

LESSON TRANSCRIPT

Absolute Beginner S1 #11

What is This Delicious Japanese Dish?

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INTRODUCTION

Jessi: Hello, and welcome to Absolute Beginner Season 1, Lesson 11 What is This Delicious Japanese Dish?. Jessiです。Jessi here!

Naomi: こんにちは！なおりです！Hi everyone, Naomi here!

Jessi: Thanks for joining us in this Absolute Beginner series. In the last lesson, we learned how to that some something belongs to someone.

Naomi: Yes! For example, わたしのいえ

Jessi: “My house.”

Naomi: And in this lesson, you’ll learn to ask what something is.

Jessi: Yes. Basically, you’ll be able to ask “What’s this?” and “What’s that?” So when someone puts a Japanese dish in front of you that you’ve never seen before...

Naomi: You’ll be able to ask what it is.

Jessi: Exactly! Okay, so speaking of food, in this conversation, Taylor, Masato and Kaori are all sitting down to eat!

Naomi: Yes, Taylor has cooked them dinner.

Jessi: Mmm... sounds good. Let’s listen in to the conversation!

LESSON CONVERSATION

(timer goes off)

テイラー：はい、どうぞ！

かおり：うわ～ すごーい！

かおり&まさと：いただきます。

まさと：((munch munch munch)うーん。おいしい！

English Host: Let's listen to the conversation again slowly.

テイラー：はい、どうぞ！

かおり：うわ～ すごーい！

かおり&まさと：いただきます。

まさと：((munch munch munch)うーん。おいしい！

English Host: Now let’s listen to it with the translation.

テイラー：はい、どうぞ！

Jessi: Okay, here you go!

かおり：うわ～ すごーい！

Jessi: Oh, wow!

かおり&まさと：いただきます。

Jessi: Let's eat! (Literally, We are about to receive this meal.)

まさと：(munch munch munch)うーん。おいしい！

Jessi: (munch munch munch) Mmm. This is

great!

テイラーさん、これは、なんですか？

Jessi: Taylor, what is this?

KEY VOCABULARY AND PHRASES

Jessi: Well Naomi, we actually had a lot of new words and phrases in this conversation!

Naomi: We sure did.

Jessi: The first one was...?

Naomi: すごい！

Jessi: Can we hear one more time slowly?

Naomi: すごい。

Jessi: And again at natural speed?

Naomi: すごい

Jessi: すごい！ Meaning "wow", "great", or "amazing". Basically, you can use this anytime you are impressed by something.

Naomi: When Taylor placed the food in front of them, Kaori said すごい！

Jessi: Like "Oh, wow!" She was really impressed by the food. It probably looked really good!

Naomi: Yes, it also was something she wasn't used to.

Jessi: Okay. So now the food has been placed before them. Now on to our next word. What did Masato and Kaori say before they ate?

Naomi: いただきます！

Jessi: Can we hear one more time slowly?

Naomi: いただきます。

Jessi: いただきます！ And this a phrase that you say before eating.

Naomi: Right. You are giving thanks for the meal you are about to have.

Jessi: It's a good phrase to use anytime you eat, but especially if someone has cooked something for you.

Naomi: Yes! Saying いただきます is a way to show appreciation.

Jessi: So in the dialogue, Masato and Kaori said いただきます！ before eating the dinner that Taylor had made for them.

Naomi: If you visit someone's house and they make dinner for you, please try saying いただきます before you eat!

Jessi: Okay Naomi, and the last word is...?

Naomi: おいしい

Jessi: Can we hear one more time slowly?

Naomi: おいしい

Jessi: おいしい, meaning "good" or "delicious" when talking about

food.

Naomi: Masato starts eating the food and says うーん、おいしい！

Jessi: "Mmm, this is great!" If someone makes food for you and you want to tell them that it's good, you can use this word. おいしい！

LESSON FOCUS

Jessi: In this lesson, you'll learn how to ask what something is.

Naomi: Do you remember Lesson 9, where we learned how to make a question?

Jessi: We took our AはBです pattern, and added か at the end. AはBですか？ Is A B?

Naomi: Right. We'll be using this structure to ask what something is.

Jessi: Okay, so let's get started. In the dialogue, Masato took a bite of his meal, said "Wow" This is great!" and then asked "What is this?"

Naomi: AFTER he ate it.

Jessi: Right, after he ate it. He just dug right in. So first, let's learn how to say "What is this?"

Naomi: As you may remember, "this" is これ。The word for "what" in this case is なん。

Jessi: So if we put those in place of A and B in our sentence structure we mentioned earlier, we get...

Naomi: これはなんですか？

Jessi: これはなんですか？ One more time slowly?

Naomi: これは なんですか？

Jessi: And one more time regular speed.

Naomi: これはなんですか？

Jessi: And that means "What is this?" Listeners, repeat after Naomi.

Naomi: これはなんですか？

[Pause] - これはなんですか？

Jessi: Great! Now, remember that これ means "this", so when we ask this question, we're talking about something that we have, or something that is close to us.

Naomi: Exactly. If you want to talk about something that someone else has...

Jessi: Like "what's THAT?", then you would use それ in place of これ.

Naomi: As you may have guessed, それ means "that".

Jessi: So to sum it up, we have...

Naomi: これ

Jessi: This, and...

Naomi: それ

Jessi: That. So how would we say, "What's that?"

Naomi:

それはなんですか。

Jessi: それはなんですか？ One more time slowly?

Naomi: それはなんですか？

Jessi: And again at normal speed.

Naomi: それはなんですか？

Jessi: And that means, "What is that?" Listeners, repeat after Naomi.

Naomi: それはなんですか？

[Pause] - それはなんですか？

Jessi: Okay, great! Now you're equipped with two ways to ask what something is - what is this? and what is that?

Naomi: これはなんですか？ and それはなんですか？

Jessi: Now, let's use them in a role play situation! Let's say that Naomi is an acquaintance of yours, and she is giving you a gift. Ask her "what is this?" Here's a hint, remember that "this" is これ。

Naomi: はい、どうぞ！おみやげです。

[Pause] - これはなんですか？

Jessi: Okay! If you said...

Naomi: これはなんですか？

Jessi: Then great job! How about one more? You see Naomi eating something, some kind of food you haven't seen before. Ask her "what is that?" Here's a hint, remember that the word for "that" is それ。

Naomi: (Eating) う～ん、おいしい！

[Pause] - それはなんですか？

Jessi: If you said...

Naomi: それはなんですか？

Jessi: Excellent job!! Naomi, what was it, by the way? That looks good!!

Naomi: ようかんです。

Jessi: All right, well that's going to wrap it up for this lesson. In the next lesson, you'll learn to ask if someone or something is okay.

Naomi: Thanks for listening, everyone! ありがとうございます！

Jessi: Thank you all! Make sure to leave us any questions you have on this lesson in the lesson comments. See you all next time!

Naomi: じゃまた！