

LESSON NOTES

Japanese Culture Class #42

Aomori Dialect 2

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KANJI

1. 友子: お、どしちゃー？何しちゅんず？
2. 勇: わ、かっちゃんの誕生日プレゼント買わねばまいね。
3. 友子: んだが。せば一緒に探してけら。これどんだ？
4. 勇: なんぼ？3000円が。たけえな、どすべ？
5. 友子: へばこれは？
6. 勇: そいはいぐねな。あ、どすべ、どすべ・・・
7. 友子: わいー！かちゃくちゃね！おめはやぐ決めろじゃ！どんだんず！
わ、もう行くはんで。おめ一人でけっぱれ。
8. 勇: んだが。
9. Listen to the entire conversation.

KANA

1. ともこ: お、どしちゃー？なにしちゅんず？
2. いさみ: わ、かっちゃんのたんじょうびプレゼントかわねばまいね。
3. ともこ: んだが。せばいっしょにさがしてけら。これどんだ？
4. いさみ: なんぼ？3000えんが。たけえな、どすべ
5. ともこ: へばこれは？

CONT'D OVER

6. いさみ: そいはいぐねな。あ、どすべ、どすべ・・・
7. ともこ: わいー！かちゃくちゃね！おめはやぐきめろじゃ！どんだんず！
わ、もういぐはんで。おめひとりでけっぱれ。
8. いさみ: んだが。

ROMANIZATION

1. TOMOKO: O, doshichā? Nani shichunzu?
2. ISAMI: Wa, kacchano tanjoubi purezento kawaneba maine.
3. TOMOKO: Ndaga. Seba isscho ni sagashitekera. Kore do n da?
4. ISAMI: Nanbo? 3000 en ga. Takē na, dosube?
5. TOMOKO: Heba kore wa?
6. ISAMI: Soi wa igune na. A, dosube, dosube...
7. TOMOKO: Waī! Kachakucha ne! Ome hayagu kimero ja! Dondanzu! Wa, mou igu hande. Ome hitori de keppare.
8. ISAMI: Ndaga.

ENGLISH

1. TOMOKO: Hey, how've you been? Whacha doin'?

CONT'D OVER

2. ISAMI: I have to buy a gift for my mother's birthday.
3. TOMOKO: Oh yeah? In that case, I'll help you look! How's this one?
4. ISAMI: How much is it? 3000 Yen. It's expensive... What should I do?
5. TOMOKO: Then how about this one?
6. ISAMI: That's no good. Ahh, what should i do? What should i do?
7. TOMOKO: Jeez, you're getting on my nerves. Hurry up and decide. Fine. I'm outta here. You're on your own. Good luck!
8. ISAMI: So that's how it is....
9. (Standard Japanese)
10. 友子: あら、久しぶりね。何してんの？
11. 勇: 俺、お母さんの誕生日プレゼント買わなきゃいけないんだ。
12. 友子: そうなんだ？それじゃ一緒に探してあげる。これはどう？
13. 勇: いくら？3000円か。高いなあ、どうしよう？
14. 友子: それなら、これは？
15. 勇: それはよくないなあ。あ、どうしよう、どうしよう？
16. 友子: もう！ムシャクシャするなあ！あんた早く決めてよ！何なの！あたしもう行くから。あなた一人で頑張って！

CONT'D OVER

VOCABULARY

Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English
なんぼ	なんぼ	nanbo	how much (does it cost)?
決める	きめる	kimeru	choose! decide!
かちやくちゃ!	かちやくちゃ	machakucha	expresses disgust or annoyance
へば	へば	he ba	well, ok, then, so
たけえ	たけえ	takee	high, expensive
どんだ?	どんだ?	donda?	how's this? what do you think of this?
せば	せば	seba	in that case, so, ok
んだが	んだが	ndaga	is that so? really?
かっちゃ	かっちゃ	kaccha	mother (お母ちゃん)
どしちゃー?	どしちゃー?	doshichā	how have you been? what's up?
けっぱる	けっぱる	kepparu	do own's best, try one's hardest, persevere

GRAMMAR

青森弁

あおもりべん

The Aomori Dialect

Phrases Used in the Lesson

どしちゃー？

Doshichā?

This is used in *Aomori* in much the same way as 久しぶりだね (ひさしぶりだね・*hisashiburi da ne*) is used in Standard Japanese. Something like 'long time, no see.' The literal translation is 'How have you been doing' どうしてたの? (*dou shite ta no?*)

何しちゅんず？

なにしちゅんず？

Nani shichunzu?

In Standard Japanese, this would be expressed as 何してるの? This is the casual way to ask someone 'what are you doing?'

買わねばまいね

かわねばまいね

kawaneba maine

in Standard Japanese, this would be something like 買わなければダメ (かわなければだめ・*kawanakereba dame*) The literal translation of this is 'if I don't buy it, it's not allowed.' We can take this to mean 'not buying it is not allowed.' This is one way to express necessity in Japanese. The meaning, therefore, is 'I have to buy' or 'I must buy.' まいね (*maine*) is the *Aomori* dialect word for ダメ (*dame*) which means a very strong 'NO!' そいはまいね! (*soi wa maine*) would be the Standard Japanese phrase それはダメ (*sore wa dame*) 'you can't do that!'

探してけら

さがしてけら

sagashitekera

In proper Japanese this would be 探してあげる (さがしてあげる・*sagashite ageru*) By combining the て form of 探す (さがす・*sagasu* - search/look for) with あげる (*ageru* - to give); the speaker is offering his or her help. Often we can translate this as 'I'll do it for you' (or, the speaker will do it for someone other than himself). But often we can't translate it, as in this case, where it simply indicates a offer to help.

へば

heba

In Japanese, this is では (*de wa*) (formal) or じゃあ (*jā*) (informal).

It is interesting to note, that in Edo Period Japanese, the phrase さらば (*saraba*) was used for さようなら (*sayounara*) which both were the old formal equivalents of では (*de wa*). The ば (-ba) in へば (*heba*) is the same ば (-ba) in さらば (*saraba*).

せば *seba*

This is almost identical to へば (*heba*).

どんだんず！

dondanzu!

This is probably untranslatable, but expresses an unwillingness to proceed with the current course of action. Something like 'enough is enough' or 'I've had it.'

GRAMMAR

たけえ or たけー (*takē*) This is the dialect word for 高い (*たかい*)・*takai* - expensive, high). In the Tokyo dialect and slang these kinds of ~ええ forms are used, especially to indicate raw emotional reactions (such as surprise or disgust). But be aware, these forms are considered a bit vulgar in Standard Japanese and should be avoided in polite situations.

ex: たけー！ (*takē!*) jeez, that's freakin' expensive! ex: かつけえ！ (*kakkē!*) it looks really cool! from 格好いい (*かっこういい*)・*kakkou ii* - 'looks good/cool') ex: やべえ！ (*yabē!*) great! oh crap! wild! insane! (from ヤバい・*yabai*) ex: よくねー！ (*yokunē!*) dude, that's not good! that's really bad!

どすべ

dosube

in Standard Japanese, this is どうしよう (*dou shiyō*)

This common utterance of despair or indecision is made from どう (*dou*) and the volitional of する (*suru*) and roughly means 'what should I do?'

in *Aomori-ben*, the sentence final particle べ (*be*) is attached to どす (*dosu*) (from どうする・*dosuru*) to indicate a volitional state.

行くべ = 行こう let's go/i should go

いくべ = いこう

iku be = ikou

食べ = 食おう let's eat/i should eat

くべ = くおう

ku be = kuou

いい、いぐね

ii, igune

This pair would be listed in a textbook as いい、よくない (*ii, yokunai* - good, not good).

Note the ~え、~ええ (-e, -ē) ending of this adjective. It could be rendered in everyday spoken Japanese as よくねえ

(*yokunē*) (but this form is considered rude and is saved for expressing raw emotional reactions).

Compare this to the above note about たけえ (*takē*).

FAMILY MEMBERS Lastly, here is a list of family members in *Aomori-ben*. Note the extreme closeness of these forms, as they all end in the *Aomori* variant of ちゃん rather than the

politer さん.

お父さん	とっちゃん	father
お母さん	かっちゃん	mother
お爺さん	じっちゃん	grandfather
お婆さん	ばっちゃん	grandmother
お兄さん	にっちゃん	older brother
お姉さん	ねっちゃん	older sister