です。
Go maru ichi-gōshitsu desu.
"Room 501."

3. A: かれ の へや は なんかい です か。
Kare no heya wa nan-kai desu ka?
"What floor is your boyfriend's apartment?"
B: 25かい です。
Ni-jū go-kai desu.
"Twenty-fifth floor."

Reference

Please also review the following Grammar Points.

- suffix, *-kai* → Absolute Beginner Season 2 Lesson 14
- *onegai shimasu* → Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 5
- particle *no* → Lower Beginner Season 1 Lesson 4
- past tense of verb → Absolute Beginner Season 2 Lesson 19
- [place] *ni kimasu* → Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 23
- *Yoroshiku onegaishimasu.* → Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 2

CULTURAL INSIGHT

How Do You Say Floor Numbers in Japanese?

As you saw in the dialogue, people use the suffix *-kai* when they say floor numbers in Japanese. But what do you call the floor you find yourself on when you first enter a building through the front door? Americans would call it "the first floor," while Europeans call it "the ground floor." What do you think Japanese people call that floor? The answer is *ikkai*, which is "one" plus the floor number counter *-kai*. So, in short, the Japanese way is the same as the American way. In addition, in Japan, the basement floors are called ちか [number] かい (*chika [number] kai)*. If a department store has two levels underground and two levels above ground, people refer to them from the deepest floor up as *chika ni-kai*, *chika ikkai*, *ikkai*, and *ni-kai.*

LESSON NOTES

Lower Beginner #7
Playing by 'The Rules' in Japan

CONTENTS

2 Kanji
2 Kana
3 Romanization
3 English
4 Vocabulary
4 Sample Sentences
5 Vocabulary Phrase Usage
6 Grammar
8 Cultural Insight

7

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KANJI

1. (train)

2. MS. MORI: Woodさん？森です。

3. KEN WOOD: あ…おはようございます。
それは、えいごの本ですか。

4. MS. MORI: え？(laugh)はい。

5. KEN WOOD: "The Rules"?? もりさんのですか。

6. MS. MORI: わたしのではありません。ともだちのです。

7. KEN WOOD: へー。（laugh)

8. MS. MORI: わたしはどくしんじゃないです。でも、これはおもしろいです。

KANA

1. (train)

2. MS. MORI: Woodさん？もりです。

3. KEN WOOD: あ…おはようございます。
それは、えいごのほんですか。

4. MS. MORI: え？(laugh)はい。

5. KEN WOOD: "The Rules"?? もりさんのですか。

CONT'D OVER

6. MS. MORI: わたしのではありません。ともだちのです。

7. KEN WOOD: へー。（laugh)

8. MS. MORI: わたしはどくしんじゃないです。でも、これはおもしろいです。

ROMANIZATION

1. (train)

2. MS. MORI: Wood san? Mori desu.

3. KEN WOOD: A... Ohayō gozaimasu.
Sore wa, eigo no hon desu ka.

4. MS. MORI: E?(laugh) Hai.

5. KEN WOOD: "The Rules"?? Mori-san no desu ka.

6. MS. MORI: Watashi no de wa arimasen. Tomodachi no desu.

7. KEN WOOD: Hē.(laugh)

8. MS. MORI: Watashi wa dokushin ja nai desu. Demo, kore wa omoshiroi desu.

ENGLISH

1. (train)

2. MS. MORI: Mr. Wood? It's me, Mori.

CONT'D OVER

3. KEN WOOD: Oh....good morning.
Is that book in English?

4. MS. MORI: Huh?(laugh) Yes.

5. KEN WOOD: "The Rules"? Is that yours?

6. MS. MORI: It's not mine. It's my friend's.

7. KEN WOOD: Is that right.(laugh)

8. MS. MORI: I'm not single. But this is an interesting book.

VOCABULARY

Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English
えいご	えいご	Eigo	English (language)
ともだち	ともだち	tomodachi	friend
おもしろい	おもしろい	omoshiroi	funny, interesting, amusing;Adj(i)
の	の	no	particle indicating possession
本	ほん	hon	book
どくしん	どくしん	dokushin	single, unmarried,

SAMPLE SENTENCES

えいごがわかりますか。 *Eigo ga wakarimasu ka.* Do you understand English?	ともだちのマンションにいきました。 *Tomodachi no manshon ni ikimashita.* I went to my friend's apartment.

日本のテレビコマーシャルはおもしろい。 *Nihon no terebi komāsharu wa omoshiroi.* Japanese TV commercials are interesting.	こちらは森さんのおくさんです。 *Kochira wa Mori-san no okusan desu.* This is Mr. Mori's wife.
この本はいくらですか。 *Kono hon wa ikura desu ka.* How much is this book?	たなかさん は どくしん です。 *Takana-san wa dokushin desu.* Mr. Tanaka is not married.

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

えいご (*eigo*)
This is the word for "the English language" in Japanese. It ends with the suffix that means "language," *go* (ご). Let's check out the related vocabulary.

Japanese	*Romanization*	"English"
日本ご	*Nihongo*	"the Japanese language"
中ごくご	*Chūgokugo*	"the Chinese/Mandarin language"
かんこくご	*Kankokugo*	"the Korean language"
フランスご	*Furansugo*	"the French language"
スペインご	*Supeingo*	"the Spanish language"

へー (*hee*)
This means "Really?" "Neat!" or "Wow!" See other common words and phrases we commonly use in response to what someone says in a conversation in Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 16.

でも *(demo)*
This means "but." Just as in conversational English, it can come at the beginning of a sentence to introduce a contrasting statement.

どくしん *(dokushin)*

This means "single" or "not married." The opposite phrase is けっこんしています(*kekkon shite imasu*), meaning "married."

For Example:

1. A: どくしん です か。
   Dokushin desu ka?
   "Are you single?"
   B: はい。そうです。
   Hai, sō desu.
   "Yes."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is the Negative Sentence.
わたしの では ありません。
Watashi no de wa arimasen.
"It's not mine."

This grammar point covers the negative versions of the *A wa B desu*, "A is B" structure, which are *A wa B de wa arimasen* and the slightly more informal *ja arimasen* and *ja nai desu*.

Japanese	*Romaji*	"English"
A は B では ありません。	*A wa B de wa arimasen.*	"A isn't B."
A は B じゃ ありません。	*A wa B ja arimasen.*	"A isn't B."
A は B じゃ ない です。	*A wa B ja nai desu.*	"A isn't B."

*You can replace A and B with any nouns or noun phrases.
*Although all of these expressions are polite, ではありません (*de wa arimasen*) is the most polite.

For Example:

1. これは ケンさんの 本 では ありません。
   Kore wa Ken-san no hon de wa arimasen.
   "This isn't Ken's book."

2. わたしは アメリカ人 じゃない です。オーストラリア人 です。
Watashi wa Amerika-jin ja nai desu. Ōsutoraria-jin desu.
"I'm not American. I'm Australian."

Review: The Particle *No*

You learned how to say that something belongs to someone in Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 10. This time, let's have a look at an extended usage of の, which enables you to omit the following noun to avoid repeating the same word twice. In today's dialogue, it is clear that the speaker is talking about a book, even though the speaker used *no* and omitted the actual noun *hon*, meaning "book." We usually use this phrase when answering questions.

For Example:

1. A: これ は キムさん の かばん です か。
Kore wa Kim-san no kaban desu ka.
"Is this Kim's bag?"
B: はい、 キムさん の です。
Hai, Kim-san no desu.
"Yes, it's Kim's."

2. A: それ は 森本さん の パソコン です か。
Sore wa Morimoto-san no pasokon desu ka.
"Is that your computer, Mr. Morimoto?"
B: いいえ、 わたし の じゃ ない です。
Iie, watashi no ja nai desu.
"No, it's not mine."

Examples From This Dialogue

---

1. Ken Wood:"The Rules"?? もりさん の です か。
"The Rules?"? Mori-san no desu ka.
"'The Rules'? Is that yours?"
Ms. Mori: わたし の で は ありません。 ともだち の です。
Watashi no de wa arimasen. Tomodachi no desu.
"It's not mine. It's my friend's."

2. わたし は どくしん じゃ ない です。
Watashi wa dokushin ja nai desu.
"I'm not single."

Reference

Please also review the following Grammar Points.

- suffix *-go* → Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 24
- particle *no* → Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 10
- *hee* → Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 16
- *demo* → Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 14
- usage of adjectives → Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 15

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Commuting Train/Commuter Trains

A commuter train is called つうきんでんしゃ (*tsūkin densha*) or つうきんれっしゃ (*tsūkin ressha*) in Japanese. Most people use trains to go to work and school, especially in big cities. This is partly because bad traffic jams tend to occur in city areas during rush hours and because trains usually run very punctually. During the morning rush hour, most people move from the suburb where they live to the city where their offices or schools are. You'll see how a small space can be packed with people! A packed train is called まんいんでんしゃ (*man'in densha*) in Japanese.

LESSON NOTES

Lower Beginner #8
What's Wrong with this Japanese Spoon?

CONTENTS

Kanji
English
Rōmaji
Hiragana
Vocabualry
Vocabulary phrase usage
Grammar
Cultural insight

#8

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KANJI

1. (lunch place)
2. Colleague: さかなていしょく。
3. Ken: カレーライス　と　つめたいおちゃ・・・ください。
4. Waitress: 水とおちゃはセルフサービスです。あそこにあります。
5. Ken: はい。
6. ...
7. Waitress: おまたせしました。カレーライスです。
8. Ken: このスプーン…。
9. （Looks at a dirty spoon)すみません。きれいなスプーンください。

ENGLISH

1. (lunch place)
2. Colleague: The fish set lunch.
3. Ken: Curry and rice and cold tea... please.
4. Waitress: Water and tea are self-serve. They're over there.
5. Ken: OK.
6. ...
7. Waitress: Sorry for the wait. Here's your curry and rice.
8. Ken: This spoon....
9. (Looks at a dirty spoon) Excuse me. Please give me a clean spoon.

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RŌMAJI

1. (lunch place)
2. Colleague: Sakana teishoku.
3. Ken: Karē raisu to tsumetai ocha... kudasai.
4. Waitress: Mizu to ocha wa serufu sābisu desu. Asoko ni arimasu.
5. Ken: Hai.
6. ...
7. Waitress: Omatase shimashita. Karē raisu desu.
8. Ken: Kono supūn....
9. (Looks at a dirty spoon) Sumimasen. Kirei na supūn kudasai.

HIRAGANA

1. (lunch place)
2. Colleague: さかなていしょく。
3. Ken: カレーライス　と　つめたいおちゃ・・・ください。
4. Waitress: みずとおちゃはセルフサービスです。あそこにあります。
5. Ken: はい。
6. ...
7. Waitress: おまたせしました。カレーライスです。
8. Ken: このスプーン…。
9. （Looks at a dirty spoon)すみません。きれいなスプーンください。

VOCABULARY

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Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English	Class
スプーン	スプーン	supūn	spoon	noun
カレーライス	かれーらいす	karē raisu	Japanese curry and rice	
きれい	きれい	kirei	beautiful;Adj(na)	adjective (na)
さかな	さかな	sakana	fish	
おちゃ	おちゃ	o-cha	tea (usually green tea)	
つめたい	つめたい	tsumetai	cold (to the touch), chilly, icy;Adj(i)	
ください	ください	kudasai	please (give me), please (do for me)	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

スプーンでスープを飲んだ。 *Supūn de sūpu o nonda.* I ate soup with a spoon.	きのう、カレーライスをたべました。 *Kinō, karē raisu o tabemashita.* I had Japanese curry and rice yesterday.
このイヤリングはきれいです。 *Kono iyaringu wa kirei desu.* These earrings are beautiful.	わたしはさかなをたべません。 *Watashi wa sakana o tabemasen.* I don't eat fish.
おちゃはあそこにあります。 *O-cha wa asoko ni arimasu.* Tea is over there.	つめたいミルクください。 *Tsumetai miruku kudasai.* Cold milk, please.
カフェラテのショートください。 *Kaffe rate no shōto kudasai.* A small cafe latte, please.	

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

★ セルフサービス (*serufusābisu*) "serufusaabisu(Japanese English)
This is a Japanese-English word, or 和製英語 (wasei eigo) made from the English words "self" and "service". It refers to a system wherein customers help themselves to something, such as a buffet service, or drinks such as water, tea, and so on.

★ おまたせしました。 (*O-mataseshimashita.*)
We use this set phrase in Japanese when we have kept someone waiting. It corresponds to "I'm sorry to have kept you waiting" or "Thank you for waiting". So in the lesson dialogue, the waitress is using this phrase because she wants to be polite to the customer (Ken) about having kept him waiting. However, it's a standard phrase in Japanese customer service, and is used even when the customer has barely waited a few seconds - for their change in a convenience store, for example.

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★ この (*kono*)

This means "this", but please note that while kore, sore, and are, are used, grammatically speaking, as nouns on their own, kono, sono, and
ano cannot be used on their own. They must precede a noun.

English	can be used on their own	need to be followed by noun
"this..."	これ *kore*	この + [noun] kono [noun]
"that..."	それ *sore*	その + [noun] *sono +*[noun]
"that...over there"	あれ *are*	あの + [noun] *ano +* [noun]
"which..."	どれ *dore*	どの + [noun] *dono +* [noun]

Examples: when ordering soup, pointing at the menu.

これください。
Kore kudasai.
"This please."

このスープください。
Kono sūpu kudasai.
"This soup, please."

GRAMMAR

The focus of this lesson is the usage of adjectives followed by nouns.
きれいなスプーンください。
Kirei na supūn kudasai.
"Please give me a clean spoon."

In this lesson, we will learn another usage of adjectives. As you learnt in Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 15, you can use adjectives with the structure, [A] *wa* [adjective] *desu*, which means "[A] is [adjective]."

Japanese	[A] は [adjective] です。
Romanization	[A] *wa* [adjective] *desu*
"English"	"[A] is [adjective]"

In this pattern,
A = the item being talked about (a party, the dog, Japan, sushi, etc.)
B = what you are describing it as (hot, cold, small, fun, interesting, etc.)

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Today's sentence pattern is for describing a noun with an adjective to say for example "cold water" or "a clean spoon". There are two types of adjectives in Japanese: [-i adjectives] and [-na adjectives]. However, the usages are the same when they are used to describe a following noun. Please note that [-i adjectives] end with -i and [-na adjectives] end with -na when they come before nouns.

[-i adjectives] ＋ [noun]

1. つめたい ＋ みず
   tsumetai ＋ *mizu*
   "cold water"
2. あたたかい ＋ コーヒー
   atatakai ＋ *kōhī*
   "hot coffee" *atatakai literally means "warm", but when it is referring to a drink, it means "hot".

[-na adjectives] ＋ な ＋ [noun]

1. きれい ＋ な ＋ スプーン
   kirei + *na* ＋ *supūn*
   "clean spoon"
2. とくべつ ＋ な ＋ ていしょく
   tokubetsu + *na* ＋ *teishoku*
   "special meal set"

Here is the list of i- and na- adjectives. Let's take a look at it!

[-*i* adjectives]

Japanese	*Romanization*	English
あたたかい	*atatakai*	warm
あつい	*atsui*	hot
ちいさい	*chiisai*	small
いい	*ii*	good
おいしい	*oishii*	delicious
おおきい	*ookii*	large
おもしろい	*omoshiroi*	interesting
つめたい	*tsumetai*	cold
わるい	*warui*	bad
やすい	*yasui*	cheap

[-*na* adjectives]

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べんりな	*benri na*	convenient
だいじな	*daiji na*	important
いろいろな	*iroiro na*	various
かんたんな	*kantan na*	easy, simple
きらいな	*kirai na*	unlikeable
きれいな	*kirei na*	clean, beautiful
すきな	*suki na*	likable
ゆうめいな	*yuumei na*	famous

For Example:

1. あたたかい コーヒー ください。
   Atatakai kōhī kudasai.
   "Hot coffee please."
2. とくべつな ていしょく ありますか。
   Tokubetsu na teishoku arimasu ka.
   "Do you have any special meal set?"
3. すきな たべもの は なん ですか。
   Suki na tabemono wa nan desu ka.
   "What is your favorite food?"

How To Ask For Something

Let's take a look at the pattern [item] + *kudasai*, meaning "[item] please." You can use it simply put it after the item you like to ask for. Do you remember we learned the similar phrase in Absolute Beginner series Season 1 lesson 5? It was [item] + *onegai shimasu*. Their usage and function is almost the same but *kudasai* implies "give me" more than *onegai shimasu* does.

Japanese	[item] ください。
Romanization	[item] *kudasai*.
"English"	"Please give me [item]."

For Example:

1. コーヒーください。
   Kōhī kudasai.
   "Please give me coffee."

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2. やきにくていしょくください。
   Yakiniku teishoku kudasai.
   "Please give me a set meal of fried meat."

Reference

Please also review the following Grammar Points.

- [place] *ni arimasu* → Absolute Beginner Season 2 Lesson 14

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Japanese set meal, teishoku

Teishoku is the most common style of meal in Japan, especially at lunch time. It usually has a main dish, a bowl of rice, miso soup, and a couple of side dishes. The combination of the dishes are planned, and it is usually cheaper than ordering these dishes separately. Some restaurants, called *teishokuya*, offers free refills of rice and miso soup. Teishoku are seen as a great help for salaried workers and college students because of its excellent balance of value for money, volume, and nutrition. If you see a sign reading 定食 (teishoku) at a restaurant, that means it has set meals.

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LESSON NOTES

Lower Beginner #9
The Scariest Little Dog in Japan

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KANJI

1. (Park)

2. (Dog barks)

3. EMILY: きゃ！

4. BOY(ABOUT 6 YEARS OLD): こら！ゴハン！
おねえさん、ごめんなさい。だいじょうぶ？

5. EMILY: だいじょうぶです。
小さいですね。これ、チワワですか。

6. BOY: ううん。パピヨン。

7. (Dog barks)

8. EMILY: きゃ！

9. BOY: ゴハン！しーっ！...

10. EMILY: (Hem)ゴハンはこのいぬのなまえですか。

11. BOY: うん。ソン・ゴハン。
...おねえさん、いぬ、こわい？

12. EMILY: こ、こ、こわくないですよ。かわいいですよ。

KANA

1. (Park)

CONT'D OVER

2. (Dog barks)

3. EMILY: きゃ！

4. BOY(ABOUT 6 YEARS OLD): こら！ゴハン！
おねえさん、ごめんなさい。だいじょうぶ？

5. EMILY: だいじょうぶです。
ちいさいですね。これ、チワワですか。

6. BOY: ううん。パピヨン。

7. (Dog barks)

8. EMILY: きゃ！

9. BOY: ゴハン！しーっ！...

10. EMILY: (Hem)ゴハンはこのいぬのなまえですか。

11. BOY: うん。ソン・ゴハン。
...おねえさん、いぬ、こわい？

12. EMILY: こ、こ、こわくないですよ。かわいいですよ。

ROMANIZATION

1. (Park)

2. (Dog barks)

CONT'D OVER

3. EMILY: Kya!

4. BOY(ABOUT 6 YEARS OLD): Kora! Gohan!
Onēsan, gomen nasai.Daijōbu?

5. EMILY: Daijōbu desu. Chīsai desu ne. Kore, chiwawa desu ka.

6. BOY: Uun. Papiyon.

7. (Dog barks)

8. EMILY: Kya!

9. BOY: Gohan! Shī!...

10. EMILY: (Hem) Gohan wa kono inu no namae desu ka.

11. BOY: Un. Son Gohan.
...Onēsan, inu, kowai?

12. EMILY: Ko, ko, kowakunai desu yo. Kawaii desu yo.

ENGLISH

1. (Park)

2. (Dog barks)

3. EMILY MARTIN: Ahh!

4. BOY (ABOUT SIX YEARS OLD): Hey! Gohan!
I'm sorry, Miss. Are you all right?

CONT'D OVER

5. EMILY MARTIN: I'm fine.
It's really small, isn't it? Is it a chihuahua?

6. BOY: Nope. It's a papillon.

7. (Dog barks)

8. EMILY MARTIN: Ahh!

9. BOY: Gohan! Shh!

10. EMILY MARTIN: (Hem) Is "Gohan" this dog's name?

11. BOY: Yeah. Son Gohan.
Miss, are you scared of dogs?

12. EMILY MARTIN: They're n-n-not scary! They're cute!

VOCABULARY

Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English
こら！	こら！	kora	(very casual) hey!, oi!
こわい	こわい	kowai	(someone is) scared, afraid, (something is) scary, frightening;Adj (i)
おねえさん	おねえさん	o-nē-san	you (when addressing a young woman), young lady, miss
よ	よ	yo	particle to add emphasis
ごめんなさい。	ごめんなさい。	Gomen nasai.	I'm sorry.

小さい	ちいさい	chiisai	small, tiny, little;Adj(i)
だいじょうぶ	だいじょうぶ	daijōbu	all right , O.K.;Adj(na)
なまえ	なまえ	namae	name

SAMPLE SENTENCES

こら!　おこりますよ。 *Kora! Okorimasu yo.* (a mother to her kids) Hey!	これは こわい えいが です。 *Kore wa kowai eiga desu.* This is scary movie.
おねえさん、だいじょうぶ？ *O-nē-san, daijōbu?* Are you all right, miss?	そうですよ。 *Sō desu yo.* That's right, you know.
おねえさん、ごめんなさい。 *O-nē-san, gomen nasai.* I'm sorry.	パピヨンは小さいいぬです。 *Papiyon wa chiisai inu desu.* A papillon is a small dog.
わたしはだいじょうぶです。 *Watashi wa daijōbu desu.* I'm all right.	わたしの いぬの なまえは ポチです。 *Watashi no inu no namae wa Pochi desu.* My dog's name is Pochi.

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

Sentence-ending particles －よ (*-yo*) and ーね (*-ne*)

These single-letter elements are called particles. -*Yo* is a sentence-ending particle that emphasizes the speaker's assertion. It is similar to the exclamation mark, "!." Another, *-ne*, indicates an expression of admiration or agreement with the other person. It is similar to the English tag questions "isn't it?" and "doesn't it?" and so forth. Absolute Beginner Season 2 Lesson 17 and Season 1 Lesson 20 also cover *-yo* and *-ne*, respectively.

For Example:

1. ちいさいですね。
   Chiisai desu ne.
   "It's really small, isn't it?"

2. こわくないですよ。
   Kowakunai desu yo.
   "It's not scary!"

だいじょうぶ (*daijōbu*)
This is one of the most commonly used words in Japanese; it means "all right" or "OK." You can use it as a question and also as an answer, as you can see in the dialogue. Make sure to say it with appropriate intonation depending on the usage. Let's review other usages as seen in Absolute Beginner Season 1, Lesson 12.

For Example:

1. A: だいじょうぶ？↑
   Daijōbu?
   "Are you all right?"
   B: うん、だいじょうぶ。↓
   Un, daijōbu.
   "Yep, I'm fine."

こら！ (*Kora!*)
Kora is an interjection we use for scolding someone. Adults usually use this word when scolding children, but the boy used it with his dog in this dialogue.

おねえさん (*o-nē-san*)
This literally means "older sister." However, it can also mean "you" when we use it to address a young woman unknown to the speaker, similar to "young lady" in English. We usually translate "you" as *anata*, but this is best avoided when we are speaking with strangers as it can sound overly familiar and offensive. The equivalent word for addressing young men is *onīsan*, or "older brother."

For Example:

1. おねえさん
   o-nē-san
   "you," "miss," and "young lady" when addressing a young woman

2. おにいさん
o-nī-san
"you," "sir," and "young man" when addressing a young man

この (*kono*)
This word means "this," but please note that we cannot use it on its own; it must precede a noun. Please see the previous lesson in this series, Lesson 8, for a detailed explanation.

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is the Negative Sentence Using *I* Adjectives.
こ、こ、こわくないですよ。
Ko, ko, kowakunai desu yo.
"They're n-n-not scary!"

Today's grammar point covers the negative form of *i*-adjectives.

In order to make the negative form of *i*-adjectives,

1) remove the final *i* and
2) attach *-kunai*.

See the following table.

For Example:

***I* Adjective**	**"English"**				**Negative**	**"English"**
小さい *chiisai*	"small"	→	ちいさーい *chiisa-i*	→	小さくない *chiisakunai*	"not small"
おもしろい *omoshiroi*	"interesting"	→	おもしろーい *omoshiro-i*	→	おもしろくない *omoshirokunai*	"not interesting"

たのしい *tanoshii*	"fun"	→	たのしーい *tanoshiーi*	→	たのしくない *tanoshikunai*	"not fun"
こわい *kowai*	"scary," "scared"	→	こわーい *kowaーi*	→	こわくない *kowakunai*	"not scary," "not scared"
かわいい *kawaii*	"cute"	→	かわいーい *kawai-i*	→	かわいくない *kawaikunai*	"not cute"

There is one irregular *i*-adjective. The adjective *ii*, meaning "good," is derived from the more polite *yoi*, and its negative conjugation is based on *yoi*.

I Adjective	**"English"**				***Negative***	**"English"**
いい (よい) *ii (yoi)*	"good"	→	いーい (よーい) *i-i (yo-i)*	→	よくない *yokunai*	"not good"

We conjugate adjectives that incorporate *ii* in the same way. For example, *kakkōii*, meaning "cool" or "good-looking," becomes *kakkōyokunai*.

For Example:

1. しばいぬは小さくないです。
   Shibainu wa chiisakunai desu.
   "The shiba inu dog is not small."

2. このえいがはこわくないです。
Kono eiga wa kowakunai desu.
"This movie is not scary."

3. そのねこはかわいくないです。でも、おもしろいかおです。
Sono neko wa kawaikunai desu. Demo omoshiroi kao desu.
"That cat is not cute. But it has a funny face."

Examples From This Dialogue

1. こ、こ、こわくないですよ。
Ko, ko, kowakunai desu yo.
"They're n-n-not scary!"

Reference

Please also review the following Grammar Points.

- *-ne* → Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 20
- the usage of adjectives → Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 15
- *daijōbu desu ka.* → Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 12
- *-no* → Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 10
- Asking question → Lower Beginner Season 1 Lesson 2
- *kono* → Lower Beginner Season 1 Lesson 8
- *-yo* → Absolute Beginner Season 2 Lesson 17

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Apologizing in Japanese

People commonly use *Gomen'nasai* when they apologize to others. This is equivalent to "I'm sorry." You can use this phrase when you've bothered someone: for example, if you bump into someone in the street. There is another phrase for apologizing: *Sumimasen*, meaning "Excuse me" or "I'm sorry," depending on the context. In a business situation, we use *sumimasen* more commonly than *gomen'nasai* for "I'm sorry." Please note that you can use *sumimasen* but not *gomen'nasai* when trying to get the attention of staff in restaurants and shops.

For Example:

1. *OK!: Gomen'nasai, daijōbu desu ka?*
   OK!: Sumimasen, daijōbu desu ka?
   "Oh, sorry. Are you all right?"

2. *NG!: Gomen'nasai, o-mizu kudasai.*
   OK!: Sumimasen, o-mizu kudasai.
   "Excuse me, can I have some water?"

LESSON NOTES

Lower Beginner #10
Is Being Allergic to Animals Weird in Japan?

CONTENTS

2 Kanji
2 Kana
3 Romanization
4 English
4 Vocabulary
5 Sample Sentences
5 Vocabulary Phrase Usage
7 Grammar
9 Cultural Insight

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KANJI

1. BOY: 本とう？おねえさん、いぬきらい？
2. EMILY: きらいじゃないです。でも…。
3. BOY: でも？
4. EMILY: アレルギーがあります。
5. BOY: どうぶつアレルギー？
6. EMILY: 犬アレルギーです。
7. BOY: 犬アレルギー？
8. EMILY: へんですか。
9. BOY: へんじゃないよ。しょうがないよ。
   ゴハンもアレルギーがあるよ。ね？ゴハン。
10. (Dog barks)

KANA

1. BOY: ほんとう？おねえさん、いぬきらい？
2. EMILY: きらいじゃないです。でも…。
3. BOY: でも？
4. EMILY: アレルギーがあります。

CONT'D OVER

5. BOY: どうぶつアレルギー？

6. EMILY: いぬアレルギーです。

7. BOY: いぬアレルギー？

8. EMILY: へんですか。

9. BOY: へんじゃないよ。しょうがないよ。
ゴハンもアレルギーがあるよ。ね？ゴハン。

10. (Dog barks)

ROMANIZATION

1. BOY: Hontō? Onēsan, inu kirai?

2. EMILY: Kirai ja nai desu. Demo....

3. BOY: Demo?

4. EMILY: Arerugī ga arimasu.

5. BOY: Dōbutsu arerugī?

6. EMILY: Inu arerugī desu.

7. BOY: Inu arerugī?

8. EMILY: Hen desu ka.

CONT'D OVER

9. BOY: Hen ja nai yo. Shō ga nai yo.
Gohan mo arerugī ga aru yo. Ne? Gohan.

10. (Dog barks)

ENGLISH

1. BOY: Really? Miss, do you hate dogs?

2. EMILY: I don't hate them. But....

3. BOY: But?

4. EMILY: I'm allergic.

5. BOY: Allergic to animals?

6. EMILY: Allergic to dogs.

7. BOY: Allergic to dogs?

8. EMILY: Is that weird?

9. BOY: It's not weird. You can't help it.
Gohan has allergies, too. Right, Gohan?

10. (Dog barks)

VOCABULARY

Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English

本とう?	ほんとう？	Hontō?	Really?
も	も	mo	also, too; particle
あります	あります	arimasu	to be, to exist, to have, to be located;V1 -masu form
どうぶつ	どうぶつ	dōbutsu	animal
しょうがない	しょうがない	shō ga nai	can't be helped; Adj (i)
へん	へん	hen	weird, funny, strange;Adj(na)
アレルギー	アレルギー	arerugī	allergy

SAMPLE SENTENCES

本とう？
Hontō?

Really?

これもにくです。
Kore mo niku desu.

This is also meat.

アレルギーがあります。
Arerugī ga arimasu.

I have allergies.

どうぶつはすきですか。
Dōbutsu wa suki desu ka.

Do you like animals?

しょうがないですね。
Shō ga nai desu ne.

I have no other choices.

へんなおさけをのみました。
Hen na o-sake o nomimashita.

I drank some strange alcohol.

ピーナッツアレルギーがあります。
Pīnattsu arerugī ga arimasu.

I'm alllergic to peanuts.

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

アレルギー (*arerugī*)

This means "allergy" in English. When you are allergic to something, an allergen usually comes before *arerugī*, and we use the pattern ～があります. Let's check out the examples.

For Example:

1. たまごアレルギーがあります。
   Tamago arerugī ga arimasu.
   "I'm allergic to eggs."

Allergic To...	Japanese	*Romanization*
"dogs"	犬アレルギー	*inu arerugī*
"cats"	ねこアレルギー	*neko arerugī*
"wheat"	小むぎアレルギー	*komugi arerugī*
"milk"	ぎゅうにゅうアレルギー	*gyūnyūu arerugī*

しょうがない (*shōganai*)

Shōganai is an *-i* adjective meaning "can't be helped" or "nothing can be done." People use this phrase when they accept something inevitable. In this dialogue, the boy uses it because it is not her fault that Emily is allergic to dogs. You can also use this phrase when gently teasing someone: "You're hopeless!"

For Example:

1. (A and B are walking in a hurry)
   A: ちょっとまってください。つかれました。
   Chotto matte kudasai. Tsukaremashita.
   "Stop a minute. I'm tired."
   B: しょうがないな。じゃ、ちょっとやすみましょう。
   Shōganai na. Ja, chotto yasumimasho.
   "You're hopeless/It can't be helped. OK, let's take a break."

particle も (*-mo*)

The particle *mo* means "also" or "too." When two objects share the same property, we can use this particle. We can use it in both affirmative and negative sentences. Please also note that

mo replaces the particles *wa, ga,* and *o* and follows other particles.

For Example:

1. チワワは小さいです。パピヨンも小さいです。
   Chiwawa wa chiisai desu. Papiyon mo chiisai desu.
   "Chihuahuas are small. Papillons are small too."

2. とうきょうにいきます。おおさかにもいきます。
   Tōkyō ni mo ikimasu. Ōsaka ni mo ikimasu.
   "I'm going to Tokyo. I'm also going to Osaka."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is the Negative Sentence Using *Na* Adjectives.
きらいじゃないです。
Kirai ja nai desu.
"I don't hate them."

This lesson's grammar point covers the negative of *-na* adjectives.

In order to form the negative of *-na* adjectives,

1) remove the final *-na* and
2) attach *-janai*.

See the following table.

For Example:

***Na* Adjective**	**"English"**				**Negative**	**"English"**
すき (な) *suki(na)*	"like"	→	すき- (な) *suki-(na)*	→	すきじゃない *suki ja nai*	"don't like"

かんたん（な） *kantan (na)*	"easy"	→	かんたん-な *kantan-na*	→	かんたんじゃない *kantan ja nai*	"not easy"
とくべつ *tokubetsu(na)*	"special"	→	とくべつ-な *tokubetsu-na*	→	とくべつじゃない *tokubetsu ja nai*	"not special"

There are some irregular *-na* adjectives. The adjectives *kirei,* meaning "clean," and *kirai*, meaning "dislike," are categorized as *-na* adjectives although they end with *-i*.

***-Na* Adjective**	**"English"**				**Negative**	**"English"**
きれい（な） *kirei*	"clean" "beautiful"	→	きれい-な *kirei-(na)*	→	きれいじゃない *kirei ja nai*	"not clean" "not beautiful"
きらい（な） *kirai(na)*	"dislike"	→	きらい-な *kirai-na*	→	きらいじゃない *kirai ja nai*	"don't dislike"

For Example:

1. いぬ が すき じゃ ない です。
   Inu ga suki ja nai desu.
   "I don't like dogs."

2. かんじ は かんたん じゃ ない です。
   Kanji wa kantan ja nai desu.
   "Kanji aren't easy."

3. そのはしはきれいじゃないです。
Sono hashi wa kirei ja nai desu.
"Those chopsticks are not clean."

Examples From This Dialogue

1. きらいじゃないです。
Kirai ja nai desu.
"I don't hate them."

2. へんじゃないよ。
Hen ja nai yo.
"It's not weird."

Reference

Please also review the following Grammar Points.

- *suki/kirai* → Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 18
- particle *mo* → Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 15
- particle *yo* → Lower Beginner Season 1 Lesson 9

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Are You Allergic to Anything?

Allergies are very common in Japan, and one of the most common is かふんしょう (*kafun-shō*), meaning "hay fever." According to a national survey conducted in 2008, about thirty percent of the population has light to heavy hay fever. One of the most popular anti-hay fever products is paper masks. Most people with hay fever wear masks as well as glasses to avoid taking in pollen dust. They also gargle. It is also recommended to wear smooth-textured jackets to avoid bringing pollen into the home.

LESSON NOTES

Lower Beginner #11
What's Your Biggest Fear in Japan?

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2 Kanji
2 Kana
3 Romanization
3 English
4 Vocabulary
4 Sample Sentences
5 Vocabulary Phrase Usage
6 Grammar
9 Cultural Insight

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KANJI

1. EMILY: 犬のアレルギーですか。

2. BOY: うん。かふんしょう。

3. EMILY: わたしも、かふんしょうです。
だから、はるがすきじゃありません。

4. BOY: ふーん。ぼくは、高いところがこわくてきらい。

5. EMILY: きょうふ・しょう？

6. BOY: うん。こうしょきょうふしょう。

7. EMILY: こうしょ・きょう・ふしょう…。
ながくて、むずかしいことばですね。(laugh)

KANA

1. EMILY: いぬのアレルギーですか。

2. BOY: うん。かふんしょう。

3. EMILY: わたしも、かふんしょうです。
だから、はるがすきじゃありません。

4. BOY: ふーん。ぼくは、たかいところがこわくてきらい。

5. EMILY: きょうふ・しょう？

6. BOY: うん。こうしょきょうふしょう。

CONT'D OVER

7. EMILY: こうしょ・きょう・ふしょう…。
ながくて、むずかしいことばですね。(laugh)

ROMANIZATION

1. EMILY: Inu no arerugī desu ka.

2. BOY: Un. Kafunshō.

3. EMILY: Watashi mo, kafunshō desu.
Dakara, haru ga suki ja arimasen.

4. BOY: Fūn. Boku wa, takai tokoro ga kowakute kirai.

5. EMILY: Kyōfu,shō?

6. BOY: un. Kōshokyōfushō.

7. EMILY: Kōsho, kyō, fushō....
Nagakute, muzukashii kotoba desu ne.(laugh)

ENGLISH

1. EMILY: A dog with an allergy?

2. BOY: Yeah. He has hay fever.

3. EMILY: I have hay fever too.
So I don't like spring.

4. BOY: Huh. For me, I'm scared of high-up places. I hate them.

CONT'D OVER

5. EMILY: A phobia?

6. BOY: Yeah. Acrophobia.

7. EMILY: Acro-pho-bi-a?
That's a long, difficult word, isn't it (laugh)?

VOCABULARY

Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English
はる	はる	haru	spring
むずかしい	むずかしい	muzukashii	difficult, hard, troublesome, complicated; Adj(i)
ことば	ことば	kotoba	language, dialect, word
も	も	mo	also, too; particle
ながい	ながい	nagai	long (length, distance); Adj(i)
だから	だから	dakara	so, therefore, because
ふーん	ふーん	fūn	hmm, humph
高い	たかい	takai	high, tall, expensive;Adj(i)
すき（な）	すき（な）	suki(na)	likable, to like; Adj (na)
ところ	ところ	tokoro	place

SAMPLE SENTENCES

にほんのはるがすきです。 *Nihon no haru ga suki desu.* I like spring in Japan.	にほんごはむずかしくないです。 *Nihongo wa muzukashiku nai desu.* Japanese is not difficult.
すきなにほんごのことばはなんですか。 *Suki na Nihongo no kotoba wa nan desu ka.* What is your favorite Japanese word?	これもにくです。 *Kore mo niku desu.* This is also meat.
ケンは髪がながい。 *Ken wa kami ga nagai.* Ken has long hair.	ぎゅうにゅうアレルギーがあります。だから、とうにゅうをのみます。 *Gyūnyū arerugī ga arimasu. Dakara, tōnyū o nomimasu.* I'm allergic to milk. So I drink soy milk.
ああ、あれが新しい従業員か。。。ふーん。 *Ā, are ga atarashii jūgyōin ka... fūn.* Oh, so that's the new employee? Hmmm.	ダイヤモンドは高いです。 *Daiyamondo wa takai desu.* Diamonds are expensive.
わたしはにほんがすきです。 *Watashi wa Nihon ga suki desu.* I like Japan.	ディズニーランドは楽しいところです。 *Dizunīrando wa tanoshii tokoro desu.* Disneyland is a fun place.

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

だから (*dakara*)
This means "so...," or "therefore..." in English. It indicates that an action happened as the result of the previous action, stated before *dakara*.

For Example:

1. たまごアレルギーがあります。だから、めだまやきはたべません。
   Tamago arerugī ga arimasu. Dakara, medamayaki wa tabemasen.
   "I'm allergic to eggs. So I don't eat fried eggs."

はる (*haru*)
Haru means "spring." Look below to see the names of the four seasons in Japan.

Japanese	*Romanization*	"English"
はる	*Haru*	"Spring"
なつ	*Natsu*	"Summer"
あき	*Aki*	"Autumn"
ふゆ	*Fuyu*	"Winter"

Casual response ふーん (*fūn*) and うん (*un*)
Fūn is a sound equivalent to "hmm" or "humph," and you can use it to show the speaker your understanding. It can also imply dissatisfaction or disinterest, depending on the context and intonation. *Un* means "yeah." You can use it to express affirmation in casual conversation.

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is How to Combine Adjectives.
ぼくは、高いところがこわくてきらい。
Boku wa, takai tokoro ga kowakute kirai.
"For me, I'm scared of high-up places. I hate them."

Today's grammar point is how to combine adjectives. When we use two (or more) adjectives to describe something or a person, we can combine them into one sentence by changing the adjective into its *-te* form. We can only use the *-te* form when adjectives are in a non-final position in a sentence.

First, please note that we cannot use the connective particle と(*to*), meaning "and," for connecting adjectives.

For Example:

1. ○ これは ながくて、むずかしいです。
   Kore wa nagakute, muzukashii desu.
   × これは ながいと、むずかしいです。
   Kore wa nagai to, muzukashii desu.

Te Form of *I* Adjective

In order to form the *te* form of *i* adjectives,

1) remove the final *i* and
2) attach *-kute*

For Example:

"English"	Japanese *Romanization*	*-i*		*+ kute*
"high," "expensive"	たかい *takai*	たかーい *taka-i*	→	たかくて *takakute*
"scared," "scary"	こわい *kowai*	こわーい *kowa-i*	→	こわくて *kowakute*
"long"	ながい *nagai*	ながーい *naga-i*	→	ながくて *nagakute*
"difficult"	むずかしい *muzukashii*	むずかしーい *muzukashi-i*	→	むずかしくて *muzukashikute*

For Example:

1. いぬ は こわくて すき じゃ ない です。
   Inu wa kowakute suki ja nai desu.
   "Dogs are scary. I don't like them."

2. うどん は ながくて おいしい です。
   Udon wa nagakute oishii desu.
   "Udon noodles are long and yummy."

Te Form of *Na* Adjective

In order to form the *te* form of *na* adjectives,
1) remove the final *na* and
2) attach *-de*

For Example:

"English"	Japanese *Romanization*	*-na*		*+ de*
"likeable"	すき（な） *suki(na)*	すきー（な） *suki-(na)*	→	すき　で *suki de*
"unlikeable"	きらい（な） *kirai(na)*	きらいー（な） *kirai-(na)*	→	きらい で *kirai de*
"clean," "beautiful"	きれい（な） *kirei(na)*	きれいー（な） *kirei-(na)*	→	きれいで *kirei de*
"weird"	へん（な） *hen-(na)*	へんー（な） *hen-(na)*	→	へん で *hen de*

For Example:

1. ゴハンは　へんで おもしろい いぬ です。
   Gohan wa hen de omoshiroi inu desu.
   "Gohan is a weird and funny dog."

2. すしはきれいですきです。
   Sushi wa kirei de suki desu.
   "Sushi is beautiful to look at, and I like it."

Examples from This Dialogue

1. ぼくは、高いところがこわくてきらい。
   Boku wa, takai tokoro ga kowakute kirai.
   "For me, I'm scared of high-up places. I hate them."

2. ながくて、むずかしいことばですね。
   Nagakute, muzukashii kotoba desu ne.
   "That's a long, difficult word, isn't it."

Reference

Please also review the following Grammar Points.

- *suki /kirai* → Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 18
- negative sentence of adjectives → Lower Beginner Season 1 Lesson 9 and 10
- prenominal usage of adjectives → Lower Beginner Season 1 Lesson 8

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Saying You're Scared of or Have a Phobia of Something in Japanese

---

In the previous lesson, we talked about allergies, but in this lesson we're talking about things you simply don't like or cannot stand at all. Some typical examples would be heights, certain insects or animals, confined spaces, and so on. Here are the names of some common phobias in Japanese.

Romanization	**"English"**
kōshokyōfushō	"fear of heights"
heishokyōfushō	"fear of small/narrow spaces"
inukyōfushō	"fear of dogs"
nekokyōfushō	"fear of cats"
kaminarikyōfushō	"fear of thunder/lightning"

Also some people use ...*kyōfushō*, or "phobia," as a joke. For example, a man could say *joseikyōfushō desu* if he is not good at talking to or spending time with women.

LESSON NOTES

Lower Beginner #12
What Day of the Week is it in Japanese?

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KANJI

1. (Garbage collection site)
2. EMILY: おはようございます。
3. MR. HAYASHI: おはようございます。それはもえるごみですか。
4. EMILY: いいえ。カンとびんです。
5. MR. HAYASHI: あ、それは木よう日ですよ。
6. EMILY: はい？なんよう日ですか。
7. MR. HAYASHI: も・く・よ・う・び。
8. EMILY: げつ・か・すい・もく…。

KANA

1. (Garbage collection site)
2. EMILY: おはようございます。
3. MR. HAYASHI: おはようございます。それはもえるごみですか。
4. EMILY: いいえ。カンとびんです。
5. MR. HAYASHI: あ、それはもくようびですよ。
6. EMILY: はい？なんようびですか。

CONT'D OVER

7. MR. HAYASHI: も・く・よ・う・び。

8. EMILY: げつ・か・すい・もく…。

ROMANIZATION

1. (Garbage collection site)

2. EMILY: Ohayō gozaimasu.

3. MR. HAYASHI: Ohayō gozaimasu. Sore wa moeru gomi desu ka.

4. EMILY: Iie. Kan to bin desu.

5. MR. HAYASHI: A, sore wa moku-yōbi desu yo.

6. EMILY: Hai? Nan'yōbi desu ka.

7. MR. HAYASHI: Mo. ku. yo. u. bi.

8. EMILY: Getsu, ka, sui, moku...

ENGLISH

1. (Garbage collection site)

2. EMILY: Good morning.

3. MR. HAYASHI: Good morning. Is that burnable trash?

CONT'D OVER

4. EMILY: No. It's cans and bottles.

5. MR. HAYASHI: Oh, that's Thursdays.

6. EMILY: Sorry? What day?

7. MR. HAYASHI: Thu-rs-da-y.

8. EMILY: Mon, Tue, Wed, Thurs...

VOCABULARY

Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English
びん	びん	bin	bottle
どよう日	どようび	do-yōbi	Saturday
日よう日	にちようび	nichi-yōbi	Sunday
木よう日	もくようび	moku-yōbi	Thursday
きんよう日	きんようび	kin-yōbi	Friday
カン	かん	kan	can, tin
げつよう日	げつようび	getsu-yōbi	Monday
かよう日	かようび	ka-yōbi	Tuesday
なんよう日	なんようび	nan'yōbi	what day
水よう日	すいようび	sui-yōbi	Wednesday

SAMPLE SENTENCES

ガラスのびんはリサイクルします。 *Garasu no bin wa risaikuru shimasu.* Glass bottles are recycled.	バーゲンセールは土曜日です。 *Bāgen sēru wa do-yōbi desu.* We have big sales on Saturday.

日よう日、ひまですか。 *Nichi-yōbi. hima desu ka.* Do you have time on Sunday?	きんよう日にバーにいきます。 *Kin-yōbi ni bā ni ikimasu.* I go to a bar on Friday.
コーヒーのカンはあそこにおねがいします。 *Kōhī no kan wa asoko ni onegai shimasu.* Please throw away coffee cans over there.	げつよう日からしごとがあります。 *Getsu-yōbi kara shigoto ga arimasu.* I have work from Monday.
リサイクルごみはかよう日です。 *Risaikuru gomi wa ka-yōbi desu.* Recycling garbage is collected on Tuesdays.	ちちの日はなんよう日ですか。 *Chichi no Hi wa nan-yōbi desu ka.* What day is the father's day?

水よう日はえいががやすいです。
Sui-yōbi wa eiga ga yasui desu.

The movie ticket is cheap on Wednesdays.

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

-もえるごみ *(moerugomi)*

Moeru means "to burn something" and *gomi* means "rubbish," so this phrase altogether means "burnable garbage." It is common to separate garbage into various types in the home. Let's have a look at the common types.

Japanese	*Romanization*	"English"
もえるごみ	*moerugomi*	"burnable garbage"
もえないごみ	*moenaigomi*	"non-burnable garbage"
*リサイクルごみ	*risaikurugomi*	"recyclable garbage"
**そだいごみ	*sodaigomi*	"oversize garbage"

**Risaikurugomi* usually includes cans, glass bottles, PET bottles, and paper materials such as newspapers and magazines.

**Sodaigomi* usually includes electronic items, such as old refrigerators and TVs, and furniture.

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson Is Days of the Week in Japanese.
あ、それは木ようびですよ。
A, sore wa moku-yōbi desu yo.
"Oh, that's Thursdays."

In this lesson, you'll learn how to say the days of the week in Japanese. You'll also learn how to ask on which day of the week something happens. Let's take a look at the days of the week in the chart below.

Japanese	*Romanization*	"English"
げつよう日	*getsu-yōbi*	"Monday"
かよう日	*ka-yōbi*	"Tuesday"
水よう日	*sui-yōbi*	"Wednesday"
木よう日	*moku-yōbi*	"Thursday"
きんよう日	*kin-yōbi*	"Friday"
どよう日	*do-yōbi*	"Saturday"
日よう日	*nichi-yōbi*	"Sunday"
なんよう日	*nan-yōbi*	"What day...?"

Let's review the sentence pattern *A wa B desu* and try stating and asking the day of the week. Please note that we can omit the subject (the [something] part) if it is already understood.

Sentence Pattern:

[events]	*は* *wa*	[days of the week]	*です。* *desu.*

"[events] is on [days of the week]."			
きょう *Kyō*	は *wa*	どよう日 *do-yōbi*	です。 *desu.*
"It's Saturday today."			
ピクニック *Pikunikku*	は *wa*	げつようび getsu-*yōbi*	です。 *desu.*
"The picnic is on Monday."			

For Example:

1. もえるごみ は かよう日 です。
   Moerugomi wa ka-yōbi desu.
   "Burnable garbage is on Tuesday."

Let's say you need to dispose of your rubbish, which is supposed to be done on Tuesday, but you forget what day it is. To turn the sentence above into a question ("Burnable garbage is on Tuesday." → "Is burnable garbage on Tuesday?"), remember that we simply add *ka* at the end of the sentence.

For Example:

1. もえるごみ は かよう日 です か。
   Moerugomi wa ka-yōbi desu ka.
   "Is burnable garbage on Tuesday?"

Language Tip: Remembering the Days of the Week

Native Japanese people are usually taught to remember days of the week with this phrase. It is げつ・か・水・木・きん・ど・日 (*getsu, ka, sui, moku, kin, do, nichi*), which literally means "Mon, Tue, Wed, Thurs, Fri, Sat, and Sun." It's simply made with the first part of each word, leaving out the common ending *-yōbi*.

Examples From This Dialogue

1. あ、それは木よう日ですよ。
   A, sore wa moku-yōbi desu yo.
   "Oh, that's Thursdays."

2. なんよう日ですか。
   Nan'yōbi desu ka.
   "What day?"

Reference

Please also review the following Grammar Points.

- *sore* → Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 9

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Garbage Collection

As you read in the Key Phrases section, in Japan it is common to separate rubbish into different types in the home. The rubbish is usually packed in white or clear plastic bags and taken to a specific place. A "garbage truck," called せいそうしゃ (*seisōsha*) or ごみしゅうしゅうしゃ (*gomi shūshūsha*), comes to collect the refuse. It has a big opening in the back and goes around an assigned area. The cleaning staff picks up the rubbish bags and throws them into the opening. There is a crushing machine inside the truck so that a single truck can take about 1 to 1.4 tons of garbage.

LESSON NOTES

Lower Beginner #13
Have you Been to a Japanese Festival Before?

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2 Kanji
2 Kana
3 Romanization
4 English
5 Vocabulary
5 Sample Sentences
6 Vocabulary Phrase Usage
7 Grammar
9 Cultural Insight

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KANJI

1. KEN: 人がたくさんいますね。
2. COLLEAGUE: きょうは、まつりですよ。
3. KEN: まつり？
4. COLLEAGUE: まつりは、えいごで、festivalです。
   まつりは、はじめてですか。
5. KEN: はい。
6. COLLEAGUE: じゃ、ちょっといきませんか。
7. ...
8. KEN: あれは、何ですか。
9. COLLEAGUE: みこしです。
10. KEN: みこし？はじめてみました。
    みこしは、えいごで　何ですか。
11. COLLEAGUE: えーっと...。

KANA

1. KEN: ひとがたくさんいますね。
2. COLLEAGUE: きょうは、まつりですよ。

CONT'D OVER

3. KEN: まつり？

4. COLLEAGUE: まつりは、えいごで、festivalです。
まつりは、はじめてですか。

5. KEN: はい。

6. COLLEAGUE: じゃ、ちょっといきませんか。

7. ...

8. KEN: あれは、なんですか。

9. COLLEAGUE: みこしです。

10. KEN: みこし？はじめてみました。
みこしは、えいごで　なんですか。

11. COLLEAGUE: えーっと…。

ROMANIZATION

1. KEN: Hito ga takusan imasu ne.

2. COLLEAGUE: Kyō wa, matsuri desu yo.

3. KEN: Matsuri?

4. COLLEAGUE: Matsuri wa, eigo de, festival desu.
Matsuri wa, hajimete desu ka.

CONT'D OVER

5. KEN: Hai.

6. COLLEAGUE: Ja, chotto ikimasen ka.

7. ...

8. KEN: Are wa, nan desu ka.

9. COLLEAGUE: Mikoshi desu.

10. KEN: Mikoshi? Hajimete mimashita.
Mikoshi wa, eigo de nan desu ka.

11. COLLEAGUE: Ētto...

ENGLISH

1. KEN: There are lots of people, aren't there?

2. COLLEAGUE: Today's a matsuri.

3. KEN: A matsuri?

4. COLLEAGUE: "Matsuri" is "festival" in English.
Is it your first time at a festival?

5. KEN: Yes.

6. COLLEAGUE: OK, so why don't we go and have a look?

7. KEN: What's that?

CONT'D OVER

8. COLLEAGUE: It's a "mikoshi."

9. KEN: A "mikoshi?" I've never seen one before. What's "mikoshi" in English?

10. COLLEAGUE: Er...

VOCABULARY

Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English
で	で	de	particle indicating a means or implement
ちょっと	ちょっと	chotto	a bit, a little
きょう	きょう	kyō	today
人	ひと	hito	a person, people
はじめて	はじめて	hajimete	for the first time
たくさん	たくさん	takusan	many, a lot
まつり	まつり	matsuri	festival, feast

SAMPLE SENTENCES

「carnival」は 日本ごで 何ですか。 *"carnival" wa Nihongo de nan desu ka.* How do you say "carnival" in Japanese?	ちょっと、すみません。 *Chotto, sumimasen.* Excuse me for a minute.
きょうはあついです。 *Kyō wa atsui desu.* It's hot today.	あの人のなまえは何ですか。 *Ano hito no namae wa nan desu ka.* Do you know the name of that person over there?

日本ははじめてですか。 *Nihon wa hajimete desu ka.* Is this your first time in Japan?	人が たくさん まつりに きました。 *Hito ga takusan matsuri ni kimashita.* Many people came to the festival.

ブラジルのゆうめいなまつりは何ですか。
Burajiru no yūmei na matsuri wa nan desu ka.

What's the famous festival in Brazil?

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

[something] は えいご で 何 です か。 (*[something] wa Eigo de nan desu ka.*)
This literally means "What is [something] in English?" and it turns to "What does [something] mean in English?" You can use this simply add *... wa nan desu ka* just after a word or a phrase that you like to know. Please note that the kanji 何 is read as *nan* not *nani* in this phrase. See more details on Absolute Beginner series Season 1 Lesson 24.

Japanese	[something] は えいご で 何です か。
Romanization	*[something] wa Eigo de nan desu ka*
"English"	"What's '[something]' in English?

For Example:

When you don't know what *matsuri* is in English:

1. まつりは、えいごで 何ですか。
   Matsuri wa, eigo de nan desu ka.
   "What's 'matsuri' in English?"

When you answer this question, simply replace *nan* with the English equivalent and omit *-ka* at the end.

*You can also omit the mutual part, *matsuri wa Eigo de*, as well because it is obvious in the context.

For Example:

1. (まつりは、えいごで) festivalです。
   (Matsuri wa, eigo de) festival desu.
   "'Matsuri' is 'festival' in English." or "It's festival in English."

たくさん (*takusan*)

This means "many" or "a lot" in English. You can use this word to describe an amount of things. As you see in the dialogue, we usually place it between the thing and the action. Please note that you don't have to put any particles after *takusan*.

For Example:

1. ひとが たくさん います ね。
   Hito ga takusan imasu ne.
   "There are lots of people, aren't there?"

2. ワインを たくさん のみます。
   Wain o takusan nomimasu.
   "I drink lots of wine."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is to Express That an Action Is Happening for the First Time for You

みこし？はじめてみました。
Mikoshi? Hajimete mimashita.
"A 'mikoshi?' I've never seen one before."

In this lesson, you'll learn how to express that it's a person's first time to experience something using *hajimete*. Let's take a closer look.

Formation: How to Describe First Things

In the dialogue, Ken's colleague asked him *hajimete desu ka*. This is similar to the *A wa B desu* structure. You can use it both in question and non-question sentences.

Question:

Japanese	[something]は	はじめて	ですか。
Romanization	[something] *wa*	*hajimete*	*desu ka.*

"English"	"Is it your first time at [something]?"

Answer/statement:

Japanese	[something]は	はじめて	です。
Romanization	[something] *wa*	*hajimete*	*desu.*
"English"	"It's my first time at [something]."		

For Example:

1. A: すしは はじめて ですか。
   Sushi wa hajimete desu ka.
   "Is it your first time having sushi?"

2. B: いいえ。でも、たこの すしは はじめて です。
   Iie. Demo, tako no sushi wa hajimete desu.
   "No. But it's my first time having octopus in sushi."

Formation: How to Describe First Actions

On the other hand, you use this pattern when it is your first time to do something. In the dialogue, Ken said *Hajimete mimashita* when he saw *mikoshi* for the first time. This is our second target pattern.

Answer/statement:

Japanese	はじめて	[past tense of a verb]
Romanization	*Hajimete*	[past tense of a verb]
"English"	"I've never [done something] before." "It's my first time for me to [do something]."	

*Even though you use the present tense to express in English, you need to use the past tense in this pattern. See the examples below and their English equivalents.

For Example:

1. はじめて　日本に　きました。
   Hajimete Nihon ni kimashita.
   "I've never been to Japan before." or "It's my first time to come to Japan."

2. はじめて メキシコの おさけを のみました。
   Hajimete Mekishiko no o-sake o nomimashita.
   "I've never drunk/had the Mexican alcohol." or "It was my first time to drink the Mexican alcohol."

Examples From This Dialogue

1. まつりは、はじめてですか。
   Matsuri wa, hajimete desu ka.
   "Is it your first time at a festival?"

2. みこし？はじめてみました。
   Mikoshi? Hajimete mimashita.
   "A 'mikoshi?' I've never seen one before."

Reference

Please also review the following Grammar Points.

- [animate object] *ga imasu* → Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 20
- [verb] *+ masen ka* → Absolute Beginner Season 2 Lesson 21

CULTURAL INSIGHT

A Japanese Festival and Its Events

Matsuri were originally ritual ceremonies to revere their ancestors and the god depending on what people enshrined. Nowadays, the religious aspects are fading away, and *matsuri* tend to be chances for local people to strengthen their unity as neighbors. One of the major events on *matsuri* is *mikoshi*. *Mikoshi* is translated as a portable Shinto shrine, and its shape is a miniature of shrine building. Many people, mainly men, shoulder it and go around the local

area, calling *Wasshoi! Wasshoi!* The calling differs in various areas. Also, many food and game stalls are held so that most of the kids look forward to the *matsuri* seasons, which are usually held in summer or early autumn.

LESSON NOTES

Lower Beginner #14 Sample Some Japanese Festival Fare

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2 Kanji
2 Kana
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KANJI

1.	KEN:	おみせがたくさんありますね。
2.	COLLEAGUE:	やたいもはじめてですか。
3.	KEN:	はい。
4.	COLLEAGUE:	じゃ、何か食べましょう。
5.	KEN:	いいですね。
6.	COLLEAGUE:	たこやきはどうですか。
7.	KEN:	たこ？たこはちょっと・・・。
8.	COLLEAGUE:	とうもろこしはどうですか。
9.	KEN:	いいですね。おごりますよ。
10.	STREET VENDOR:	いらっしゃいませ。
11.	KEN:	二つ、おねがいします。
12.	STREET VENDOR:	1000えんです。
13.	KEN:	せんえん？高い...。

KANA

CONT'D OVER

1. KEN: おみせがたくさんありますね。

2. COLLEAGUE: やたいもはじめてですか。

3. KEN: はい。

4. COLLEAGUE: じゃ、なにかたべましょう。

5. KEN: いいですね。

6. COLLEAGUE: たこやきはどうですか。

7. KEN: たこ？たこはちょっと・・・。

8. COLLEAGUE: とうもろこしはどうですか。

9. KEN: いいですね。おごりますよ。

10. STREET VENDOR: いらっしゃいませ。

11. KEN: ふたつ、おねがいします。

12. STREET VENDOR: 1000えんです。

13. KEN: せんえん？たかい...。

ROMANIZATION

1. KEN: O-mise ga takusan arimasu ne.

CONT'D OVER

2. COLLEAGUE: Yatai mo hajimete desu ka.

3. KEN: Hai.

4. COLLEAGUE: Ja, nani ka tabemashō.

5. KEN: Ii desu ne.

6. COLLEAGUE: Takoyaki wa dō desu ka.

7. KEN: Tako? Tako wa chotto....

8. COLLEAGUE: Tōmorokoshi wa dō desu ka.

9. KEN: Ii desu ne. Ogorimasu yo.

10. STREET VENDOR: Irasshaimase.

11. KEN: Futatsu, onegai shimasu.

12. STREET VENDOR: 1000-en desu.

13. KEN: Sen-en? Takai....

ENGLISH

1. KEN: There are lots of shops, aren't there?

2. COLLEAGUE: Is it your first time seeing food stands, too?

CONT'D OVER

3. KEN: Yes.

4. COLLEAGUE: OK, so let's eat something.

5. KEN: That sounds good.

6. COLLEAGUE: How about octopus dumplings?

7. KEN: Octopus? Octopus is kind of...

8. COLLEAGUE: How about corn on the cob?

9. KEN: That sounds good. I'll treat you.

10. ...

11. STREET VENDOR: Welcome.

12. KEN: Two, please.

13. STREET VENDOR: That's a thousand yen.

14. KEN: A thousand yen? That's expensive...

VOCABULARY

Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English
はじめて	はじめて	hajimete	for the first time
おごります	おごります	ogorimasu	to treat (masu form);V1

何か	なにか	nanika	something
高い	たかい	takai	high, tall, expensive;Adj(i)
どうですか	どうですか	Dō desu ka	How about ...?
たこ	たこ	tako	octopus
みせ	みせ	mise	store
とうもろこし	とうもろこし	tōmorokoshi	corn, maize
二つ	ふたつ	futatsu	2 things (general counter)

SAMPLE SENTENCES

日本ははじめてですか。 *Nihon wa hajimete desu ka.* Is this your first time in Japan?	おごりますよ。 *Ogorimasu yo.* It's my treat!
何かメッセージはありますか。 *Nanika messēji wa arimasu ka.* Do you have any messages?	ダイヤモンドは高いです。 *Daiyamondo wa takai desu.* Diamonds are expensive.
じゃあ、おこのみやきはどうですか。 *Jā, okonomiyaki wa dō desu ka.* So how about okonomiyaki?	たこが海を泳いでいる。 *Tako ga umi o oyoide iru.* The octopus is swimming in the ocean.
私の国では、たこは食べません。 *Watashi no kuni de wa tako wa tabemasen.* We don't eat octopus in my country.	あそこにおみせがあります。 *Asoko ni o-mise ga arimasu.* There is a store over there.
とうもろこしはえいごで何ですか。 *Tōmorokoshi wa Eigo de nan desu ka.* What do you call tōmorokoshi in English?	ビール、二つください。 *Bīru, futatsu kudasai.* 2 glasses of beer, please.

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

何か (*nani ka*)

Nani ka consists of the question word *nani*, meaning "what," and the particle *ka*. This means "something." Other question words can make the word "some..." with the particle *ka.* See the chart below.

Interrogative	+ *Ka*
何 (*nani*) "what"	*何か* (*nani ka*) "something"
だれ (*dare*) "who"	*だれか* (*dare ka*) "someone"
いつ (*itsu*) "when"	*いつか* (*itsu ka*) "someday," "sometime"
どこ (*doko*) "where"	*どこか* (*doko ka*) "somewhere"

For Example

1. 何か買いましたか。
   Nani ka kaimashita ka.
   "Did you buy anything?"

2. 夏休みにどこか行きますか。
   Natsu-yasumi ni dokoka ikimasu ka.
   "Are you going somewhere for summer vacation?"

General Counter

In Japanese, you use special counters when you count objects. The counter you use depends on the shape or characteristic of the object. The general counter is つ (*tsu*), and you can use it when there is no specific counter or when you don't know the counter. The set only goes up to ten. They do not follow any kind of pattern, so you must memorize them.

Japanese	*Romanization*	"English"
一つ	*hitotsu*	"one item"
二つ	*futatsu*	"two items"
三つ	*mittsu*	"three items"
四つ	*yottsu*	"four items"

いつつ	*itsutsu*	"five items"
むっつ	*muttsu*	"six items"
ななつ	*nanatsu*	"seven items"
やっつ	*yattsu*	"eight items"
ここのつ	*kokonotsu*	"nine items"
とお	*tō*	"ten items"

*Tips: However, you would not practically use five to ten unless you need lots of items. Just to start, let's memorize one through five.

高い たかい (*takai*)

You already learned *takai* in Lesson 11 as in *takai tokoro*, meaning "high-up places." Just like you say "high" as in price in English, it can be applied to Japanese. *Takai* also means "expensive."

For Example:

1. *すしは高いです。*
   Sushi wa takai desu.
   "Sushi is expensive."

おごります。 *(Ogorimasu.)*

Ogorimasu is a verb that means "to treat." If you want to treat someone to a meal, this is the phrase to use. It is common that someone older than you buys you a drink or meal in Japan. Don't forget to say "thanks," or *Gochiso-sama desu*, as a thank-you phrase for the meal.

For Example:

1. A: きょうは私がおごります。
   Kyō wa watashi ga ogorimasu.
   "It's my treat today."
   B: ありがとうございます。ごちそうさまです。
   Arigatō gozaimasu. Gochisō-sama desu.
   "Thanks. Thank you for the meal."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is How to Invite Someone to Do Something.

じゃ、何か食べましょう。
Ja, nani ka tabemashō.
"OK, so let's eat something."

Today's grammar point is the expression to invite someone to do something, using the verb *mashō*. You'll also learn the expression to suggest something and the appropriate replying expressions.

Review: the Usage of the Verb *Mashō*

We learned how to make the inviting expression verb *mashō* in Absolute Beginner Season 2 Lesson 22. To make the "let's" form of a verb, simply follow these steps: take the verb *masu* → remove *-masu* → add *-mashō* → verb *mashō*

For Example:

Verb *Masu*	Verb *Mashō*	"English"
食べます (*tabemasu*)	食べましょう (*tabemashō*) "let's eat"	"to eat"
のみます (*nomimasu*)	のみましょう (*nomimashō*) "let's drink"	"to drink"
いきます (*ikimasu*)	いきましょう (*ikimashō*) "let's go"	"to go"
します (*shimasu*)	しましょう (*shimashō*) "let's do [something]"	"to do"

How to Suggest Something

In the dialogue, the colleague suggested some food to Ken using [something] *wa dō desu ka?* You can simply use this by inserting what you would like to suggest in the bracket.

Japanese	[something]	は	どうですか。
Romanization	[something]	*wa*	*dō desu ka.*
"English"	"How about [something]?"		

For Example:

1. りょこうに いきましょう。日本は どうですか。
   Ryokō ni ikimashō. Nihon wa dō desu ka.
   "Let's go traveling. How about Japan?"

2. お昼にしましょう。カレーライスはどうですか。
   O-hiru ni shimashō. Karē raisu wa dō desu ka.
   "Let's take a lunch break. How about curry and rice?"

How to Reply With a Suggestion

When someone suggests something to you, you must accept or reject it. These are some of the good answers. Let's check them out.

Japanese	いいですね。	[item]はちょっと・・・。
Romanization	*Ii desu ne.*	[item] *wa chotto...*
"English"	"That sounds good."	"[item] is kind of..."

The second phrase --- *wa chotto...* would come in handy when you would like to give negative answers indirectly. Please note that the literal translation of *...wa chotto...* would be "I'm sorry, but...is a little..." In general, saying "no" directly is considered informal in Japanese culture. Let's take a look at the examples as the answer to the sample sentences above.

For Example:

1. B1： いいですね。きょうとは どうですか。
   Ii desu ne. Kyōto wa dō desu ka.
   "That sounds good. How about Kyoto?"
   B2： にほんは ちょっと・・・。かんこくは どうですか。
   Nhihon wa chotto... Kankoku wa dō desu ka.
   "Japan is kind of... How about Korea?"

2. B1： いいですね。えきに おいしいカレー屋が ありますよ。
Ii desu ne. Eki ni oishii karē-ya ga arimasu yo.
"That sounds good. I know a good curry restaurant at the station."
B2： カレーは ちょっと・・・。ていしょくは どうですか。
Karē wa chotto... Teishoku wa dō desu ka.
"Curry is kind of... How about *teishoku*?"

Examples From This Dialogue

1. じゃ、何か食べましょう。
Ja, nani ka tabemashō.
"OK, so let's eat something."

2. いいですね。
Ii desu ne.
"That sounds good."

3. たこやきはどうですか。
Takoyaki wa dō desu ka.
"How about octopus dumplings?"

4. たこ？たこはちょっと…。
Tako? Tako wa chotto....
"Octopus? Octopus is kind of..."

Reference

Please also review the following Grammar Points.

- [something] *wa hajimete desu.* → Lower Beginner Season 1 Lesson 13
- Verb *mashō* → Absolute Beginner Season 2 Lesson 22
- ... *wa dō desu ka.* → Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 13
- ... *wa chotto...* → Absolute Beginner Season 2 Lesson 18

- [item] *onegaishimasu* → Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 5

- Big numbers → Absolute Beginner Season 2 Lesson 12

CULTURAL INSIGHT

***Yatai*, Food Stalls in Japan**

You can see *yatai*, meaning "food stalls," lined up along a main street at any festivals in Japan. They are usually described as small mobile shops with wheels or tents that sell food or toys. Some of the common stalls would be *yakisoba*, which sell "pan-fried noodles"; *okonomiyaki*, which sell "savory Japanese pancakes"; *anzu ame*, which sell "candy apricots"; and *wata ame*, which sell "fairy floss." Because these stalls are special for festivals, the price tends to be more expensive than that in any other place. For example, one serving of *okonomiyaki* costs 500 yen or more (at the time of writing in 2013).

LESSON NOTES

Lower Beginner #15
Lucking Out in Japan

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6 Grammar
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KANJI

1. (Supermarket)

2. SHOP CLERK 1: おかいけい、1000円です。
   レジぶくろ、ごりようですか。

3. EMILY: ごりよう？…すみません。何ですか。

4. SHOP CLERK 1: レジぶくろを　つかいますか。

5. EMILY: いいえ、つかいません。

6. SHOP CLERK 1: こちらは、ふくびきのチケットです。どうぞ。

7. (Lottery place)

8. SHOP CLERK 2: こちらにどうぞ。

9. (Emily spins the lottery wheel)

10. SHOP CLERK 2: おめでとうございます！きゅうしゅうりょこう、 にめいさま！

KANA

1. (Supermarket)

2. SHOP CLERK 1: おかいけい、1000えんです。
   レジぶくろ、ごりようですか。

3. EMILY: ごりよう？…すみません。なんですか。

CONT'D OVER

4. SHOP CLERK 1: レジぶくろを　つかいますか。

5. EMILY: いいえ、つかいません。

6. SHOP CLERK 1: こちらは、ふくびきのチケットです。どうぞ。

7. (Lottery place)

8. SHOP CLERK 2: こちらにどうぞ。

9. (Emily spins the lottery wheel)

10. SHOP CLERK 2: おめでとうございます！きゅうしゅうりょこう、 にめいさま！

ROMANIZATION

1. (Supermarket)

2. SHOP CLERK 1: O-kaikei, sen-en desu.
Reji bukuro, go-riyō desu ka.

3. EMILY: Go-riyō?... Sumimasen. Nan' desu ka.

4. SHOP CLERK 1: Reji bukuro o tsukaimasu ka.

5. EMILY: Iie, tsukaimasen.

6. SHOP CLERK 1: Kochira wa, fukubiki no chiketto desu. Dōzo.

7. (Lottery place)

8. SHOP CLERK 2: Kochira ni dōzo.

CONT'D OVER

9. (Emily spins the lottery wheel)

10. SHOP CLERK 2: Omedetō gozaimasu! Kyūshū ryokō, ni-mei-sama!

ENGLISH

1. (Supermarket)

2. SHOP CLERK 1: Your total comes to 1000 yen.
Would you like a carrier bag?

3. EMILY: goriyo?... Excuse me, what's that.

4. SHOP CLERK 1: Do you need a bag?

5. EMILY: No, I don't.

6. SHOP CLERK 1: Here's your lottery ticket.

7. (Lottery place)

8. SHOP CLERK 2: This way, please.

9. (Emily spins the lottery wheel)

10. SHOP CLERK 2: Congratulations! You've won a trip for two to Kyushu.

VOCABULARY

Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English

きゅうしゅう	きゅうしゅう	Kyūshū	Kyushu (one of the four main islands in Japan)
つかいます	つかいます	tsukaimasu	to use;V1
レジぶくろ	れじぶくろ	reji bukuro	shopping bag, carrier bag (usually plastic or paper bags)
円	えん	en	Yen (Japanese currency)
おめでとうございます。	おめでとうございます。	Omedetō gozaimasu	Congratulations. (formal)
チケット	チケット	chiketto	ticket
りょこう	りょこう	ryokō	travel, trip
かいけい	かいけい	kaikei	bill, total amout of cost

SAMPLE SENTENCES

きゅうしゅうはおきなわのちかくにあります。 *Kyūshū wa Okinawa no chikaku ni arimasu.* Kyushu is near Okinawa.	スプーンをつかいます。 *Supūn o tsukaimasu.* I use a spoon.
レジぶくろ、ごりようですか。 *Reji bukuro, go-riyō desu ka.* Would you like a carrier bag?	アップルパイは100円です。 *Appuru pai wa 100-en desu.* Apple pie is 100yen.
たんじょうび おめでとうございます。 *Tanjōbi omedetō gozaimasu.* Happy birthday.(formal)	『ポケモン』のチケット、おねがいします。 *"Pokemon" no chiketto, onegai shimasu.* A ticket for "Pokemon," please.

らいげつ、かいしゃのきゅうしゅうりょこうがあります。 *Raigetsu, kaisha no Kyūshū ryokō ga arimasu.* We have the company trip to Kyushu.	おかいけい、おねがいします。 *O-kaikei, onegai shimasu.* Check, please.

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

お会計 (*o-kaikei*)

The word *kaikei* means "check," "bill," "reckoning," or "accounting." We often use it at a cash register when the shop clerk tells a customer the total price. In polite speech, the honorific prefix *o-* precedes *kaikei*. Also when you ask a bill at the restaurant, you can use *o-kaikei* to speak politely.

For Example:

1. おかいけい、980円です。
   O-kaikei, kyū-hyaku hachi-jū-en desu.
   "Your total comes to 980 yen."

2. おかいけい、おねがいします。
   O-kaikei, onegai shimasu.
   "Check, please."

レジぶくろ (*reji bukuro*)

Reji is the contracted word of *rejisutā*, meaning "cash register," and *-bukuro* means "-bag." In Japan, supermarkets and retail shops have started asking their customers to bring their own shopping bags instead of using plastic bags they provide. It aims for reducing unnecessary rubbish and for saving our recourse. Some stores sell the bags for around ten yen each.

ふくびき *(fukubiki)*

This means "lottery," but you don't usually pay for the tickets. It is often held by the commercial districts. When you buy something there up to a certain amount, you can get a ticket. When you get a certain number of tickets, you can play the lottery. You usually turn the lottery box with its handle, and a small colored ball comes out. The awards are determined by colors. The best prize can be a pair of travel tickets, and the worst one can be a pack of tissue.

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is Polite Japanese You'll Hear at Shops.

レジぶくろ、ごりようですか

Reji bukuro, go-riyō desu ka.

"Would you like a carrier bag?"

This lesson's grammar point is the polite Japanese you'll hear at shops. Let's take a look at each phrase you saw in the dialogue.

Asking Whether You Need Something

When a shop assistant asks you whether you need something, we commonly use this. When you answer this, you can simply reply, *hai* or *iie*.

Japanese	[item]	ごりようですか。
Romanization	[item]	*go-riyō desu ka.*
"English"	"Would you like [item]?"	

Possible answers:

YES →

はい、つかいます。	*Hai, tsukaimasu.*
"Yes, I use/need it."	
はい。	*Hai.*
"Yes."	

NO →

いいえ、つかいません。	*Iie, tsukaimasen.*
"No, I don't use/need."	
いいえ。	*Iie.*

"No."

Especially in convenience stores and supermarkets, you'll be surprised by many questions you will hear at a register. Let's take a look at common questions you'll hear at a shop.

For Example:

1. おはし、ごりようですか。
   O-hashi, go-riyō desu ka.
   "Would you use chopsticks?"

2. ポイントカード、ご利用ですか。
   Pointo kādo, go-riyō desu ka.
   "Would you have a reward card?"

3. おてふき、ごりようですか。
   O-tefuki, go-riyō desu ka.
   "Would you use a wet towel?

4. レシート、ごりようですか。
   Reshīto, go-riyō desu ka.
   "Would you need a receipt?

Showing a Direction

As you learned in Lesson 3, we use こちら (*kochira*) for someone beside you when you introduce her/him to other people. This time, *kochira* means "this way," and it makes a very polite expression meaning "this way please." You'll hear this when a waiter takes you to your table or when a shop assistant takes you to a fitting room.

Japanese	こちらに どうぞ。
Romanization	*Kochira ni dōzo.*
"English"	"This way, please."

For Example:

1. (You would like to try on pants at a clothes shop.)
Customer: すみません、しちゃくしつは どこですか。
Sumimasen, shichakushitsu wa doko desu ka.
"Excuse me, but where is the fitting room?"
Shop assistant: こちらに どうぞ。
Kochira ni dōzo.
"This way, please."

Tell a Number of People

When shop assistants or waiters refer to the number of people in a group, they usually use -mei. This is the extra polite counter for a number of people. Please note that you cannot use this to refer to your own group.

Japanese	[number] + めい
Romanization	[number] + *mei*
"English"	"[number] of people"

For Example:

1. 4めいさまですか。こちらに どうぞ。
Yon-mei-sama desu ka. Kochira ni dōzo.
"Group of four? This way, please."

Examples from This Dialogue

1. おかいけい、1000円です。レジぶくろ、ごりようですか。
O-kaikei, sen'en desu. Reji bukuro, go-riyō desu ka.
"Your total comes to 1000 yen. Would you like a carrier bag?"

2. こちらにどうぞ。
Kochira ni dōzo.
"This way, please."

3. おめでとうございます！きゅうしゅうりょこう、にめいさま！
Omedetō gozaimasu! Kyūshū ryokō, ni-mei-sama!
"Congratulations! You've won a trip for two to Kyushu!"

Reference

Please also review the following Grammar Points:

- Big numbers → Absolute Beginner Season 2 Lesson 12
- Verb sentences → Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 21
- Negative form of the verb *masu* form → Absolute Beginner Season 2 Lesson 18
- particle *o* → Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 21

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Reji Bukuro, Meaning "Shopping Bags"

Reji bukuro literally means "cash register" and "bag," turning into "carrier bag" or "shopping bag." It usually refers to plastic bags you get from supermarkets or convenience stores. The shopping bags used to be paper, but plastic bags have taken their place now. Since the bags are made by fossil fuel and said not to be friendly to the environment, more and more stores have decided to sell them instead of giving customers for free. It aims at reducing unnecessary rubbish. Instead, people gradually bring their own bags for shopping, which are called *Eko baggu*. How about in your country? Do you use *reji bukuro* or *eko baggu*?

LESSON NOTES

Lower Beginner #16
Going on a Weekend Trip in Japan

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5 Vocabulary Phrase Usage
6 Grammar
9 Cultural Insight

#16

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KANJI

1. （sound of a rolling bag-suitcase)

2. MR. HAYASHI: こんにちは。りょこうですか。

3. KEN: はい。九しゅうにいきます。

4. MR. HAYASHI: 九しゅうのどこですか。

5. EMILY: かごしまです。

6. MR. HAYASHI: わたしのふるさと！かごしま！いいところですよ。

7. EMILY: おんせんにいきたいです。おすすめ、ありますか。

8. MR. HAYASHI: いぶすきおんせんはゆうめいですよ。
いいですね。わたしもかごしまにかえりたい。

KANA

1. （sound of a rolling bag-suitcase)

2. MR. HAYASHI: こんにちは。りょこう ですか。

3. KEN: はい。きゅうしゅうに いきます。

4. MR. HAYASHI: きゅうしゅうの どこですか。

5. EMILY: かごしまです。

6. MR. HAYASHI: わたしの ふるさと！かごしま！いいところ ですよ。

CONT'D OVER

7. EMILY: おんせんに いきたいです。おすすめ、ありますか。

8. MR. HAYASHI: いぶすきおんせんは ゆうめいですよ。
いいですね。わたしも かごしまに かえりたい。

ROMANIZATION

1. (sound of a rolling bag-suitcase)

2. MR. HAYASHI: Konnichiwa. Ryokō desu ka.

3. KEN: Hai. Kyūshū ni ikimasu.

4. MR. HAYASHI: Kyūshū no doko desu ka.

5. EMILY: Kagoshima desu.

6. MR. HAYASHI: Watashi no furusato! Kagoshima! Ii tokoro desu yo.

7. EMILY: Onsen ni ikitai desu. Osusume, arimasu ka.

8. MR. HAYASHI: Ibusuki onsen wa yūmei desu yo.
Ii desu ne. Watashi mo kagoshima ni kaeritai.

ENGLISH

1. (sound of a rolling bag-suitcase)

2. MR. HAYASHI: Hello. Are you going on a trip?

CONT'D OVER

3. KEN: Yes. We're going to Kyushu.

4. MR. HAYASHI: Where in Kyushu?

5. EMILY: Kagoshima.

6. MR. HAYASHI: My home town! Kagoshima! It's a nice place.

7. EMILY: We want to go to a hot spring resort. Do you have any recommendations?

8. MR. HAYASHI: Ibusuki Hot Spring Resort is famous.
That sounds great. I want to go back to Kagoshima too.

VOCABULARY

Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English
かえります	かえります	kaerimasu	to return, come home, go home, go back;V1
ゆうめい	ゆうめい	yūmei	famous, fame;Adj(na)
いきます	いきます	ikimasu	to go ;V1, masu form
どこ	どこ	doko	where
おすすめ	おすすめ	osusume	recommendation
ふるさと	ふるさと	furusato	home town
おんせん	おんせん	onsen	hot spring, spa, onsen

SAMPLE SENTENCES

でんしゃでかえります。 *Densha de kaerimasu.* I go back home by train.	ブラジルのゆうめいなまつりは何ですか。 *Burajiru no yūmei na matsuri wa nan desu ka.* What's the famous festival in Brazil?
6がつ、とうきょうにいきます。 *Roku-gatsu, Tōkyō ni ikimasu.* I'm going to Tokyo in June.	ここはどこですか。 *Koko wa doko desu ka.* Where are we? (Literally: Where is here?)
おすすめは何ですか。 *O-susume wa nan desu ka.* What do you recommend?	６がつにふるさとに帰ります。 *Roku-gatsu ni furusato ni kaerimasu.* I'll go back my home town in June.
日本でおんせんにいきましたか。 *Nihon de onsen ni ikimashita ka.* Did you go to any hot springs in Japan?	

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

～のどこですか。(～*no doko desu ka.*)

You can use the phrase ～*no doko desu ka* when you ask for the details of a place or the specific location of something even though you know the broad idea. It means "Where is it in ～?" To use this phrase, you just put the broad area before the place. When you answer, please make sure that a larger place comes first and the specified place follows *no*. You can omit ～*no* part because it is obvious in the context.

For Example:

1. A: かごしまのおんせんはゆうめいですよ。
   Kagoshima no onsen wa yumei desu yo.
   "The hot spring is famous in Kagoshima."
   B: そうですか。かごしまのどこですか。
   Sō desu ka. Kagoshima no doko desu ka.
   "Oh really? Where is it in Kagoshima?"

2. A: (かごしまの) いぶすきです。
   (Kagoshima no) Ibusuki desu.
   "It's Ibusuki (in Kagoshima)."

おすすめ (*o-susume*)
O-susume means "recommendation," and we can use it to ask the question *O-susume wa arimasu ka* ("Do you have any recommendations?") Note that we can use this word in many situations: for example, asking for recommendations from someone who has preferred restaurants, stores, and so on.

For Example:

1. (at winery) おすすめはありますか。
   O-susume wa arimasu ka.
   "Do you have any recommendations?"

2. (at restaurant) きょうのおすすめはなんですか。
   Kyo no o-susume wan an desu ka.
   "What is the special today?"

おんせん (*onsen*)
Onsen means "hot spring." Unlike European hot springs, in Japan people get naked and enjoy the *onsen*. It usually has separate areas for females and males. When you go to a hot spring in Japan, please make sure to follow the usual manners. Wash your body, rinse off the bubbles, and enter the big hot spring tub.

For Example:

1. はこねのおんせんにいきましょう。
   Hakone no onsen ni ikimashō!
   "Let's go to the hot spring in Hakone!"

2. おんせんにサウナもあります。
   Onsen ni sauna mo arimasu.
   "There is a sauna in the hot spring."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is How to Express the Desire to Go Somewhere.
おんせんに いきたいです。
Onsen ni ikitai desu.
"We want to go to a hot spring resort."

This lesson's grammar point covers how to express one's desire to go somewhere using

[place] *ni ikitai desu*. Also, you'll learn the usage of the particle *ni*.

How to Express Your Desire to Go Somewhere

In order to form the expression, you can just add the place you want to go and continue the phrase: *-tai* indicates a desire when attached to verb. See the following table:

Japanese	[place]	に	いきたい	です。
Romanization	*[place]*	*ni*	*ikitai*	*desu.*
"English"	"I/We want to go to [place]."			

In a casual conversation, we often omit the last *-desu*. Also, when you say "I don't want to go...," you can use the phrase below.

Japanese	[place]	に	いきたくない	です。
Romanization	*[place]*	*ni*	*ikitakunai*	*desu.*
"English"	"I/We don't want to go to [place]."			

*Notice that *-tai* attaches to the part of verb without *-masu* and also has the same negative form, *-ku nai*, as the *I* adjective. Let's take a look at the example below.

For Example:

1. 日本に いきたい です。
   Nihon ni ikitai desu.
   "I/We want to go to Japan."

2. ヨーロッパに いきたい です。
   Yōroppa ni ikitai desu.
   "I/We want to go to Europe."

3. がっこうに いきたくない です。
   Gakko ni ikitaku nai desu.
   "I don't want to go school."

The Usage of the Particle *Ni*

As you can see in the dialogue, the verb *ikimasu* follows a sound, *ni*. It is a particle that marks a direction, which is the place or goal toward which the action moves. Do you remember that we learned the usage of the verb meaning "to go" or "to come" in Absolute Beginner series Season 1 Lesson 23? Its structure, A *wa* B *ni* [verb indicating motion], uses the same particle.

For Example:

1. コンビニに いきます。
   Konbini ni ikimasu.
   "I go to the convenience store."

2. かおりさんも カジノに 来ますか。
   Kaori-san mo kajino ni kimasu ka.
   "Kaori, will you come to the casino with me?"

3. ふるさとに かえりたい です。
   Furusato ni kaeritai desu.
   "I/We want to go back my/our hometown."

Examples From This Dialogue

1. 九しゅうに いきます。
   Kyūshū ni ikimasu.
   "We're going to Kyushu.."

2. おんせん にいきたい です。
   Onsen ni ikitai desu.
   "We want to go to a hot spring resort."

3. わたしも かごしまに かえりたい。
   Watashi mo kagoshima ni kaeritai.
   "I want to go back to Kagoshima too. "

Reference

Please also review the following Grammar Points.

- [place] *ni ikimasu* → Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 23

- particle *ni* → Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 15

- particle *no*→ Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 10
- [item] *ga arimasu* → Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 19
- particle *mo* → Absolute Beginner Season 2 Lesson 2

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Kyūshū and *Kagoshima*

Kyushu is one of the main islands that is in the southern part of Japan. The main prefecture in *Kyushu* is actually the *Fukuoka* prefecture; however, the *Kagoshima* prefecture is also getting people's attention. You might have heard of *Yakushima* and *Yaku-sugi*. These are famous as two of the natural heritage sites. *Kagoshima* is also famous for having the Tanegashima Space Center (TNSC), one of the large centers of the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA). When you visit there, you should try the authentic foods as well. For example, *Shirokuma* ("shaved ice with fruits and syrup"), *Shōchū* ("Japanese distilled beverage made with rice, wheat, or sweet potato"), and so on!

LESSON NOTES

Lower Beginner #17
Are the Japanese Police Looking for You?

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KANJI

1. (Telephone)

2. WOMAN: はい、イノベイティブ・デザインです。

3. POLICE OFFICER: かごしまけいさつですが、Ken Woodさんはいますか。

4. WOMAN: Ken Wood ですか？しょうしょうおまちください。

5. ♪♪♪
:
 おまたせしました。Woodは木よう日までやすみです。
すみませんが、もういちど、おなまえをおねがいします。

6. POLICE OFFICER: かごしまけいさつの金木です。

7. WOMAN: けいさつ…。ごようけんは？

8. POLICE OFFICER: だいじょうぶです。また、でんわします。

KANA

1. (Telephone)

2. WOMAN: はい、イノベイティブ・デザインです。

3. POLICE OFFICER: かごしまけいさつですが、Ken Woodさんはいますか。

4. WOMAN: Ken Wood ですか？しょうしょうおまちください。

5. ♪♪♪
:
 おまたせしました。Woodはもくようびまでやすみです。
すみませんが、もういちど、おなまえをおねがいします。

CONT'D OVER

6. POLICE OFFICER: かごしまけいさつのかなきです。

7. WOMAN: けいさつ…。ごようけんは？

8. POLICE OFFICER: だいじょうぶです。また、でんわします。

ROMANIZATION

1. (Telephone)

2. WOMAN: Hai, Inobeitibu Dezain desu.

3. POLICE OFFICER: Kagoshima keisatsu desu ga, Ken Wood-san wa imasu ka.

4. WOMAN: Ken Wood desu ka? Shōshō o-machi kudasai.

5. ♪♪♪
: O-matase shimashita. Wood wa moku-yōbi made yasumi desu. Sumimasen ga, mō ichi-do, o-namae o onegai shimasu.

6. POLICE OFFICER: Kagoshima keisatsu no Kanaki desu.

7. WOMAN: Keisatsu.... go-yōken wa?

8. POLICE OFFICER: Daijōbu desu. Mata, denwa shimasu.

ENGLISH

1. (Telephone)

2. WOMAN: Yes, this is Innovative Design.

CONT'D OVER

3. POLICE OFFICER: This is the Kagoshima Police Department. Is Mr. Ken Wood there?

4. WOMAN: Ken Wood? Please wait a moment.

5. ♪♪♪
: Sorry to keep you waiting. Mr. Wood is on vacation until Thursday.
I'm sorry, but could I have your name again, please?

6. POLICE OFFICER: I'm Kanaki from the Kagoshima Police Department.

7. WOMAN: The police.... May I ask what it's about?

8. POLICE OFFICER: It's fine. I'll call back.

VOCABULARY

Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English
けいさつ	けいさつ	keisatsu	police
おまちください	おまちください	o-machi kudasai	Please wait.
また	また	mata	again
もういちど	もういちど	mō ichi-do	once again, one more time, once more
おまたせしました	おまたせしました	O-matase shimashita.	Sorry to keep you waiting.
ようけん	ようけん	yōken	business, information that should be conveyed
まで	まで	made	until (a time, place)

SAMPLE SENTENCES

けいさつはどこですか。 *Keisatsu wa doko desu ka.* Where is the police office?	森ですね。しょうしょうおまちください。 *Mori desu ne. Shōshō o-machi kudasai.* Mori, right? Please wait a moment.
じゃ、また。 *Ja, mata.* See you later.	もういちど、おねがいします。 *Mō ichi-do, onegaishimasu.* Once more, please.
おまたせしました。もりです。 *O-matase shimashita. Mori desu.* Sorry to keep you waiting. I'm Mori.	ごようけん は何ですか？ *Go-yōken wa nan desu ka?* May I ask what it's about?

よる８じまではたらきます。
Yoru hachi-ji made hatarakimasu.

I work until 8 o'clock at night.

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

けいさつ (*keisatsu*)
This means "police" in English and sometimes indicates "police person" as well. It is one of the national government agencies. The police usually wear a uniform and have a gun in case of an emergency. You can see them on street and also at Koban, known as the "police box."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is Useful Expressions on the Phone.
かごしまけいさつですが、Ken Woodさんはいますか。
Kagoshima keisatsu desu ga, Ken Wood-san wa imasu ka.
"This is the Kagoshima Police Department. Is Mr. Ken Wood there? "

Today's grammar point is about the useful expressions on a phone. Let's have a look at them.

Asking Whether Someone Is There

In order to ask whether someone is there, add the name of the person you would like to

talk to and use this phrase. Please note that it is better that the polite suffix *-san* follows the name, especially on business and formal occasions.

Japanese	[name]	は います か。
Romanization	[name]	*wa imasu ka.*
"English"	"Is [name] there?"	

For Example:

1. エミリーさん は　いますか。
   Emirī-san wa imasu ka.
   "Is Emily there?"

2. サラちゃん は いますか。
   Sara-chan wa imasu ka.
   "Is Sarah there?"

Do you remember that Kaori said *Sara-chan* instead of *Sara-san* to call a baby (Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 17)? People commonly use it when they call girls. For boys, people commonly use *-kun*.

Other Useful Phrases

These are the useful phrases when you answer the phone but need to bring someone else to answer.
1. *Shōshō* is a formal vocabulary word that means "a moment."

For Example:

1. しょうしょうおまちください。
   Shōshō o-machi kudasai.
   "Please wait a moment."

2. Because you keep the audience waiting and say this, the end of the sentence should be in the past form, *-mashita*.

For Example:

1. おまたせしました。
O-matase shimashita.
"Sorry to keep you waiting."

3. You usually omit the latter part, as you saw in the dialogue. *Go-* is a prefix that makes *yōken* more formal

For Example:

1. ごようけん は（何ですか）？
Go-yōken wa (nan desu ka?)
"May I ask what it's about?"

Examples from This Dialogue

1. かごしまけいさつですが、Ken Woodさんはいますか。
Kagoshima keisatsu desu ga, Ken Wood-san wa imasu ka.
"This is the Kagoshima Police Department. Is Mr. Ken Wood there? "

2. しょうしょうおまちください。
Shōshō o-machi kudasai.
"Please wait a moment. "

3. おまたせしました。
O-matase shimashita.
"Sorry to keep you waiting."

4. ごようけんは？
Go-yōken wa?
"May I ask what it's about?"

Reference

Please also review the following Grammar Points.

- [animate objects] *ga imasu* →Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 20

- days of the week → Lower Beginner Season 1 Lesson 12

- *onegai shimasu* →Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 5

- [Name of occupation] *no* [Name] → Lower Beginner Season 1 Lesson 3

CULTURAL INSIGHT

In-Group and Out-Group in Japanese

Japanese people recognize relationships as falling into two groups: one is called an in-group, and the other is an out-group. They affect the usage of the language. In-group refers to someone a speaker thinks is close to the speaker psychologically. It usually includes his or her family members, close friends, and so on, and casual speech tends to be used. On the other hand, out-group refers to someone a speaker thinks is not as close as the member of her/his in-group, and they usually use formal speech. In the dialogue, the policeman added the polite suffix *-san* to Mr. Wood's name because Mr. Wood is not in his in-group. The woman, however, doesn't because they are colleagues, so Mr. Wood is in her in-group.

LESSON NOTES

Lower Beginner #18
Dining Out in Japan

CONTENTS

2 Kanji
2 Kana
3 Romanization
4 English
4 Vocabulary
5 Sample Sentences
5 Vocabulary Phrase Usage
7 Grammar
11 Cultural Insight

#18

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KANJI

1. WAITRESS: いらっしゃいませ。何めいさまですか。
2. KEN: 二人です。
3. WAITRESS: おたばこは。
4. Kenすいません。きんえんせき、おねがいします。
5. WAITRESS: こちらにどうぞ。
6. KEN: 生ビールをふたつ。それから・・・ぶたのしゃぶしゃぶコースをふたつ、おねがいします。
7. WAITRESS: 生ビール、ふたつと、ぶたのしゃぶしゃぶコース、ふたつですね。しょうしょうおまちください。
8. ...
9. WAITRESS: おかいけい、20000円です。
10. KEN: カードではらいます。あれ？さいふ・・・。さいふが・・・。

KANA

1. WAITRESS: いらっしゃいませ。なんめいさまですか。
2. KEN: ふたりです。
3. WAITRESS: おたばこは。

CONT'D OVER

4. KEN: すいません。きんえんせき、おねがいします。

5. WAITRESS: こちらにどうぞ。

6. KEN: なまビールをふたつ。それから・・・ぶたのしゃぶしゃぶコースをふたつ、おねがいします。

7. WAITRESS: なまビール、ふたつと、ぶたのしゃぶしゃぶコース、ふたつですね。しょうしょうおまちください。

8. ...

9. WAITRESS: おかいけい、にまんえんです。

10. KEN: カードではらいます。あれ？さいふ・・・。さいふが・・・。

ROMANIZATION

1. WAITRESS: Irasshaimase. Nan'mei-sama desu ka.

2. KEN: Futari desu.

3. WAITRESS: O-tabako wa.

4. KEN: Suimasen. Kin'en-seki, onegai shimasu.

5. WAITRESS: Kochira ni dōzo.

6. KEN: Nama bīru o futatsu. Sore kara... Buta no shabushabu kōsu o futatsu, onegai shimasu.

CONT'D OVER

7. WAITRESS: Nama bīru, futatsu to, buta no shabushabu kōsu, futatsu desu ne. Shōshō o-machi kudasai.

8. ...

9. WAITRESS: O-kaikei, ni-man-en desu.

10. KEN: Kādo de haraimasu. Are? Saifu.... Saifu ga...

ENGLISH

1. WAITRESS: Welcome. How many in your party?

2. KEN: Two.

3. WAITRESS: Do you smoke?

4. KEN: No. A nonsmoking table, please.

5. WAITRESS: This way, please.

6. KEN: Two draught beers. And...two pork shabu-shabu courses, please.

7. WAITRESS: Two draught beers and two pork shabu-shabu courses. Please wait a moment.

8. ...

9. WAITRESS: Your bill comes to 20,000 yen.

10. KEN: I'll pay by card. Huh? My wallet...my wallet!

VOCABULARY

Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English
ぶた	ぶた	buta	pig, pork
さいふ	さいふ	saifu	wallet, purse
二人	ふたり	futari	two people
カード	かーど	kādo	card, credit card
はらいます	はらいます	haraimasu	to pay;V1
きんえん	きんえん	kin'en	non-smoking
たばこ	たばこ	tabako	cigarettes
二つ	ふたつ	futatsu	2 things (general counter)
生ビール	なまビール	namabīru	draft beer, draught beer

SAMPLE SENTENCES

ぶたにくがすきです。 *Buta niku ga suki desu.* I like pork.	かわいいさいふをかいました。 *Kawaii saifu o kaimashita.* I bought a cute wallet.
カードではらいます。 *Kādo de haraimasu.* I'll pay by card.	わたしがはらいます。おごりますよ。 *Watashi ga haraimasu. Ogorimasu yo.* I'll pay for you. I'll treat you.
きんえんせきはありますか。 *Kin'enseki wa arimasu ka.* Do you have non-smoking tables？	たばこをよく吸いますか。 *Tabako o yoku suimasu ka.* Do you often smoke?
ビール、二つください。 *Bīru, futatsu kudasai.* 2 glasses of beer, please.	生ビール、お願いします。 *Namabīru, onegai shimasu.* Draft beer, please.

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

counter for people

You can use this set of counters when you say your own group. Although above the number three, you add *-nin* to the general number, the first two do not follow any kind of pattern, so you must memorize them. Practically, let's memorize the smallest number first and remember the rest.

	Japanese	*Romanization*	"English"
1	一人	*hitori*	"one person"
2	二人	*futari*	"two people"
3	三人	*san-nin*	"three people"
4	四人	*yo-nin*	"four people"
5	ご人	*go-nin*	"five people"
6	ろく人	*roku-nin*	"six people"
7	なな人	*nana-nin*	"seven people"
8	はち人	*hachi-nin*	"eight people"
9	九人	*kyū-nin*	"nine people"
10	じゅう人	*jū-nin*	"ten people"
	何人	*nan-nin*	"How many people?"

For Example:

1. いもうとが 三人います。
   Imōto ga san-nin imasu.
   "I have three sisters."

counter for items

We use the suffix *-tsu* for counting items. Let's review them and also have a closer look at five to ten. Please also have a look at Lower Beginner Season 1 Lesson 14.

	Japanese	*Romanization*	"English"
1	一つ	*hitotsu*	"one item"
2	二つ	*futatsu*	"two items"
3	三つ	*mittsu*	"three items"
4	四つ	*yottsu*	"four items"
5	いつつ	*itsutsu*	"five items"
6	むっつ	*muttsu*	"six items"
7	ななつ	*nanatsu*	"seven items"
8	やっつ	*yattsu*	"eight items"
9	九つ	*kokonotsu*	"nine items"
10	とお	*tō*	"ten items"
	いくつ	*ikutsu*	"How many items?"

For Example:

1. *生ビールをむっつ、おねがいします。*
   Nama bīru o muttsu, onegai shimasu.
   "Six draught beers, please."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is Useful Expressions at a Restaurant.
それから・・・ぶたのしゃぶしゃぶコースをふたつ、おねがいします。
Sore kara...Buta no shabushabu kōsu o futatsu, onegai shimasu.
"And...two pork shabu-shabu courses, please."

This lesson's grammar point is useful expressions at a restaurant. Let's have a look at them.

Phrases You Might Be Asked

You'll hear waitresses and waiters saying these phrases. Let's have a look at each phrases and practice how to answer!

1.

Japanese	何めいさま です か。
Romanization	*Nan-mei sama desu ka?*
"English"	"How many in your party?"

Do you remember the counter for people, *-mei*, that shop assistants use? This phrase uses *-mei* followed by the polite suffix for people, *-sama*.

2.

Japanese	おたばこ は？
Romanization	*O-tabako wa?*
English	"Do you smoke?"

O-tabako is a word meaning "cigarette" or "tobacco" followed by the polite prefix *o-*, which literally just means "Cigarette?" and turns to "Do you smoke?" It is because some restaurants have a smoking area and a nonsmoking area.

Phrases You Use

These are useful phrases when you answer the phone but need to bring someone else to answer.

1.

Japanese	きんえんせき おねがいします。
Romanization	*Kin'enseki onegai shimasu.*
"English"	"A nonsmoking table, please."

Kin'en means "nonsmoking," and *kin'enseki* means "nonsmoking table." If you smoke, you

can use this phrase by replacing *kinen* with *kitsuen*, which means "smoking."

2.

Japanese	[item]を [number], おねがいします
Romanization	*[item]o [number], onegai shimasu.*
"English"	"[number] [item], please."

When you order items and indicate its amount, you just insert the number between [item] *o* and *onegai shimasu* followed by a counter. Please note that the order of item and number is different from English structure.

3.

Japanese	[card/cash]で はらいます。
Romanization	[card/cash] *de haraimasu.*
"English"	"I'll pay by [card/cash]."

You can usually select the means of payment. Most restaurants accept credit cards. See the following vocabulary below.

Japanese	***Romanization***	**"English"**
げん金	*genkin*	"cash"
カード クレジットカード	*kādo* *kurejitto kādo*	"credit card"

For Example:

1. A: おたばこ は？
   O-tabako wa?
   "Do you smoke?"
   B: はい、きつえんせき、おねがいします。
   Hai, kitsuenseki, onegai shimasu.
   "Yes, a smoking table, please."

2. げん金で はらいます。
Genkin de haraimasu.
"I'll pay by [card/cash]."

Examples From This Dialogue

1. 何めいさまですか。
Nan'mei-sama desu ka.
"How many in your party? "

2. おたばこは。
O-tabako wa."
"Do you smoke?"

3. きんえんせき、おねがいします。
Kin'en-seki, onegai shimasu.
"A nonsmoking table, please. "

4. それから・・・ぶたのしゃぶしゃぶコースをふたつ、おねがいします。
Sore kara... Buta no shabushabu kōsu o futatsu, onegai shimasu.
"And...two pork shabu-shabu courses, please. "

5. カードではらいます。
Kādo de haraimasu.
"I'll pay by card."

Reference

Please also review the following Grammar Points.

- *-mei* (counter for people) →Lower Beginner Season 1 Lesson 15
- [item] *onegai shimasu* →Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 5
- general counter for item →Lower Beginner Season 1 Lesson 14
- *Kochira ni dōzo.* →Lower Beginner Season 1 Lesson 15

- *Shōshō o-machi kudasai.* → Lower Beginner Season 1 Lesson 17

- big numbers →Absolute Beginner Season 2 Lesson 12

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Shabushabu

This is a Japanese dish that consists of thinly sliced meat and vegetables. You grab a slice of meat, stir it in the pot, and eat it with dipping sauces. The pot usually contains a seaweed or mushroom soup stock called *dashi*. Some of the common sauces are *gomadare* ("sesame sauce") and *ponzu*, a tart, thin, and watery sauce with soy sauce and citrus.

LESSON NOTES

Lower Beginner #19
Getting a New Credit Card in Japan

CONTENTS

2 Kanji
2 Kana
3 Romanization
3 English
4 Vocabulary
4 Sample Sentences
5 Vocabulary Phrase Usage
6 Grammar
8 Cultural Insight

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KANJI

1. (Telephone)
2. OPERATOR: ピサカードです。
3. KEN: カードをおとしました。
4. OPERATOR: おなまえをおねがいします。
5. KEN: Ken Wood です。
6. OPERATOR: せいねんがっぴをおねがいします。
7. KEN: せいねん…？
8. OPERATOR: たんじょう日はいつですか。せいれきからおねがいします。
9. Ken １０月…。すみません、えいごのオペレーター、いますか。

KANA

1. (Telephone)
2. OPERATOR: ピサカードです。
3. KEN: カードをおとしました。
4. OPERATOR: おなまえをおねがいします。
5. KEN: Ken Wood です。

CONT'D OVER

6. OPERATOR: せいねんがっぴをおねがいします。

7. KEN: せいねん…？

8. OPERATOR: たんじょうびはいつですか。せいれきからおねがいします。

9. KEN: じゅうがつ…。すみません、えいごのオペレーター、いますか。

ROMANIZATION

1. (Telephone)

2. OPERATOR: Pisa kādo desu.

3. KEN: Kādo o otoshimashita.

4. OPERATOR: O-namae o onegai shimasu.

5. KEN: Ken Wood desu.

6. OPERATOR: Seinen gappi o onegai shimasu.

7. KEN: Seinen...?

8. OPERATOR: Tanjōbi wa itsu desu ka. Seireki kara onegai shimasu.

9. KEN: Jū-gatsu.... sumimasen, eigo no operētā, imasu ka.

ENGLISH

CONT'D OVER

1. (Telephone)

2. OPERATOR: You've reached Pisa Card Services.

3. KEN: I dropped my card.

4. OPERATOR: May I have your name, please?

5. KEN: Ken Wood.

6. OPERATOR: Your date of birth, please?

7. KEN: Date...?

8. OPERATOR: When is your birthday? From the Western calendar year, please.

9. KEN: October... Excuse me, is there an English-speaking operator?

VOCABULARY

Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English
おとします	おとします	otoshimasu	to drop something, lose something;V1
せいねんがっぴ	せいねんがっぴ	seinen gappi	date of birth
せいれき	せいれき	seireki	AD, a time reference based on Christian era
たんじょう日	たんじょうび	tanjoubi	birthday
オペレーター	オペレーター	operētā	operator
いつ	いつ	itsu	when

SAMPLE SENTENCES

けいたいでんわをおとしました。 *Keitai denwa o otoshimashita.* I lost my mobile phone.	生ねん月日はいつですか。 *Seinen gappi wa itsu desu ka.* When is your date of birth?
たんじょう日はせいれき1987年6月です。 *Tanjōbi wa seireki sen kyū-hyaku hachi-jū nana-nen roku-gatsu desu.* My birthday is in June 1987 in the Christian Era.	たんじょうび おめでとうございます。 *Tanjōbi omedetō gozaimasu.* Happy birthday.(formal)
オペレーターが客と話す。 *Operētā ga kyaku to hanasu.* The operator talks with a customer.	いつ アメリカ に いきますか。 *Itsu Amerika ni ikimasu ka.* When are you going to America?

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

せいねんがっぴ (*seinen gappi*)

We write *seinen gappi* as 生年月日 in kanji. You studied 生 as in 生ビール (*namabīru*, "draft beer") and 日 as in 日本 (*Nihon*, "Japan"). As in 生年月日, 生 means "birth," 年 means "year," 月 means "month," and 日 means "date." All together, it means "date of birth." You'll see this word on application forms.

For Example:

1. せいねんがっぴをおねがいします。
   Seinen gappi o onegai shimasu.
   "Your date of birth, please?"

month of the year

For months, we add *-gatsu* (月) to the number. *-gatsu* is a counter suffix indicating "month of the year." Please note that "April" is *shi-gatsu*, not *yon-gatsu*, and "September" is *ku-gatsu*, not *kyū-gatsu*. "July" can be *nana-gatsu*, but *shichi-gatsu* is more commonly used. See the details in the following table.

Japanese	*Romanization*	"English"
一月	*ichi-gatsu*	"January"

二月	*ni-gatsu*	"February"
三月	*san-gatsu*	"March"
し月	**shi-gatsu*	"April"
ご月	*go-gatsu*	"May"
ろく月	*roku-gatsu*	"June"
しち月	*shichi-gatsu*	"July"
はち月	*hachi-gatsu*	"August"
九月	**ku-gatsu*	"September"
じゅう月	*jū-gatsu*	"October"
じゅう一月	*jūichi-gatsu*	"November"
じゅう二月	*jūni-gatsu*	"December"
何月	*nan-gatsu*	"What month...?"

For Example:

1. A: たんじょう日は何月ですか。
   Tanjōbi wa nan-gatsu desu ka.
   "What month is your birthday in?"
   B: (たんじょう日は) ろく月です。
   (*Tanjōbi wa) roku-gatsu desu.*
   "It is in June."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is the Past Tense of a Verb.
カードをおとしました。
Kādo o otoshimashita.
"I dropped my card."

This lesson's grammar point is the review of the past tense of a verb, using *-mashita*. We studied this in Absolute Beginner Season 2 Lesson 19.

Formation

In order to form the past form of a verb,
1) remove the final *-masu* and
2) attach *-mashita*.

Let's have a look at the formation with some of the verbs you have studied so far.

For Example:

Meaning	Non-Past		Past
"to drop something"	おとします *otoshimasu*	⇒	おとしました *otoshimashita*
"to get to," "to arrive at"	つきます *tsukimasu*	⇒	つきました *tsukimashita*
"to go"	いきます *ikimasu*	⇒	いきました *ikimashita*
"to use"	つかいます *tsukaimasu*	⇒	つかいました *tsukaimashita*
"to exist," "to have"	あります *arimasu*	⇒	ありました *arimashita*
"to buy someone something""	おごります *ogorimasu*	⇒	おごりました *ogorimashita*
"to eat"	たべます *tabemasu*	⇒	たべました *tabemashita*
"to exist," "to have "	います *imasu*	⇒	いました *imashita*
"to look" "to watch"	みます *mimasu*	⇒	みました *mimashita*

"to do"	します *shimasu*	⇒	しました *shimashita*
"to come"	きます *kimasu*	⇒	きました *kimashita*

For Example:

1. A: あさごはんをたべましたか。
   Asagohan o tabemashita ka.
   "Did you eat breakfast?"

2. B: はい、シリアルを食べました。
   Hai, shiriaru o tabemashita.
   "Yes, I had some cereal."

Examples From This Dialogue

1. カードをおとしました。
   Kādo o otoshimashita.
   "I dropped my card."

Reference

Please also review the following Grammar Points.

- past form of a verb →Absolute Beginner Season 2 Lesson 19
- *[item] onegai shimasu* →Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 5
- *[A] wa [question word] desu ka?* →Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 13
- *[animate objects] ga imasu* →Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 20

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Do You Use a Credit Card When Shopping?

It's common for adult Japanese people to hold some credit cards. Most people usually use them only for a big shopping trip. Even some stores don't accept your cards when your purchase is less than 3,000 yen. Recently, however, more and more people pay by their credit cards, even for small shopping. This isn't only because using credit cards daily is getting more common, but also because most credit cards offer a reward point system that may be redeemed for cash, products, or airline tickets.

LESSON NOTES

Lower Beginner #20
Are You Having a Bad Time in Japan?

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#20

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KANJI

1. (Office)
2. KEN: かごしまに行きました。おみやげです。どうぞ。(sigh)
3. COLLEAGUE: ありがとうございます。りょこうはたのしかったですか。
4. KEN: (sigh)さいあくでした。さいふをおとしました。
5. COLLEAGUE: えー？！たいへんでしたね。
6. KEN: はい。とても高いさいふでした。(sigh)
7. COLLEAGUE: けいさつにれんらくしましたか。
8. KEN: けいさつ？いいえ。
9. (Telephone)
10. COLLEAGUE2: Woodさん、かごしまけいさつから、でんわです。

KANA

1. (Office)
2. KEN: かごしまにいきました。おみやげです。どうぞ。(sigh)
3. COLLEAGUE: ありがとうございます。りょこうはたのしかったですか。
4. KEN: (sigh)さいあくでした。さいふをおとしました。

CONT'D OVER

5. COLLEAGUE: えー？！たいへんでしたね。

6. KEN: はい。とてもたかいさいふでした。(sigh)

7. COLLEAGUE: けいさつにれんらくしましたか。

8. KEN: けいさつ？いいえ。

9. (Telephone)

10. COLLEAGUE2: Woodさん、かごしまけいさつから、でんわです。

ROMANIZATION

1. (Office)

2. KEN: Kagoshima ni ikimashita. O-miyage desu. Dōzo.(sigh)

3. COLLEAGUE: Arigatō gozaimasu. Ryokō wa tanoshikatta desu ka.

4. KEN: (sigh) Saiaku deshita. Saifu o otoshimashita.

5. COLLEAGUE: ē?! Taihen deshita ne.

6. KEN: Hai. Totemo takai saifu deshita.(sigh)

7. COLLEAGUE: Keisatsu ni renraku shimashita ka.

8. KEN: Keisatsu? Iie.

9. (Telephone)

CONT'D OVER

10. COLLEAGUE2: Wood-san, Kagoshima keisatsu kara, denwa desu.

ENGLISH

1. (Office)

2. KEN: We went to Kagoshima. This is a souvenir. Here you are. (sigh)

3. COLLEAGUE: Thanks very much. Did you have a fun trip?

4. KEN: (sigh) It was terrible. I lost my wallet.

5. COLLEAGUE: What? That must have been awful.

6. KEN: Yes. It was a really expensive wallet. (sigh)

7. COLLEAGUE: Did you call the police?

8. KEN: The police? No.

9. (Telephone)

10. COLLEAGUE 2: Mr. Wood, there's a call for you from the Kagoshima Police Department.

VOCABULARY

Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English
でんわ	でんわ	denwa	telephone, phone call

れんらく	れんらく	renraku	contacting, call, connection
さいあく	さいあく	saiaku	terrible, (literally) the worst;Adj(na)
おみやげ	おみやげ	omiyage	a small gift, a souvenir
どうぞ	どうぞ	dōzo	go ahead, here you are
たいへん	たいへん	taihen	awful;Adj(na)
とても	とても	totemo	very;Adv

SAMPLE SENTENCES

もりさんにでんわしましたか。 *Mori-san ni denwa shimashita ka.* Did you call Mr. Mori?	さいふをおとしましたか。けいさつにれんらくしましょう。 *Saifu o otoshimashita ka. Keisatsu ni renraku shimashō.* Did you lose your wallet? Let's call the police.
りょこうはさいあくでした。 *Ryokō wa saiaku deshita.* The trip was terrible.	これはおみやげです。 *Kore wa omiyage desu.* This is a small gift for you.
はい、どうぞ。 *Hai, dōzo.* Here you go.	これはとてもおいしいです。 *Kore wa totemo oishii desu.* This is very tasty.

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

さいあく (*saiaku*)
This means "terrible" or "worst," and you can use it when something is not good at all.

For Example:

1. A: きのうのパーティはたのしかったですか。
Kinō no pātī wa tanoshikatta desu ka.
"Did you enjoy the party yesterday?"
B: いいえ、さいあくでした。
Iie, saiaku deshita.
"Not at all. It was terrible."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is The Past Sentences of an Adjective and a Noun.
りょこうはたのしかったですか。
Ryokō wa tanoshikatta desu ka.
"Did you have a fun trip?"

Today's grammar point is the review of the past tense of a verb with an *i* adjective. Please review Absolute Beginner Season 2 Lesson 24, which also covers the point. You'll also learn how to make the past form of a *na* adjective and a noun.

Review: Past Form of a Verb

In order to form the past form of a verb,
1) remove the final *-masu* and
2) attach *-mashita*

"English"	*Non-Past*		*Past*
"to eat"	たべます *tabemasu*	⇒	たべました *tabemashita*
"look" "watch"	みます *mimasu*	⇒	みました *mimashita*
"to do"	します *shimasu*	⇒	しました *shimashita*
"to come"	きます *kimasu*	⇒	きました *kimashita*

Review: Past Form of an *I*

Adjective

In order to make the past form of *I* adjectives,

1. remove the final *-i* and
2. attach *-katta*.
3. add *-desu* in a sentence

See the following table:

"English"	*I Adjective*				*Past*
"fun"	たのしい *tanoshii*	→	たのし-い *tanoshi-i*	→	たのしかった *tanoshikatta*
"small"	小さい *chiisai*	→	ちいさ-い *chiisa-i*	→	小さかった *chiisakatta*

There is one irregular *i* adjective. The adjective *ii*, meaning "good," is derived from the more polite *yoi*, and its past conjugation is based on *yoi*.

"English"	*I Adjective*				*Past*
"good"	いい （よい） *ii* *(yoi)*	→	い-い （よ-い） *i-i* *(yo-i)*	→	よかった *yokatta*

We conjugate adjectives that incorporate *ii* in the same way. For example, *kakkōii*, meaning "cool" or "good-looking," becomes *kakkōyokatta*.

Formation: Past Form of a *Na* Adjective

In order to form the past form of *na* adjective and noun,

1. remove the final *-na* or *-desu* and

2. attach *-deshita*

Let's have a look at the formation with some of the *na* adjectives and nouns you've studied so far.

"English"	Non-Past		Past
"terrible"	さいあく (な) *saiaku (na)*	⇒	さいあくでした *saiaku deshita*
"awful"	たいへん (な) *taihen (na)*	⇒	たいへんでした *taihen deshita*
"like"	すき (な) *suki (na)*	⇒	すきでした *suki deshita*
"easy"	かんたん (な) *kantan (na)*	⇒	かんたんでした *kantan deshita*
"special"	とくべつ (な) *tokubetsu(na)*	⇒	とくべつでした *tokubetsu deshita*
"famous"	ゆうめい (な) *yūmei (na)*	⇒	ゆうめいでした *yūmei deshita*

Do you remember that we have some confusing *na* adjectives? Let's review them.

"English"	Non-Past		Past
"clean" "beautiful"	きれい (な) *kirei (na)*	⇒	きれいでした *kirei deshita*
"dislike"	きらい (な) *kirai (na)*	⇒	きらいでした *kirai deshita*

For Example:

1. A: きのう、おまつりはたのしかったですか。
Kinō, o-matsuri wa tanoshikatta desu ka.
"Did you enjoy the festival yesterday?"
B: はい、はなびがきれいでした。
Hai, hanabi ga kirei deshita.
"Yes, the fireworks were beautiful."

Formation: Past Form of a Noun

In order to form the past form of a noun, the formula is the same as that of a *na* adjective.

It is just to add *-deshita* after a noun.

"English"	Non-Past		Past
"single"	どくしんです *dokushin desu*	⇒	どくしんでした *dokushin deshita*
"festival"	まつりです *matsuri desu*	⇒	まつりでした *matsuri deshita*

For Example:

1. A: それは いくらでしたか。
Sore wa ikura deshita.
"How much was that?"
B: (これは) 100えんでした。
(Kore wa) hyaku-en deshita.
"This was one hundred yen."

Examples From This Dialogue

1. かごしまに行きました。
Kagoshima ni ikimashita
"We went to Kagoshima."

2. りょこうはたのしかったですか。
Ryokō wa tanoshikatta desu ka.
"Did you have a fun trip?"

3. さいあくでした。
Saiaku deshita.
"It was terrible."

4. さいふをおとしました。
Saifu o otoshimashita.
"I lost my wallet. "

5. たいへんでしたね。
Taihen deshita ne.
That must have been awful."

6. とても高いさいふでした。
Totemo takai saifu deshita.
"It was a really expensive wallet."

7. けいさつにれんらくしましたか。
Keisatsu ni renraku shimashita ka.
"Did you call the police?"

Reference

Please also review the following Grammar Points.

- past form of a verb → Absolute Beginner Season 2 Lesson 19
- past form of an *i* adjective → Absolute Beginner Season 2 Lesson 24

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Omiyage ("Souvenirs")

"Souvenirs" are called *omiyage* in Japanese. As you would do in most places, it is also very common in Japan to give souvenirs to colleagues and friends when people come back from travel. Souvenirs are usually something particular to the place that they can get only in the place. Some typical examples would be local sweets, snacks, and small handcrafts. What would you bring to Japan as your hometown's or country's *omiyage*?

LESSON NOTES

Lower Beginner #21 Getting Some Good Japanese News

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#21

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KANJI

1. KEN: ...そうですか。しりませんでした。
…はい、わかりました。…ありがとうございました。

2. (hangs up the phone)

3. COLLEAGUE: うれしそうですね。

4. KEN: はい。おさいふがありました。

5. COLLEAGUE: よかったですね。

6. KEN: はい。でも、ふくおかにあります。

7. COLLEAGUE: ふくおか…。

8. KEN: だから、またふくおかに行きます。
ぶちょう、お休みをください。

9. BOSS: また？

KANA

1. KEN: ...そうですか。しりませんでした。
…はい、わかりました。…ありがとうございました。

2. (hangs up the phone)

3. COLLEAGUE: うれしそうですね。

4. KEN: はい。おさいふがありました。

CONT'D OVER

5. COLLEAGUE: よかったですね。

6. KEN: はい。でも、ふくおかにあります。

7. COLLEAGUE: ふくおか…。

8. KEN: だから、またふくおかにいきます。
ぶちょう、おやすみをください。

9. BOSS: また？

ROMANIZATION

1. KEN: ... Sō desu ka. Shirimasen deshita.
... Hai, wakarimashita.... arigatō gozaimashita.

2. (hangs up the phone)

3. COLLEAGUE: Ureshisō desu ne.

4. KEN: Hai. O-saifu ga arimashita.

5. COLLEAGUE: Yokatta desu ne.

6. KEN: Hai. Demo, Fukuoka ni arimasu.

7. COLLEAGUE: Fukuoka....

8. KEN: Dakara, mata Fukuoka ni ikimasu.
Buchō, o-yasumi o kudasai.

9. BOSS: Mata?

ENGLISH

CONT'D OVER

1. KEN: ... Is that so. I didn't know that.
... Yes, I understand.... Thank you very much.

2. (hangs up the phone)

3. COLLEAGUE: You look happy.

4. KEN: Yes. My wallet was found.

5. COLLEAGUE: That's good!

6. KEN: Yes. But it's in Fukuoka.

7. COLLEAGUE: Fukuoka....

8. KEN: So I'm going to Fukuoka again.
Section Chief, please give me the day off.

9. BOSS: Again?

VOCABULARY

Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English
わかりました	わかりました	wakarimashita	Alright, I get it, OK.
うれしい	うれしい	ureshii	glad, happy:Adj(i)
また	また	mata	again
休み	やすみ	yasumi	day off, holiday, break
だから	だから	dakara	so, therefore, because
ふくおか	ふくおか	Fukuoka	Fukuoka, one of the prefectures in Japan

SAMPLE SENTENCES

はい、わかりました。 *Hai, wakarimashita.* Yes, I understand.	さいふがありました。うれしいです。 *Saifu ga arimashita. Ureshii desu.* I'm glad that I found my wallet.
じゃ、また。 *Ja, mata.* See you later.	5月にお休みをください。 *Go-gatsu ni o-yasumi o kudasai.* Please give me the day off in May.
ぎゅうにゅうアレルギーがあります。だから、とうにゅうをのみます。 *Gyūnyū arerugī ga arimasu. Dakara, tōnyū o nomimasu.* I'm allergic to milk. So I drink soy milk.	ふくおかけんはきゅうしゅうにあります。 *Fukuoka-ken wa kyūshū ni arimasu.* Fukuoka prefecture is in Kyushu.

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

✱ でも (*demo*)

Demo means "but" or "however," which is a conjunction that we use to link two contrasting sentences.

For Example:

1. (私は) 肉は 食べます。でも 魚は 食べません。
   Watashi wa niku wa tabemasu. Demo sakana wa tabemasen.
   "I eat meat. But I don't eat fish."

✱ だから (*dakara*)

Dakara means "hence," "so," and "therefore." The first action brings about the second action.

For Example:

1. 5じにえいがをみます。だからうちを４じにでます。
   Go-ji ni eiga o mimasu. Dakara uchi o yo-ji ni demasu.
   "I see the movie at five o'clock. So I leave home at four."

2. お金がありません。だからATMに行きます。
   O-kane ga arimasen. Dakara ATM ni ikimasu.
   "I don't have money. So I (need to) go to an ATM."

✱ また (*mata*)
Mata means "again." You often hear *Ja, mata!* at the end of the lesson. That's how we use it.

For Example:

1. じゃあ、またあいましょう。 (formal, less casual)
   Jaa, mata aimasho.
   "Well, let's see you again." (literally)

2. じゃあ、また！ (casual)
   Jaa, mata!
   "See you again!"

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is the Expression Indicating "Looks."
うれしそうですね。
Ureshisō desu ne.
"You look happy."

This lesson's grammar point is the review of the negative past tense of a verb, *-masen deshita*. Absolute Beginner Season 2 Lesson 20 also covers this grammar point. You'll also learn how to describe "someone looks..." or "something looks..." using *-so*.

Formation: the Expression "Looks," *-So (Desu)*

When we add *sō* to *-i* and *-na* adjectives, we add the meaning of "look" as in "seem" to the nuance. This indicates the speaker's impression of what he or she sees and hears.

In order to attach *-so* (*desu*) to an *i* adjective,
1) remove the final *-i* and
2) attach *-sō (desu).*

For Example:

"English"	*I* Adjective	*I* Adjective + *Sō*
"happy"	うれしい *ureshii*	うれしそう *ureshisō*
"busy"	いそがしい *isogashii*	いそがしそう *isogashisō*

"interesting"	おもしろい *omoshiroi*	おもしろそう *omoshirosō*
"scary," "be scared"	こわい *kowai*	こわそう *kowasō*
"difficult"	むずかしい *muzukashii*	むずかしそう *muzukashisō*
"expensive"	たかい *takai*	たかそう *takasō*

EXCEPTION: Please remember that we have an exception in *-i* adjectives, *ii*, meaning "good." As for it, you need to change *ii* to *yoi* and also insert *sa* before *sō*.

"English"	***I* Adjective**	***I* Adjective + *Sō***
"good"	いい *ii*	よさそう *yosasō*

In order to attach *-so* (*desu*) to a *na* adjective,
1) remove the final *-na* and
2) attach *-sō (desu).*

For Example:

"English"	***Na* Adjective**	***Na* Adjective + *Sō***
"energetic"	げんき (な) *genki (na)*	げんきそう *genkisō*
"convenient," "busy"	べんり (な) *benri (na)*	べんりそう *benrisō*
"awful"	たいへん (な) *taihen (na)*	たいへんそう *taihensō*
"easy"	かんたん (な) *kantan (na)*	かんたんそう *kantansō*

For Example:

1. (You're looking at a dish and you say:)
   （このりょうりは）おいしそうです。
   (Kono ryori wa) oishisō desu.
   "This dish looks delicious."

2. (You see a trailer and it looks interesting.)
   (このえいがは、) おもしろそうです。
   (Kono eiga wa) omoshirosō desu.
   "This movie sounds interesting."

3. (You hear Tom speaking and you think that he must be smart.)
   トムはあたまがよさそうです。
   Tomu wa atama ga yosasō desu.
   "Tom seems like a smart guy."

4. (You see a kid playing a simple game at the game arcade and you say:)
   このゲームはかんたんそうです。
   Kono gēmu wa kantansō desu.
   "This video game looks easy."

Review: The Negative Past Form of a Verb

In order to form the negative past form of a verb, first make the negative form and then attach *-deshita*.

1) Replace the final *-masu* with *-masen* and
2) attach *-deshita* at the end.

Let's have a look at the formation with some of the verbs you studied so far.

"English"	Non-Past	Negative Non-Past	Negative Past	Past
"to know"	しっています *shitte imasu*	しりません *shirimasen*	しりませんでした *shirimasen deshita*	しりました *shirimashita*
"to go"	いきます *ikimasu*	いきません *ikimasen*	いきませんでした *ikimasen deshita*	いきました *ikimashita*

"to exist," "to have"	あります *arimasu*	ありません *arimasen*	ありませんでした *arimasen deshita*	ありました *arimashita*
"to use"	つかいます *tsukaimasu*	つかいません *tsukaimasen*	つかいませんでした *tsukaimasen deshita*	つかいました *tsukaimashita*
"to eat"	たべます *tabemasu*	たべません *tabemasen*	たべませんでした *tabemasen deshita*	たべました *tabemashita*
"to buy someone something""	おごります *ogorimasu*	おごりません *ogorimasen*	おごりませんでした *ogorimasen deshita*	おごりました *ogorimashita*
"to look," "to watch"	みます *mimasu*	みません *mimasen*	みませんでした *mimasen deshita*	みました *mimashita*
"to exist," "to have"	います *imasu*	いません *imasen*	いませんでした *imasen deshita*	いました *imashita*
"to do"	します *shimasu*	しません *shimasen*	しませんでした *shimasen deshita*	しました *shimashita*
"to come"	きます *kimasu*	きません *kimasen*	きませんでした *kimasen deshita*	きました *kimashita*

*As for the non-past affirmative form of "to know," *shirimasu* is not commonly used but *shitte imasu* is. We'll cover this grammar point in a following lesson. Please remember this as a phrase for now.

For Example:

1. A: あさごはんをたべましたか。
   Asagohan o tabemashita ka.
   "Did you eat breakfast?"
   B: いいえ、食べませんでした。でもコーヒーを飲みました。
   Iie, tabemasen deshita. Demo kōhī o nomimashita.
   "No, I didn't eat. But I had a cup of coffee."

Examples From This Dialogue

1. しりませんでした。
   Shirimasen deshita.
   "I didn't know that..."

2. うれしそうですね。
   Ureshisō desu ne.
   "You look happy."

Reference

Please also review the following Grammar Points.

- *-masen deshita* →Absolute Beginner Season 2 Lesson 20
- past form of a verb →Absolute Beginner Season 2 Lesson 19.
- [something] *wa* [place] *ni arimasu* →Absolute Beginner Season 2 Lesson 14.
- [place] *ni ikimasu* →Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 23

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Japanese Police Officers

Although Japanese police officers have their official name, *keisatsukan*, they are usually called *omawari-san*, which literally means "patrolling people." As you see, it has the polite suffix -*san*, so people call them and they are actually kind. If you lose your way, find the police box, called *Kōban*, and ask *omawari-san* where to go. They'll tell you the route with a map. If you lose your wallet like Ken Wood, go to *Kōban* and tell them. If it was in any police box, they will arrange to get it back to you. They are, of course, really strict with criminals but usually nice to people.

LESSON NOTES

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Please Keep the Noise Down in Japan

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#22

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KANJI

1. (intercom - ding-dong)
2. EMILY: はい。どちらさまですか。
3. MR. HAYASHI: ４０２ごうしつの林です。こんばんは。
4. (Emily opens the door)
5. EMILY: こんばんは。おひさしぶりです。
6. MR. HAYASHI: たのしそうですね。パーティーですか。
7. EMILY: はい。
8. MR.HAYASHI: すみませんが、しずかにおねがいします。もう、１２じですから。
9. EMILY: すみません。

KANA

1. (intercom - ding-dong)
2. EMILY: はい。どちらさまですか。
3. MR. HAYASHI: よんまるにごうしつのはやしです。こんばんは。
4. (Emily opens the door)
5. EMILY: こんばんは。おひさしぶりです。

CONT'D OVER

6. MR. HAYASHI: たのしそうですね。パーティーですか。

7. EMILY: はい。

8. MR.HAYASHI: すみませんが、しずかにおねがいします。もう、じゅうにじですから。

9. EMILY: すみません。

ROMANIZATION

1. (intercom - ding-dong)

2. EMILY: Hai. Dochira-sama desu ka.

3. MR. HAYASHI: Yon maru ni-gōshitsu no Hayashi desu. Konbanwa.

4. (Emily opens the door)

5. EMILY: Konbanwa. O-hisashiburi desu.

6. MR. HAYASHI: Tanoshisō desu ne. Pāteī desu ka.

7. EMILY: Hai.

8. MR.HAYASHI: Sumimasen ga, shizuka ni onegai shimasu. Mō, jū ni-ji desu kara.

9. EMILY: Sumimasen.

ENGLISH

CONT'D OVER

1. (intercom—ding-dong)

2. EMILY: Yes. Who is it?

3. MR. HAYASHI: It's Hayashi from Apartment 402. Good evening.

4. (Emily opens the door)

5. EMILY: Good evening. Long time no see.

6. MR. HAYASHI: This looks like fun. Is it a party?

7. EMILY: Yes.

8. MR.HAYASHI: I'm sorry, but please keep it down. It's already twelve o'clock, you know.

9. EMILY: I'm sorry.

VOCABULARY

Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English
もう	もう	mō	already
しずか	しずか	shizuka	quiet:Adj(na)
すみませんが、	すみませんが、	sumimasen ga,	Excuse me, but..., I'm sorry but...
ごうしつ	ごうしつ	gōshitsu	suffix for room numbers
たのしい	たのしい	tanoshii	fun, amusing;Adj(i)
どちらさまですか。	どちらさまですか	Dochira-sama desu ka.	Who is it? Who's calling? (polite expression)

パーティー	パーティー	pātī	party

SAMPLE SENTENCES

もう８じです。うちにかえりませんか。 *Mō hachi-ji desu. Uchi ni kaerimasen ka.* It's already 8. Shouldn't we go back home?	でんしゃではしずかにおねがいします。 *Densha de wa shizuka ni onegai shimasu.* Please be quiet on the train.
すみませんが、しずかにおねがいします。 *Sumimasen ga, shizuka ni onegai shimasu.* I'm sorry, but please keep it down.	わたしのへやは501ごうしつです。 *Watashi no heya wa gō maru ichi-gōshitsu desu.* My room is Room 501.
たのしかったですね。 *Tanoshikatta desu ne.* It was fun, wasn't it?	もしもし、どちら様ですか。 *Moshi moshi, dochira-sama desu ka.* (On the phone)　Hello, Who's calling?
たなかさんはパーティーにきますか。 *Tanaka-san wa pātī ni kimasu ka.* Is Mr./Ms. Tanaka coming to the party?	

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

もう (*mō*)
This word means "already." As you see in the dialogue, you can use this with time but also with action. Please note that the sentence is usually in the past tense. See the examples below.

For Example:

1. ぎゅうにゅうはのみません。もうおとなですから。
Gyūnyū wa nomimasen. Mō otona desu kara.
"I don't drink milk because I'm already an adult."

2. もう５じです。おみせをしめますよ。
Go-ji desu. Mō o-mise o shimemasu yo.
"It's already five o'clock. We close the shop, you know."

すみません**が、・・・ (*sumimasen ga, ...*)**
This means "I'm sorry, but..." and "Excuse me, but...." In general, saying this even if you don't do anything wrong is considered polite in Japanese culture. This phrase, "*Sumimasen ga, ...*" would come in handy, when you would like to request someone to refrain from doing an action or to ask him or her for a favor.

For Example:

1. すみませんが、たばこはちょっと・・・。
Sumimasen ga, tabako wa chotto....
"(literally) Excuse me, but cigarette is a little bit...."
"Excuse me, but could you refrain from smoking?"

2. すみませんが、お水、おねがいします。
Sumimasen ga, o-mizu, onegai shimasu.
"Excuse me, but, could you pass me some water?"

から (*kara*)
This means "because" and follows a sentence that indicates a reason.

For Example:

1. おひるごはんをたべます。もう12じですから。
O-hiru go-han o tabemasu. Mō Jū ni-ji desu kara.
"Let's have a lunch. Because it's twelve o'clock."

2. ふじさんに行きましょう。日本にきましたから。
Fujisan ni ikimashō. Nihon ni kimashita kara.
"Let's go to Mt. Fuji. It's because we came to Japan."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is the Expression [Adverb] *Onegai Shimasu* and How to Tell Time.
すみませんが、**しずかにおねがいします。もう、12じですから。**
Sumimasen ga, shizuka ni onegai shimasu. Mō, jū ni-ji desu kara.
"I'm sorry, but please keep it down. It's already twelve o'clock, you know."

This lesson's grammar point is how to ask for a favor using an adverb plus *onegai shimasu*. You'll also learn how to tell time, using *-ji*. Absolute Beginner Season 2 Lesson 5 also covers the time expression *-ji*.

Formation

[adverb] + おねがいします。
[adverb] + *onegai shimasu*.
"[adverb], please."

Adverbial Form of Adjectives

You can use adjectives as adverbs by turning them into their adverbial form.
In order to create the adverbial form of an *-i* adjective:

1. Take the final *-i* and
2. Add *-ku* at the end.

For Example:

-I Adjective	*Adverbial Form*	"English"
はやい *hayai*	はやく *hayaku*	"quick," "fast"
つよい *tsuyoi*	つよく *tsuyoku*	"strong"
よわい *yowai*	よわく *yowaku*	"gentle"
かっこいい *kakko ii*	かっこよく *kakko yoku*	"handsome," "cool"

*Do you remember one of the exceptions, *-ii* and words that include *-ii*? *Kakko ii*, meaning "handsome," is one of those exceptions!

In order to form the adverbial form of a *na* adjective:

1. Take the final *-na* and
2. Add *-ni* at the end.

For Example:

-Na Adjective	*Adverbial Form*	"English"

しずか (な) *shizuka (na)*	しずかに *shizuka ni*	"quiet"
ていねい *teinei*	ていねいに *teinei ni*	"gently," "with care"

Adverbs

There are some adverbs. Let's take a look at some variations.

Japanese	"English"
ゆっくり *yukkuri*	"slowly"
たくさん *takusan*	"much" (amount)

*Please note that they are not the adverbial form of adjectives.

For Example:

1. (You order a meal of hamburger but you're in hurry)
   はやくおねがいします。
   Hayaku onegai shimasu.
   "Quickly, please."

2. (You're talking with Japanese person but his speech is a bit fast)
   ゆっくり　おねがいします。
   Yukkuri onegai shimasu.
   "Slowly, please."

3. (You go to a massage salon and order)
   つよく　おねがいします!
   Tsuyoku onegai shimasu!
   "(push) Strongly, please!"

How to Tell Time

In order to tell time, we add *-ji* to the number for "hour." Please be careful of the special

pronunciations of *yo-ji*, meaning "four o'clock," and *ku-ji*, meaning "nine o'clock."

Time	Japanese	Romanization
1:00	一じ いちじ	*ichi-ji*
2:00	二じ にじ	*ni-ji*
3:00	三じ さんじ	*san-ji*
4:00	*四じ よじ	*yo-ji*
5:00	ごじ	*go-ji*
6:00	ろくじ	*roku-ji*
7:00	しちじ or ななじ	*shichi-ji* or *nana-ji*
8:00	はちじ	*hachi-ji*
9:00	*九じ くじ	*ku-ji*
10:00	じゅうじ	*jū-ji*
11:00	じゅう一じ じゅういちじ	*jū ichi-ji*
12:00	じゅう二じ じゅうにじ	*jū ni-ji*
"What time?"	何じ	*nan-ji*

*As for "seven o'clock," we commonly use *shichi-ji*. When you need to make sure it is "seven o'clock," we often use *nana-ji*. It is because the sound *shichi-ji* and *ichi-ji*, which

means "one o'clock," sound quite similar.

**If you are interested in "a.m." and "p.m.," let's review Absolute Beginner series Season 2 Lesson 5.

For Example:

A: 何じにかいしゃに行きますか。
Nan-ji ni kaisha ni ikimasu ka.
"What time do you go to work?"

B: 8じに行きます。
Hachi-ji ni ikimasu.
"I go to work at eight o'clock."

Examples From This Dialogue

1. すみませんが、しずかにおねがいします。もう、12じですから。
Sumimasen ga, shizuka ni onegai shimasu. Mō, jū ni-ji desu kara.
"I'm sorry, but please keep it down. It's already twelve o'clock, you know."

Reference

Please also review the following Grammar Points.

- *-gōshitsu* →Lower Beginner Season 1 Lesson 6
- *Konbanwa.* →Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 1.
- *O-hisashiburi desu.* →Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 6.
- *-sō* →Lower Beginner Season 1 Lesson 21

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Are You Ready to Party in Japan?

Unlike in English, we do not commonly use the word "party" for parties in Japanese. We can use it to mean "birthday party," "matching party," and so on. Instead, as for a normal "drinking party" in the dialogue, we commonly use *nomikai* , which literally means "drinking gathering." When people hold parties, having a party at home isn't as common as in other countries. Most people make a reservation at a restaurant or a Japanese-style bar for it. It would be because some avoid annoying their neighbors or others just want to have a fun in an unusual place.

LESSON NOTES

Lower Beginner #23
A Japanese Plumbing Emergency

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2 Kanji
2 Kana
3 Romanization
4 English
4 Vocabulary
5 Sample Sentences
5 Vocabulary Phrase Usage
6 Grammar
9 Cultural Insight

#23

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KANJI

1. (Sound of flushing)

2. (telephone)

3. EMILY: もしもし、４０１ごうしつのエミリー・マーティンですが、 トイレがこわれました。

4. CARETAKER: 水がながれませんか？

5. EMILY: いいえ、水が止まりません。

6. CARETAKER: ええ！？すぐ、行きます！

7. (fixing sound)

8. CARETAKER: 水が止まりました。でも、しゅうりがひつようですね。

9. あした、しゅうりやにでんわしますね。

10. EMILY: おねがいします。

KANA

1. (Sound of flushing)

2. (telephone)

3. EMILY: もしもし、よんまるいちごうしつの エミリー・マーティンですが、トイレが こわれました。

CONT'D OVER

4. CARETAKER: みずが ながれませんか？

5. EMILY: いいえ、みずが とまりません。

6. CARETAKER: ええ！？すぐ、いきます！

7. (fixing sound)

8. CARETAKER: みずが とまりました。でも、しゅうりが ひつようですね。

9. あした、しゅうりやに でんわしますね。

10. EMILY: おねがいします。

ROMANIZATION

1. (Sound of flushing)

2. (telephone)

3. EMILY: Moshi-moshi, yon maru ichi-gōshitsu no Emirī Mātein desu ga, toire ga kowaremashita.

4. CARETAKER: Mizu ga nagaremasen ka?

5. EMILY: Iie, mizu ga tomarimasen.

6. CARETAKER: Ee!? Sugu, ikimasu!

7. (fixing sound)

8. CARETAKER: Mizu ga tomarimashita. Demo, shūri ga hitsuyō desu ne.

CONT'D OVER

9. Ashita, shūriya ni denwa shimasu ne.

10. EMILY: Onegai shimasu.

ENGLISH

1. (sound of flushing)

2. (telephone)

3. EMILY: Hello, this is Emily Martin from Apartment 401. The toilet's broken.

4. CARETAKER: Is the water not flowing?

5. EMILY: No, the water won't stop.

6. CARETAKER: What? I'll be there immediately!

7. (fixing sound)

8. CARETAKER: The water's stopped. But it needs repairing.

9. Tomorrow I'll call the repair shop.

10. EMILY: Thank you.

VOCABULARY

Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English
しゅうり	しゅうり	shūri	repairing, mending

ひつよう	ひつよう	hitsuyō	necessary, needed;Adj(na)
もしもし	もしもし	Moshimoshi	Hello (on the telephone)
ながれます	ながれます	nagaremasu	to flow, stream;V2
すぐ	すぐ	sugu	immediately, soon; Adv
こわれます	こわれます	kowaremasu	to break, (a thing breaks):V2
トイレ	といれ	toire	bathroom, restroom, loo
止まります	とまります	tomarimasu	to stop;V1

SAMPLE SENTENCES

トイレをしゅうりした。 *Toire o shūri shita.* The toilet has been fixed.	しゅうりがひつようです。 *Shūri ga hitsuyō desu.* It needs to be repaired.
もしもし、かおりさん? *Moshimoshi, Kaori-san?* Hello, Kaori?	トイレがながれません。 *Toire ga nagaremasen.* The toilet won't flush.
すぐ行きます。 *Sugu, ikimasu.* I'm going soon.	トイレがこわれました。 *Toire ga kowaremashita.* The toilet is broken.
トイレはどこですか。 *Toire wa doko desu ka.* Where is the restroom?	水が止まりません。 *Mizu ga tomarimasen.* The water won't stop.

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

✱ すぐ (*sugu*)
This means "right away" and "soon," which means the action happens shortly after the previous action.

For Example:

1. A: すみません。ちゅうもん、おねがいします。
   Sumimasen. Chūmon, onegai shimasu.
   "Excuse me. Order, please."
   B: はい、すぐ行きます。
   Hai, sugu ikimasu.
   "Sure, I'm coming right away."

2. ジョンはせが高いです。だから、すぐわかります。
   Jon wa se ga takai desu. Dakara, sugu wakarimasu.
   "John is tall. So you'll find him easily."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is Useful Survival Expressions When You Have Troubles in Your Apartment.
もしもし、４０１ごうしつのエミリー・マーティンですが、トイレがこわれました。
Moshi-moshi, yon-maru-ichi goushitsu no Emirī Mātein desu ga, toire ga kowaremashita.
"Hello, this is Emily Martin from Apartment 401. The toilet's broken."

This lesson's grammar point is the useful expressions for trouble you would encounter when you have problems with your toilet and anywhere else you use water. When you find any trouble in your apartment, it's better to report it to your apartment caretaker and ask what to do about it.

Let's take a look at each pattern and learn how to tell someone about your troubles.

Pattern 1: When You Report That Something Is Broken

When you report a problem to the caretaker, simply say what is broken. The item you would like to report is simply followed by this pattern. Any item can appear in the bracket.

Japanese	[item] が	こわれました。

Romanization	[item] *ga*	*kowaremashita.*
"English"	"[item] is broken."	

Pattern 2: When You Describe What Is Happening

There are two typical but serious troubles with the toilet system: the water is not flowing or the water won't stop.

In Japanese, "to flow" is *nagaremasu*, and "to stop" is *tomarimasu*. These phrases use their negative forms.

For Example:

Japanese	*Romanization*	"English"
水がながれません	*Mizu ga nagaremasen.*	"The water is not flowing."
水が止まりません。	*Mizu ga tomarimasen.*	"The water won't stop."

For Example:

1. おふろが こわれました。水が ながれません。
   O-furo ga kowaremashita. Mizu ga nagaremasen.
   "The bathtub is broken. The water is not flowing."

2. じゃぐちが こわれました。水が止まりません。
   Jaguchi ga kowaremashita. Mizu ga tomarimasen.
   "The tap is broken. The water won't stop."

Pattern 3: When an Action Is Needed

When the item needs repairing, the caretaker would use this pattern.

Japanese	[action/item] が	ひつようです。
Romanization	[action/item] *ga*	*hitsuyō desu.*
"English"	"It needs [action/item]."	

For Example:

1. (おふろは) 水が ながれました。でも、しゅうりが ひつようです。
   (O-furo wa) Mizu ga nagaremashita. Demo, shūri ga hitsuyō desu.
   "The water's flowing. But it needs repairing."

2. このパソコンは メンテナンスが ひつようです。
   Kono pasokon wa mentenansu ga hitsuyō desu.
   "This computer needs maintenance."
   *As for the extended usage, you can use it when something needs an action or an item.

3. あたらしい じゃぐちが ひつようですね。
   Atarashii jaguchi ga hitsuyō desu ne.
   "It needs a new tap."

Language Tip: Making a Phone Call

When you call a caretaker, it would be a polite to tell your apartment number and your name first. When you call a real estate agency, your apartment name would also be helpful. Also, agencies usually have a person who is in charge of your apartment. You would need to ask to talk with her/him.

For Example:

1. (directly to your caretaker)
   もしもし、301ごうしつのダウニングですが、シンクがこわれました。
   Moshi moshi, san maru ichi-gōshitsu no Dauningu desu ga, shinku ga kowaremashita.
   "Hello, this is Downing from Apartment 301. The sink is broken."

2. (call your real estate agency and ask for Mr. Sato)
   もしもし、イノベーティブマンション402ごうしつの林ですが、さとうさんいますか。
   Moshi moshi, Inobētibu manshon yon maru ni-gōshitsu no hayashi desu ga, Satou-san imasu ka.
   "Hello, this is Hayashi from Apartment 402, Innovative Mansion. Is Mr. Sato there?"

Language Tips: Negative Question

Do you remember that you studied *-masen ka*, the expression to invite someone to do something in Absolute Beginner Season 2 Lesson 21? In this dialogue, the caretaker used *-masen ka?* Did you notice that the usage is different from the previous *-masen ka?* The speaker used this *-masen ka* with Emily to confirm what she says. It is equivalent to the English negative tag question "It doesn't..., does it?" For now, please note that we can use *-masen ka* as an invitation phrase but also as a question sentence.

Examples From This Dialogue

1. もしもし、４０１ごうしつのエミリー・マーティンですが、トイレがこわれました。
   Moshi-moshi, yon maru ichi-gōshitsu no Emirī Mātein desu ga, toire ga kowaremashita.
   "Hello, this is Emily Martin from Apartment 401. The toilet's broken. "

2. 水がながれませんか？。
   Mizu ga nagaremasen ka?
   "Is the water not flowing?"

3. いいえ、水が止まりません。
   Iie, mizu ga tomarimasen.
   "No, the water won't stop."

4. 水が止まりました。でも、しゅうりがひつようですね。
   Mizu ga tomarimashita. Demo, shūri ga hitsuyō desu ne.
   "The water's stopped. But it needs repairing. "

Reference

Please also review the following Grammar Points.

- *-gōshitsu* →Lower Beginner Season 1 Lesson 6
- Past tense of a verb →Absolute Beginner Season 2 Lesson 19
- Sentence ending particle *-ne* →Lower Beginner Season 1 Lesson 9

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Various Changes in a Bathroom/a Toilet

Just as you have many expressions for a bathroom in your language, the Japanese language also has lots of words to say "toilet" or "bathroom." In ancient and old days, we called it as *kawaya*, *habakari*, *chōzu*, or *go-fujō*, but in modern times, we commonly use the words below in speech and also on signs. The signs usually have pictograms of "ladies" and "gents."

(お) トイレ
(お) といれ
(O-) toire is the most common word, which comes from the English word "a toilet." Some people add *o-* at the beginning to use this word politely.

お手洗い
おてあらい
O-tearai is a more polite way to say a bathroom than *toire*. This literally means "a place to wash hands."

化粧室
けしょうしつ
Keshōshitsu is a word that you'll mostly see on a sign in department stores. This literally means "a place to do makeup."

(お) べんじょ
(O-) benjo is one of the direct expressions. You'll hear this in very casual conversation.

LESSON NOTES

Lower Beginner #24
Calling a Plumber in Japan

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#24

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KANJI

1. (telephone)

2. ANSWERING MACHINE: You've reached Ken Wood. I'm not available to take your call, so please leave a message and I will get back to you.

3. REPAIR PERSON: もしもし、イノベーティブリペアの木山です。
トイレのしゅうりのことで、でんわしました。
すみませんが、あとで、でんわをおねがいします。
でんわばんごうは、89-1234-567です。
よろしくおねがいします。では、しつれいします。

KANA

1. (telephone)

2. ANSWERING MACHINE: You've reached Ken Wood. I'm not available to take your call, so please leave a message and I will get back to you.

3. REPAIR PERSON: もしもし、イノベーティブリペアの きやまです。
トイレの しゅうりのことで、でんわしました。
すみませんが、あとで、でんわをおねがいします。
でんわばんごうは、はちきゅうの いちにさんよんの　ごろくななです。
よろしくおねがいします。では、しつれいします。

ROMANIZATION

1. (telephone)

CONT'D OVER

2. ANSWERING MACHINE: You've reached Ken Wood. I'm not available to take your call, so please leave a message and I will get back to you.

3. REPAIR PERSON: Moshi moshi, Inobētibu Ripea no Kiyama desu.
Toire no shūri no koto de, denwa shimashita.
Sumimasen ga, ato de, denwa o onegai shimasu.
Denwa bangō wa, hachi kyū no ichi ni san yon no go roku nana desu.
Yoroshiku onegai shimasu. Dewa, shitsurei shimasu.

ENGLISH

1. (telephone)

2. ANSWERING MACHINE: You've reached Ken Wood. I'm not available to take your call, so please leave a message and I will get back to you.

3. REPAIR PERSON: Hello, this is Kiyama from Innovative Repair.
I'm calling about the toilet repair.
I'm sorry, but please could you call me back?
The phone number is 89-1234-567.
Thank you very much. Good-bye.

VOCABULARY

Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English
しつれいします。	しつれいします。	Shitsurei shimasu.	Goodbye. (on closing a phone call)
でんわ	でんわ	denwa	telephone, phone call
ばんごう	ばんごう	bangō	number, series of digits
でんわばんごう	でんわ ばんごう	denwa bangō	telephone number

よろしくおねがいします	よろしく おねがいします。	Yoroshiku onegai shimasu.	Thank you very much., Thanks. (a greeting on closing business calls and e-mails)
では	では	dewa	well, well then, okay

SAMPLE SENTENCES

よろしくおねがいします。では、しつれいします。 *Yoroshiku onegai shimasu. Dewa, shitsurei shimasu.* Thank you very much. Goodbye.(on closing a phone call)	もりさんにでんわしましたか。 *Mori-san ni denwa shimashita ka.* Did you call Mr. Mori?
けいたいのばんごうは何ですか。 *Keitai no bangō wa nan desu ka.* What's your mobile's number?	にほんのけいさつのでんわばんごうは「110ばん」です。 *Nihon no keisatsu no denwa bangō wa "hyaku tō-ban" desu.* The phone number of the police is "one-one-zero" in Japan.
よろしくおねがいします。 *Yoroshiku onegai shimasu.* Thank you very much.(on closing business calls and e-mails)	では、また。 *Dewa mata.* Well then, see you again.

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

もしもし (*moshi moshi*)

We largely use this phrase when we start to talk and answer the phone in Japanese, and it is equivalent to "Hello?" We can also use it to get someone's attention when you think that he or she can't hear you or is not paying attention.

For Example:

1. もしもし、４０１ごうしつのエミリー・マーティンです
   Moshi-moshi, yon maru ichi-gōshitsu no Emirī Mātein desu.
   "Hello, this is Emily Martin from Apartment 401."

2. (To a person who looks pale)
   もしもし、だいじょうぶですか。
   Moshi moshi, Daijōbu desu ka.
   "Hey, are you all right?

how to say a telephone number
When giving a telephone number, a sound *no* comes between a series of digits. For example, in the dialogue, the number is 89-1234-567. You read it like this: *hachi kyū no ichi ni san yon no go roku nana*. In other words, we replace hyphens with *no*. We usually read the number 0 as *zero* but sometimes as *rei*. Let's read aloud your phone number in Japanese!

For Example:

1. でんわばんごうは、30-3505-7890です。
   Denwa bangō wa, san zero no san go zero go no nana hachi kyū zero desu.
   "The phone number is 30-3505-7890."

2. でんわばんごうは、06-0573-4288です。
   Denwa bangō wa, rei roku no rei go nana san no yon ni hachi hachi desu.
   "The phone number is 06-0573-4288."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is How to Introduce the Topic of Conversation.
トイレのしゅうりのことで、でんわしました。
Toire no shūri no koto de, denwa shimashita.
"I'm calling about the toilet repair."

Today's grammar point is the useful expression for telling a topic of conversation, *-no koto de,* which means "about" in English. We usually use this phrase when opening a conversation and introducing its topic.

Formation

Japanese	[topic] のことで	[main sentence]。
Romanization	[topic] *no koto de*	[main sentence].
"English"	"[main sentence] about [topic]."	

The topic should be a noun. You can use A *no* B structure, "A is B" as well in the item section. As you see in the dialogue, the phrase *toire no shūri*, which means "repairing a toilet," follows it.

For Example:

1. とうきょうスカイツリーのことで、しつもんがあります。
   Tōkyō Sukai Tsurī no koto de, shitsumon ga arimasu.
   "I have some questions about the Tokyo Sky Tree."

2. 6月のパーティのことで、でんわしました。
   Roku-gatsu no pātī no koto de, denwa shimashita.
   "I'm calling about the party in June."

3. さいふのことで、けいさつにれんらくしましたか。
   Saifu no koto de, keisatsu ni renraku shimashita.
   "Did you call the police about your wallet?"

Examples From This Dialogue

1. トイレのしゅうりのことで、でんわしました。
   Toire no shūri no koto de, denwa shimashita.
   "I'm calling about the toilet repair."

Reference

Please also review the following Grammar Points.

- [Name of occupation] *no* [Name] *desu* →Lower Beginner Season 1 Lesson 3
- Past tense of a verb →Absolute Beginner Season 2 Lesson 19

- *Sumimasen ga,...* →Lower Beginner Season 1 Lesson 22

- [item] *onegai shimasu* →Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 5

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Common Expressions Before Hanging Up the Phone

People usually hang up a phone call with the common expressions as you see them in the dialogue. One is *Yoroshiku onegai shimasu*. It is the same phrase as the one that you use as "Pleased to meet you." However, this can also mean "Please do that (for me)," "Thank you for your continued help/support," and "Thank you in advance." You can use this in closing formal e-mails as well. Another expression usually follows the first one, which is *Shitsurei shimasu*. It literally means "Excuse me." but we can also use it as "good-bye" in formal situations. It's definitely handy to remember them as a set phrase!

LESSON NOTES

Lower Beginner #25 Arranging an Appointment in Japan

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2 Kanji
2 Kana
3 Romanization
3 English
4 Vocabulary
4 Sample Sentences
5 Vocabulary Phrase Usage
5 Grammar
7 Cultural Insight

#25

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KANJI

1. (telephone)
2. REPAIR PERSON: イノベーティブリペア、木山です。
3. KEN: Ken Woodですが、トイレのしゅうりのことで、でんわしました。
4. REPAIR PERSON: ああ、Woodさん、こんにちは。
5. きょう、トイレのしゅうりに行きますが、だいじょうぶですか。
6. KEN: うーん。あしたがいいです。
7. REPAIR PERSON: 何時がいいですか。
8. KEN: 三時がいいです。
9. REPAIR PERSON: じゃ、あした、三時に行きます。

KANA

1. (telephone)
2. REPAIR PERSON: イノベーティブリペア、きやまです。
3. KEN: Ken Woodですが、トイレのしゅうりのことで、でんわしました。
4. REPAIR PERSON: ああ、Woodさん、こんにちは。
5. きょう、トイレのしゅうりにいきますが、だいじょうぶですか。

CONT'D OVER

6. KEN: うーん。あしたがいいです。

7. REPAIR PERSON: なんじがいいですか。

8. KEN: さんじがいいです。

9. REPAIR PERSON: じゃ、あした、さんじにいきます。

ROMANIZATION

1. (telephone)

2. REPAIR PERSON: Inobētibu Ripea, Kiyama desu.

3. KEN: Ken Wood desu ga, toire no shūri no koto de, denwa shimashita.

4. REPAIR PERSON: Aa, Wood san, kon'nichiwa.

5. Kyō, toire no shūri ni ikimasu ga, daijōbu desu ka.

6. KEN: Ūn. Ashita ga ii desu.

7. REPAIR PERSON: Nan-ji ga ii desu ka.

8. KEN: San-ji ga ii desu.

9. REPAIR PERSON: Ja, ashita, san-ji ni ikimasu.

ENGLISH

CONT'D OVER

1. (telephone)

2. REPAIR PERSON: This is Kiyama at Innovative Repair.

3. KEN: This is Ken Wood. I'm calling about the toilet repair.

4. REPAIR PERSON: Oh, Mr. Wood, hello.
I was planning on coming to repair the toilet today. Is that all right?

5. KEN: Hmm. Tomorrow would be better.

6. REPAIR PERSON: What time would be good?

7. KEN: Three o'clock would be good.

8. REPAIR PERSON: All right, I'll come tomorrow at three o'clock.

VOCABULARY

Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English
に	に	ni	at, in, on (a particle indicating time)
きょう	きょう	kyō	today
うーん	うーん	ūn	well, let me see
だいじょうぶ	だいじょうぶ	daijōbu	No problem, all right, don't worry, it's fine
あした	あした	ashita	tomorrow
いい	いい	ii	good; Adj(i)
何時	なんじ	nan-ji	what time

SAMPLE SENTENCES

12月にクリスマスがあります。 *Jū ni-gatsu ni Kurisumasu ga arimasu.* We have Christmas in December.	きょうはあついです。 *Kyō wa atsui desu.* It's hot today.
うーん。わかりません。 *Ūn. Wakarimasen.* Well, I don't know.	だいじょうぶ？ *Daijōbu?* Are you all right? (informal)
あした、メキシコにいきます。 *Ashita, Mekishiko ni ikimasu.* I will go to Mexico tomorrow.	これはすごくいいです。 *Kore wa sugoku ii desu.* This is really good.

いま何時ですか。
Ima nan-ji desu ka.

What time is it now?

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

particle に (*- ni*)
This is a particle that indicates time when something is taken place. It takes specific time expressions, except "today," "tomorrow," "yesterday," and so on, which vary depending on the point of speaking.

For Example:

1. ぼくのいもうとのけっこんしきが6月にあります。
   Boku no imōto no kekkonshiki ga roku-gatsu ni arimasu.
   "I have my younger sister's wedding ceremony in June."

2. *ごご8時にさかなていしょくを食べました。*
   Gogo hachi-ji ni sakana teishoku o tabemashita.
   "I ate a fish meal set on eight o'clock p.m."

3. 金よう日にのみかいをします。
   Kinyōbi ni nomikai o shimasu.
   "We do a drinking party on Friday."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is How to Tell and Ask What Is Good for the Speaker.

あしたがいいです。
Ashita ga ii desu.
"Tomorrow would be better."

This lesson's grammar point is telling and asking what is good for the speaker, using [item] *ga ii desu.* It means "[item] would be good." You use this pattern to state your preference. You can ask what a person prefers in a question sentence.

Formation

Japanese	[topic] は	[item] が	いいです。
Romanization	[topic] *wa*	[item] *ga*	*ii desu.*
"English"	"[item] would be better."		

*In the dialogue, we omit the topic because it is obvious in the context. When you add it, the particle *wa* follows.

For Example:

1. (しゅうりは) 何時がいいですか。
   Nan-ji ga ii desu ka.
   "What time would be good?"

2. (しゅうりは) 三時がいいです。
   San-ji ga ii desu.
   "Three o'clock would be good."

3. のみものは何がいいですか。
   Nomimono wa nani ga ii desuka.
   "What would you like to drink?"

4. (のみものは) おちゃがいいです。
   (Nomimono wa) O-cha ga ii desu.
   "Green tea would be good."

Examples From This Dialogue

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1. うーん。あしたがいいです。
   Ūn. Ashita ga ii desu.
   "Hmm. Tomorrow would be better."

2. 何時がいいですか。
   Nan-ji ga ii desu ka.
   "What time would be good?"

3. 三時がいいです。
   San-ji ga ii desu.
   "Three o'clock would be good."

Reference

Please also review the following Grammar Points.

- [topic] *no koto de*... →Lower Beginner Season 1 Lesson 24
- Past tense of a verb →Absolute Beginner Season 2 Lesson 19
- Time expression *-ji* →Absolute Beginner Season 2 Lesson 5

CULTURAL INSIGHT

The Mnemonic *-Ji and* the Kanji Meaning "Time"

We made most kanji combining some simpler kanji. Let's take a look at a kanji introduced in this lesson.

We write kanji for *-ji* as 時. The left side is the "sun" (日), and the right side means a "temple" (寺). Those represent that temples told people time in old days. Does it make sense?

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