

LESSON NOTES

Absolute Beginner S1 #12

Can You Eat This Japanese Meatloaf?

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KANJI

1. まさと: これはなんですか？
2. テイラー: それはミートローフです。
3. かおり: ミートローフ・・・？
4. テイラー: はい。にくです。
 ・・・にくはだいじょうぶですか？
5. かおり: はい！ (munch munch munch)うーん。おいしい！

KANA

1. まさと: これはなんですか？
2. テイラー: それはミートローフです。
3. かおり: ミートローフ・・・？
4. テイラー: はい。にくです。
 ・・・にくはだいじょうぶですか？
5. かおり: はい！ (munch munch munch)うーん。おいしい！

ROMANIZATION

1. MASATO: Kore wa nan desu ka?

CONT'D OVER

2. TEIRĀ: Sore wa mīto rōfu desu.
3. KAORI: Mīto rōfu...?
4. TEIRĀ: Hai. Niku desu.
... Niku wa daijōbu desu ka?
5. KAORI: Hai!(munch munch munch) Uun. Oishii!

ENGLISH

1. MASATO: What's this?
2. TAYLOR: That's meatloaf.
3. KAORI: Meatloaf...?
4. TAYLOR: Yes. It's meat.
Is meat okay? (Can you eat meat?)
5. KAORI: Yes! (munch munch munch) Mmm, it's good!

VOCABULARY

Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English
大丈夫	だいじょうぶ	daijōbu	alright, okay
ミートローフ	みーとろーふ	mītorōfu	meat loaf
肉	にく	niku	meat
大丈夫ですか	だいじょうぶですか	daijōbu desu ka	Are you okay? Is it okay?

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>私は大丈夫です。 <i>Watashi wa daijōbu desu.</i></p> <p>I'm all right.</p>	<p>ミートローフをください。 <i>Mītorōfu o kudasai.</i></p> <p>I'll have meat loaf.</p>
<p>これは肉です。 <i>Kore wa niku desu.</i></p> <p>This is meat.</p>	<p>風邪ですか？大丈夫ですか？ <i>Kaze desu ka? Daijōbu desu ka?</i></p> <p>Do you have a cold? Are you all right?</p>

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

sore (それ)

This is the word for "that" in Japanese. Remember that the word for "this" is *kore* (これ).

niku (肉)

This is the word for "meat" in Japanese.

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is Asking Whether Something or Someone Is Okay.

Niku wa daijōbu desu ka?

肉は大丈夫ですか？

"Is meat okay?" (Can you eat meat?)

One question you will hear a lot in Japanese is: *Daijōbu desu ka?* This phrase literally means "Is it okay?" or "Are you okay?" (depending on the situation), but it is very versatile! Asking whether something "is okay" in Japanese can mean a variety of things. If you are asking whether a certain type of food or drink is okay, it can mean "Can you eat/drink this?" Asking whether a certain time or day is okay means "Is that time/day convenient for you?" Using *daijōbu desu ka* just by itself directly to someone will usually mean "Are you okay?" Let's take a look at how to use this very versatile phrase!

Asking Whether Something or Someone is Okay

Sentence Pattern:

[A] wa daijōbu desu ka?

"Is [A] okay?"/"Are you okay with [A]?"

In this pattern, A = the item you are asking about (asking whether it is okay).

Now, let's make some sentences using this pattern:

A	<i>wa daijōbu desu ka?</i>	"English"
<i>Niku</i> ("Meat")	<i>wa daijōbu desu ka?</i>	"Is meat okay?" ("Can you eat meat?")
<i>Sakana</i> ("Fish")	<i>wa daijōbu desu ka?</i>	"Is fish okay?" ("Can you eat fish?")
<i>Arukōru</i> ("Alcohol")	<i>wa daijōbu desu ka?</i>	"Is alcohol okay?" ("Can you drink alcohol?")
<i>Kyō</i> ("Today")	<i>wa daijōbu desu ka?</i>	"Is today okay?" (for making plans, etc.)
<i>Ashita</i> ("Tomorrow")	<i>wa daijōbu desu ka?</i>	"Is tomorrow okay?" (for making plans, etc.)

To ask whether *something* is okay, you can use this whole sentence pattern, putting the thing you are talking about in place of [A]. But if you want to ask *someone* directly whether he or she is okay (for example, "Are you okay?" when someone doesn't look well or hurts himself or herself), you don't need [A] *wa*; you can simply ask ***Daijōbu desu ka?***

For Example:

- (situation: B trips and falls)
A: *Daijōbu desu ka?*
大丈夫ですか?
"Are you okay?"
B: *Hai. Daijōbu desu.*
はい。大丈夫です。
"Yes. I'm okay."/"I'm fine."
- (situation: A's dog barks at B)
A: *Inu wa daijōbu desu ka?*
犬は大丈夫ですか。
"Are dogs okay?" ("Are you not scared of them, allergic, etc.")