

LESSON NOTES

Absolute Beginner S1 #11

What is This Delicious Japanese Dish?

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KANJI

1. (timer goes off)
2. テイラー: はい、どうぞ！
3. かおり: うわ～すごーい！
4. かおり&まさと: いただきます。
5. まさと: ((munch munch munch)うーん。おいしい！
テイラーさん、これは、なんですか？

KANA

1. (timer goes off)
2. テイラー: はい、どうぞ！
3. かおり: うわーすごーい！
4. かおり&まさと: いただきます。
5. まさと: (munch munch munch)うーん。おいしい！
テイラーさん、これは、なんですか？

ROMANIZATION

1. (timer goes off)

CONT'D OVER

2. TEIRĀ: Hai, dōzo!
3. KAORI: Uwā sugo~i!
4. KAORI & MASATO: Itadakimasu.
5. MASATO: (munch munch munch)ūn. Oishii!
Teirā-san, kore wa, nan desu ka?

ENGLISH

1. (timer goes off)
2. TAYLOR: Okay, here you go!
3. KAORI: Oh, wow!
4. KAORI AND MASATO: Let's eat! (Literally, We are about to receive this meal.)
5. MASATO: (munch munch munch) Mmm. This is great!
Taylor, what is this?

VOCABULARY

Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English
それ	それ	sore	that
おいしい	おいしい	oishii	delicious
いただきます。	いただきます。	Itadakimasu.	I will start eating. (lit: I will receive.)
あれ	あれ	are	that(one over there)

すごい	すごい	sugoi	wow, great, amazing; Adj(i)
なんですか。	なんですか。	Nan desu ka.	What is it?
これ	これ	kore	this

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>それは、日本茶ですか。 <i>Sore wa nihon-cha desu ka.</i></p> <p>Is that Japanese tea?</p>	<p>イギリスのクッキーはおいしい。 <i>Igirusu no kukki wa oishii.</i></p> <p>British cookies are delicious.</p>
<p>いただきます！ <i>Itadakimasu!</i></p> <p>(Phrase said before eating a meal)</p>	<p>あれは何ですか。 <i>Are wa nan desu ka?</i></p> <p>What's that?</p>
<p>東京はすごいです。 <i>Tōkyō wa sugoi desu.</i></p> <p>Tokyo is great.</p>	<p>これはなんですか。 <i>Kore wa nan desu ka?</i></p> <p>What is this?</p>
<p>これは本です。 <i>Kore wa hon desu.</i></p> <p>This is a book.</p>	

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

Itadakimasu (いただきます)

This is a phrase that we say before eating a meal. It literally means "I will receive" and is a way to show thanks and appreciation for the meal you are about to eat. It is important to say this especially in a situation where someone has prepared something for you.

sugoi (すごい)*

Sugoi is an adjective that means "wow," "great," or "amazing." You can use it when you are impressed or surprised by something. In the dialogue, Kaori used it after seeing the food that Taylor made.

oishii* (おいしい)

Oishii is an adjective that means "delicious" that we use to describe food. If you think that something tastes good, it is important to say so-especially if someone has prepared something for you. Telling the person that the food he or she made is *oishii* would make his or her day!

* To make these adjectives sound more polite, you can add the word *desu* after them, as in *sugoi desu!* and *oishii desu!*

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is Asking What Something Is.

Teirā-san, kore wa, nan desu ka?

テイラーさん、これは、なんですか？

"Taylor, what is this?"

If you go to Japan, you're likely to see a lot of new, unfamiliar things. Likewise, a gift that you receive from a Japanese friend or from family members may be something you've never seen before! In that case, you'll want to know how to ask "what is this?" or "what is that?" In this lesson, you'll learn how to ask what something is.

Asking What Something Is: *[A] wa nan desu ka?*

Sentence Pattern:

[A] wa nan desu ka? "What is **[A]**?"

In this pattern, **A** = the item you want to know about
Now, let's make some sentences using this pattern:

A	<i>Wa Nan Desu Ka?</i>	"English"
<i>Kore</i> ("this")	<i>wa nan desu ka?</i>	"What's this?"
<i>Sore</i> ("that")	<i>wa nan desu ka?</i>	"What's that?"
<i>Are</i> ("that (over there)")	<i>wa nan desu ka?</i>	"What's that (over there)?"

For Example:

1. *Sumimasen, kore wa nan desu ka?*
すみません。これはなんですか。
"Excuse me, (but) what is this? "
2. *Yōkan wa nan desu ka?"*
「ようかん」はなんですか。
"What's *yōkan*?"

Examples from This Dialogue

1. テイラーさん、これは、なんですか？
Teirā-san, kore wa, nan desu ka?
"Taylor, what is this?"