

LESSON NOTES

Introduction #3 On Cloud Nine

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KANJI

1. よし: お元気ですか。
2. ちぐさ: はい、元気ですよ。
3. ちぐさ: お元気ですか。
4. よし: はい、絶好調です！

KANA

1. よし: おげんきですか。
2. ちぐさ: はい、げんきですよ。
3. ちぐさ: おげんきですか。
4. よし: はい、ぜっこうちょうです！

ROMANIZATION

1. YOSHI: O-genki desu ka?
2. CHIGUSA: Hai, genki desu yo.
3. CHIGUSA: O-genki desu ka?
4. YOSHI: Hai, zekkōchō desu!

ENGLISH

CONT'D OVER

1. YOSHI: How are you?
2. CHIGUSA: I'm fine.
3. CHIGUSA: How are you?
4. YOSHI: I'm doing amazing.

VOCABULARY

Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English
元気	げんき	genki	vigor, high spirit
凄い	すごい	sugoi	great, amazing
絶好調	ぜっこうちょう	zekkōchō	in top condition
ばっちり	ばっちり	bacchiri	perfectly

GRAMMAR

Today's grammar points are the interrogative particle *ka* and the sentence-ending particle *yo*.

Ka is a sentence-ending particle that can be used to change a declarative statement into a yes-no question, or in combination with interrogative words such as *nani*, *dare*, etc., to ask an open-ended question. In Japanese, the subject is often inferred once it is known or if it can be inferred through context of the question or situation. In a situation similar to that of today's conversation, but in which there are more than two people, it may be necessary for the speaker to specify to whom he/she is asking "How are you?"

Today's second grammar point is the sentence-ending particle *yo*, which is used by the speaker to express a strong conviction about something or to emphatically declare something. For example, there is a notable difference between the following two replies to the question, "*O-genki desu ka?* - How are you?"

- 1) 元気です。 • *Genki desu.* - I'm well./I'm good.
- 2) 元気ですよ。 • *Genki desu yo.* - I'm well!/I'm good!