

LESSON TRANSCRIPT

Absolute Beginner S1 #21

Do You Eat Sushi in Japan?

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INTRODUCTION

Jessi: Jessi here! Absolute Beginner Season 1 , Lesson 21 - Do You Eat Sushi in Japan?

Jessi: Hi, everyone. Welcome to Absolute Beginner Season 1, Lesson 21 - Do You Eat Sushi in Japan? 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 for all Absolute Beginner series! In the last lesson, we learned how to talk about animate objects using います. And in this lesson, we're going to learn how to use verbs and make sentences that talk about actions!

Naomi: Jessi, what's going on in this conversation?

Jessi: Kaori, Masato, and Taylor are talking to and about Sarah.

Naomi: Okay. Let's listen to the conversation!

LESSON CONVERSATION

(Sarah cries)

かおり：あ、サラちゃん、おなかがすきましたか？

(Sarah cries)

かおり：あ、サラちゃん、おなかがすきましたか？

(1 time natural native speed)

テイラーさん、サラちゃんはバナナをたべますか。

テイラー：はい。たべます。サラはバナナがだいすきです。

かおり：そうですか。はい、サラちゃん。どうぞ。

(Sarah laughs)

(Dog whines)

まさと(far away)：テイラーさん、マトリーはバナナをたべますか。

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

テイラーさん、サラちゃんはバナナをたべますか。

テイラー：はい。たべます。サラはバナナがだいすきです。

かおり：そうですか。はい、サラちゃん。どうぞ。

まさと(far away)：テイラーさん、マトリーはバナナをたべますか。

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

かおり：あ、サラちゃん、おなかがすきましたか？

Jessi: Oh, Sarah, are you hungry?

テイラーさん、サラちゃんはバナナをたべますか。

Jessi: Taylor, does Sarah eat bananas?

テイラー：はい。たべます。サラはバナナがだいすきです。

Jessi: Yes, she does. Sarah loves

bananas!

かおり：そうですか。はい、サラちゃん。どうぞ。

Jessi: Oh, really? Okay, Sarah. Here you go.

まさと(far away)：テイラーさん、マトリーはバナナをたべますか。

Jessi: Taylor, does Muttley eat bananas?

KEY VOCABULARY AND PHRASES

Jessi: Okay. So we just had to listen to the lesson, and Naomi, we heard a lot of things we learned in previous lessons!

Naomi: Yes, we did!

Jessi: Phrases like...

Naomi: お腹がすきました

Jessi: I'm hungry, and...?

Naomi: Aが大好きです

Jessi: I love [A]. Hopefully after listening to the previous lessons, you were able to catch those!

Naomi: This time, we also had something new, though...

Jessi: Yes, verbs, right?

Naomi: Right! This is the first time we had an action verb in the dialogue.

Jessi: And that action verb is actually our first vocabulary word. Naomi, can you tell us what it is?

Naomi: 食べます

Jessi: 食べます, the verb meaning "to eat"

Naomi: 食べます

Jessi: You'll notice it ends in ます... here's a little tip. All verbs end in ます in polite speech. For example, the polite verb for to go is...

Naomi: [*]

Jessi: The polite verb for to see is...

Naomi: [*]

Jessi: Notice how they all end in [*]. This is a good point to remember. So, can we hear the verb one more time?

Naomi: 食べます

Jessi: We'll go over this verb and how it's used more in the lesson focus. What's next?

Naomi: Next, we have a phrase. そうですか (↓)

Jessi: "Really?" or "Is that so?"

Naomi: Do you remember そうです, that we first learned in Lesson 9?

Jessi: そうです means "yes", or "that's right." In そうですか, we've just added a か at the end to make it a question.

Naomi:

そうですか？

Jessi: そうですか？ Really? Is that so? So, when Taylor told Kaori that Sarah loves bananas, Kaori said...

Naomi: そうですか。

Jessi: Oh, really? This そうですか。 is really useful in conversation.

Naomi: I agree. It's used a lot.

Jessi: If someone tells you something you didn't know or something of interest, you can respond with そうですか。 Okay, let's move on to the lesson focus.

LESSON FOCUS

Jessi: In this lesson, you'll learn how to use verbs in a sentence.

Naomi: Yes! This is our first time using action verbs in this series.

Jessi: Once you learn some verbs and how to use them, you'll be able to say so many new things!

Naomi: Definitely. Verbs are essential in any language.

Jessi: Okay. So, just to refresh everyone's memory and make sure we're all on the same page, verbs are words that describe actions. Examples in English would be "run", "walk", "speak", "eat", "read", etc.

Naomi: So sentences like "I eat breakfast"

Jessi: "I went to school"

Naomi: "I'm going to study"

Jessi: ...all contain verbs. We're just going to practice with one verb in Japanese in this lesson. We went over it earlier.

Naomi: Yes, the verb 食べます, to eat.

Jessi: 食べます. Like we mentioned before, all verbs end in ます in polite speech.

Naomi: Yes. And also no matter who you're talking about, the verb form doesn't change!

Jessi: Good point. By that we mean this. In a lot of other languages, verbs change their form depending on who the subject is. Even in English, we would "I eat", but "he eats". It's a minor change, but it is there.

Naomi: But in Japanese, it doesn't matter who the subject is - I, you, he, she, we, they... the verb stays 食べます.

Jessi: Nice, isn't it? So Naomi, what is our pattern for making a sentence with a verb.

Naomi: It's this - [person] wa [object] o [verb].

Jessi: And that's 3 parts! person + wa, object + o, and then the verb.

Naomi: That's right.

Jessi: Can we hear an example?

Naomi: Sure. わたしは肉を食べます。

Jessi: "I eat meat." Let's break it down.

Naomi:

わたしは

Jessi: わたし、"I" + は

Naomi: 肉を

Jessi: にく "meat" + を

Naomi: 食べます

Jessi: The verb meaning eat. So the sentence order in Japanese is "I meat eat". The verb comes at the end. Can we hear the sentence one more time?

Naomi: わたしは肉を食べます。

Jessi: "I eat meat." Listeners, please repeat after Naomi. "I eat meat."

Naomi: わたしは肉を食べます。

Jessi: Great! How about another one using the same verb.

Naomi: Okay, how about... テイラーはすしを食べます。

Jessi: Taylor eats sushi. Let's break it down.

Naomi: テイラーは

Jessi: Taylor + は

Naomi: すしを

Jessi: sushi + を

Naomi: 食べます

Jessi: Eats. "Taylor eats sushi." So see how the verb doesn't change? It just stays the same no matter who we're talking about. 食べます。Listeners, please repeat after Naomi. "Taylor eats sushi."

Naomi: テイラーはすしを食べます。

Naomi: テイラーはすしを食べます。Okay, great! Let's have the listeners make a sentence on their own now.

Jessi: Sounds good. What sentence should we have them make?

Naomi: Hmm, how about "I eat pizza."

Jessi: Great. How about some hints. Our pattern once again, Naomi, is...

Naomi: [person] wa [object] o [verb].

Jessi: The person in this case is I, わたし, pizza is ピザ, and eat is たべます。

Listeners, can you put that all together?

Naomi: I'll get you started. わたしは。。。。

Jessi: All right, if you said...

Naomi: わたしはピザを食べます

Jessi: Congratulations on putting that all together! One more time, please repeat.

Naomi: わたしはピザを食べます。

Jessi: Excellent. By the way, Naomi.

Naomi: はい？

Jessi: What do you eat if, say, there's a special occasion or something? Like a special meal like a birthday or something?

Naomi: 私は、ケーキを食べます。

Jessi: Ah, so you eat

cake.

Naomi: Right.

Jessi: Ah, sounds good.

Naomi: How about you, Jessi?

Jessi: It depends on the occasion. For a birthday, it would be the same for me 私は、ケーキを食べます。 But for, say, Thanksgiving though, I could say this. 私は、ターキーを食べます。

Naomi: Ah, that's nice.

Jessi: Okay listeners, in this lesson, we only used one verb, たべます, in our examples. Of course there are many more that can be used in this pattern. Where can they find more verbs, Naomi?

Naomi: In the lesson notes, as always~

Jessi: Yes. You'll find a nice chart with some basic everyday verbs, so check that out! You can add a lot of variety to your sentences.

Naomi: Right. We'll also introduce another new verb in the next lesson.

Jessi: So please join us then! Okay. Well, that's going to do it for today.

Naomi: Thanks for listening. Until next time!

Jessi: じゃまた。