

LESSON NOTES

Absolute Beginner S2 #10

Missing the Japanese Train

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KANJI

1. (Masato was running for the train, but has just missed it.)
2. まさと: あーあ。
 すみません。
 つぎのでんしゃはなんじですか。
3. STATION 2じはんです。
 ATTENDANT:
4. まさと: 2じはん?
 すみません、いまなんじですか。
5. STATION 1じはんです。
 ATTENDANT:
6. まさと: すみません。
 タクシーはどこですか。

KANA

1. (Masato was running for the train, but has just missed it.)
2. まさと: あーあ。
 すみません。
 つぎのでんしゃはなんじですか。
3. STATION にじはんです。
 ATTENDANT:

CONT'D OVER

4. まさと: にじはん?
すみません、いまなんじですか。
5. STATION いちじはんです。
ATTENDANT:
6. まさと: すみません。
タクシーはどこですか。

ROMANIZATION

1. (Masato was running for the train, but has just missed it.)
2. MASATO: Āa.
Sumimasen.
Tsugi no densha wa nan-ji desu ka.
3. STATION Ni-ji han desu.
ATTENDANT:
4. MASATO: Ni-ji han?
Sumimasen, ima nan-ji desu ka.
5. STATION Ichi-ji han desu.
ATTENDANT:
6. MASATO: Sumimasen.
Takushī wa doko desu ka.

ENGLISH

CONT'D OVER

1. (Masato was running for the train but has just missed it.)
2. MASATO: Darn it.
Excuse me.
What time is the next train?
3. STATION ATTENDANT: It's at two-thirty.
4. MASATO: Two-thirty?
Excuse me, what time is it now?
5. STATION ATTENDANT: It's one-thirty.
6. MASATO: Excuse me.
Where are the taxis?

VOCABULARY

Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English
すみません。	すみません。	Sumimasen.	Excuse me. I'm sorry.
なんじ	なんじ	nan-ji	what time
はん	はん	han	half-past
つぎの	つぎの	tsugi no	the next ---
タクシー	タクシー	takushī	taxi
でんしゃ	でんしゃ	densha	train
じ	じ	---ji	---o'clock
どこ	どこ	doko	where

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>ほんとうにすみません。 <i>Hontō ni sumimasen.</i></p> <p>I'm really sorry.</p>	<p>いまなんじ？ <i>Ima nan-ji?</i></p> <p>What time is it now? (informal)</p>
<p>ごぜん よじはん です。 <i>Gozen yo-ji han desu.</i></p> <p>It's 4:30a.m.</p>	<p>つぎのバスはなんじですか。 <i>Tsugi no basu wa nan-ji desu ka.</i></p> <p>What time does the next bus come?</p>
<p>タクシー、おねがいします。 <i>Takushī, onegaishimasu.</i></p> <p>Please call me a taxi.</p>	<p>にほんの電車が好きです。 <i>Nihon no densha ga suki desu.</i></p> <p>I like Japanese trains.</p>
<p>2じです。 <i>Ni-ji desu.</i></p> <p>It's two o'clock.</p>	<p>ここはどこですか。 <i>Koko wa doko desu ka.</i></p> <p>Where are we? (Literally: Where is here?)</p>

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

つぎの (*tsugi no*)

In the dialogue, we heard the phrase *tsugi no densha*, which translates to "the next train." *Tsugi* means "next," and when it's followed by a noun, you need to insert *no*.

***tsugi no* [noun] → "the next [noun]"**

For Example:

1. ***tsugi no basu***
"the next bus"
2. ***tsugi no eki***
"the next station"
* *eki* = "station"

でんしゃ (*densha*)

Densha means "train." Let's check the names of some vehicles in Japanese!

Japanese	"English"
<i>densha</i>	"train"
<i>chikatetsu</i>	"subway"
<i>basu</i>	"bus"
<i>takushī</i>	"taxi"

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is Asking about Timetables.

つぎの電車はなんじですか。

Tsugi no densha wa nan-ji desu ka.

"What time is the next train?"

Japanese public transport is renowned for being clean, safe, and nearly always running exactly to schedule, which makes it very easy for foreign tourists to use even if they don't speak Japanese. The phrases that come up in this lesson will definitely come in handy when you go to Japan on vacation!

In this lesson, you'll learn the easiest way to ask "What time does the next train come?" or "What time does something start?" in Japanese.

Han, Meaning "Half-Past"

Han expresses the concept of "thirty minutes," or "half past." Pay attention to the word order, since it's different from English.

For Example:

1. 4:30 → *yo-ji han*
2. 8:30 → *hachi-ji han*

[A] *wa nan-ji desu ka*, Meaning "What time is [A]?"

To ask "What time does [something] come?" or "What time does [something] start?" we

say "What time is [something]?" in Japanese. You can ask about the schedule using the [A] *wa nan-ji desu ka?* sentence pattern.

Formation

- **[A] *wa nan-ji desu ka.* → "What time is [A]?"**
**Nan-ji* is a question word meaning "What time?"

For Example:

[A]	<i>wa</i>	<i>nan-ji desu ka.</i>	"English"
<i>Densha</i>	<i>wa</i>	<i>nan-ji desu ka.</i>	"What time is the train?" or "What time does the train come?"
<i>Mītingu</i>	<i>wa</i>	<i>nan-ji desu ka.</i>	"What time is the meeting?" or "What time does the meeting start?"
<i>Patī</i>	<i>wa</i>	<i>nan-ji desu ka.</i>	"What time is the party?" or "What time does the party start?"

Sample Sentences

1. A : *Tsugi no basu wa nan-ji desu ka.*
B: (*Tsugi no basu wa*) *Ni-ji han desu.*
A: "What time does the next bus come?"
B: "(It comes) At two-thirty."
2. A : *Nihongo no kurasu wa nan-ji desu ka.*
B: (*Nihongo no kurasu wa*) *San-ji han desu.*
A: "What time does the Japanese class start?"
B: "(It starts) At three-thirty."

Reference

- *sumimasen* → Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 4

- *-wa doko desu ka?* → Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 13