

## LESSON NOTES

# Absolute Beginner S1 #15

## A Long, Hot Japanese Summer

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## CONTENTS

- 2 Kanji
- 2 Kana
- 2 Romanization
- 3 English
- 3 Vocabulary
- 3 Sample Sentences
- 4 Vocabulary Phrase Usage
- 4 Grammar

# 15

## KANJI

1. まさと: あー、あつい。  
カリフォルニアのなつはあついですね。
2. テイラー: 日本のなつもあついですか。
3. まさと: はい。
4. かおり: 日本のなつは、むしあついです。
5. テイラー: む・し・あ・つ・い？

## KANA

1. まさと: あー、あつい。  
カリフォルニアのなつはあついですね。
2. テイラー: にほんのなつもあついですか。
3. まさと: はい。
4. かおり: にほんのなつは、むしあついです。
5. テイラー: む・し・あ・つ・い？

## ROMANIZATION

1. MASATO: Ā, atsui.  
Kariforunia no natsu wa atsui desu ne.

CONT'D OVER

2. TEIRĀ: Nihon no natsu mo atsui desu ka.
3. MASATO: Hai.
4. KAORI: Nihon no natsu wa, mushiatsui desu.
5. TEIRĀ: Mu-shi-a-tsu-i?

## ENGLISH

1. MASATO: Ah~ it's so hot!  
Summer in California is really hot, isn't it.
2. TAYLOR: Is summer in Japan hot too?
3. MASATO: Yeah.
4. KAORI: Summers in Japan are humid ("mushiatsui").
5. TAYLOR: Humid ("mushiatsui")...?

## VOCABULARY

Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English
夏	なつ	natsu	summer
暑い	あつい	atsui	hot
むし暑い	むしあつい	mushiatsui	humid, muggy ; Adj (i)
日本	にほん	Nihon	Japan

## SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>夏と冬とどちらが好きですか。  <i>Natsu to fuyu to dochira ga suki desu ka?</i></p> <p>Which do you like better, summer or winter?</p>	<p>今日は暑いです。  <i>Kyō wa atsui desu.</i></p> <p>It's hot today.</p>
<p>八月はむし暑い。  <i>Hachi-gatsu wa mushi atsui.</i></p> <p>It's humid in August.</p>	<p>これは日本の車です。  <i>Kore wa Nihon no kuruma desu.</i></p> <p>This is a Japanese car.</p>

## VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

### **Natsu** (なつ)

*Natsu* is the Japanese word for "summer." The words for the rest of the seasons are *aki* (fall), *fuyu* (winter), and *haru* (spring).

### **Atsui** (あつい)

*Atsui* is an adjective that means "hot." You'll often hear word being used to describe hot weather in the summer or something that is hot to the touch.

### **Mushiatsui** (むしあつい)

This adjective means "humid" or "muggy" and we use it to describe humid weather. Japan is known for having humid weather in the summer, so you may hear this word often!

## GRAMMAR

### The Focus of This Lesson Is Describing What Something Is Like.

*Karifornia no natsu wa atsui desu ne.*  
**カリフォルニアのなつはあついですね。**  
**"Summer in California is really hot, isn't it."**

In this lesson, you will learn how to describe people, places, and things using adjectives in Japanese. After this lesson, not only will you be able to say what something is, you'll also be able to describe what it's like!

### Describing What Something Is Like

You remember our construction [A] is [B] from Lesson 7, right?

[A] *wa* [B] *desu*

[A] is [B]

Before, we practiced putting nouns (people and things) in place of [B].

We can also put adjectives (used to describe nouns) in place of [B] to describe [A], which is what we'll do in this lesson.

### Sentence Pattern:

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[A] wa [adjective] desu

[A] is [adjective]

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In this pattern,

**A** = the item being talked about (a party, the dog, Japan, sushi, etc.)

**B** = what you are describing it as (hot, cold, small, fun, interesting, etc.)

Let's quickly review what adjectives are first. Adjectives are words that describe people, places, or things, such as "big," "small," "red," "short," "delicious," etc. To complete the sentence pattern above, first we need to know some common adjectives in Japanese:

Romaji	Japanese	"English"
<i>atsui</i>	あつい	"hot"
<i>samui</i>	さむい	"cold" (weather)
<i>ataakai</i>	あたたかい	"warm"
<i>suzushii</i>	すずしい	"cool" (weather)
<i>ōkii</i>	おおきい	"big"
<i>chiisai</i>	ちいさい	"small"
<i>oishii</i>	おいしい	"delicious"
<i>omoshiroi</i>	おもしろい	"interesting," "funny"

Now, let's replace [A] with an object or place and [B] with an adjective to describe it!

### Sample Sentences

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1. *Arasuka wa samui desu.*  
アラスカはさむいです。  
"Alaska is cold."

2. *Sushi wa oishii desu.*  
すしはおいしいです。  
"Sushi is **delicious**."
3. *Nihon wa chiisai desu.*  
にほんはちいさいです。  
"Japan is **small**."
4. *Afurika wa okii desu.*  
アフリカはおおきいです。  
"Africa is **big**."

### Examples from This Dialogue

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1. *Karifornia no natsu wa atsui desu ne.*  
カリフォルニアのなつはあついですね。  
"Summer in California is really hot, isn't it."
2. *Nihon no natsu wa, mushiatsui desu.*  
日本のなつは、むしあついです。  
"Summers in Japan are humid."

### Language Tip: The Particle *Mo* (も)

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#### *Mo* (も)

In the dialogue, we saw the line *Nihon no natsu mo atsui desu ka?* where we used *mo* in place of *wa* in our sentence structure.

This *mo* has the meaning of "also" or "too" and refers to the noun that comes before it.

#### For Example:

1. **日本のなつも暑いですか。**  
*Nihon no natsu mo atsui desu ka?*  
"Is summer in Japan hot **too**?"