

LESSON NOTES

Absolute Beginner S2 #16

Spending Time on Japanese Public Transportation

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KANJI

1. テイラー: なにでまさとさんのうちにいきますか。
 くるまでいきますか。
2. まさと: でんしゃでいきます。
 それから、バスとあるきでいきます。
3. テイラー: でんしゃとバスとあるき...?
 とおいですね。

ROMANIZATION

1. TEIRĀ: Nani de Masato-san no uchi ni ikimasu ka.
 Kuruma de ikimasu ka?
2. MASATO: Densha de ikimasu.
 Sorekara, basu to aruki de ikimasu.
3. TEIRĀ: Densha to basu to aruki...?
 Tōi desu ne.

ENGLISH

1. TAYLOR: How are we going to your house, Masato? Are we going by car?
2. MASATO: We're going by train.
 Then, we'll go by bus, and on foot.
3. TAYLOR: Train and bus and on foot...?
 It's far, isn't it...

VOCABULARY

Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English
なに	なに	nani	what
とおい	とおい	tōi	distant, far away;Adj (i)
でんしゃ	でんしゃ	densha	train
うち	うち	uchi	home, house
くるま	くるま	kuruma	car
バス	ばす	basu	a bus
あるき	あるき	aruki	on foot
いきます	いきます	ikimasu	to go ;V1, masu form

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>なにがすきですか。 <i>Nani ga suki desu ka.</i></p> <p>What do you like?</p>	<p>まささんのうちはとおいです。 <i>Masato-san no uchi wa tōi desu.</i></p> <p>Masato's house is far away.</p>
<p>にほんのでんしゃがすきです。 <i>Nihon no densha ga suki desu.</i></p> <p>I like Japanese trains.</p>	<p>これは、わたしのうちです。 <i>Kore wa watashi no uchi desu.</i></p> <p>This is my home.</p>
<p>くるまがありますか。 <i>Kuruma ga arimasu ka.</i></p> <p>Do you have a car?</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>あるきでうちにいきます。 <i>Aruki de uchi ni ikimasu.</i></p> <p>I go home on foot.</p>	<p>6がつ、とうきょうにいきます。 <i>Roku-gatsu, Tōkyō ni ikimasu.</i></p> <p>I'm going to Tokyo in June.</p>

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

それから (*sorekara*)

This means "and then." You can use it to connect two sentences that have a follow-on relationship to each other.

For Example:

1. スーパーに行きました。それからジムに行きました。それから。。。
Suupaa ni ikimashita. Sorekara jimu ni ikimashita. Sorekara...
"I went to the supermarket, and then I went to the gym, and then..."

とおい ⇄ ちかい (*tōi* ⇄ *chikai*)

This is a pair of opposite words that mean "far," とおい (*tōi*) and "near" or "close by," ちかい (*chikai*).

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is Asking and Saying Means of Transportation.

くるまでいきますか。

Kuruma de ikimasu ka?

"Are we going by car?"

In this lesson, you'll learn how to say the means of transport you use to go somewhere. You will also learn how to ask how someone gets somewhere.

"We go to school by car."

This sentence structure is very similar to the others we've studied up until now for talking about where someone is, etc. ([person] *wa* [place] *ni imasu*). This time, however, between *wa* and [place], we just add in the name of a vehicle plus *de*, which is the equivalent of the English "by" (as in, "by car").

That's then followed by *ni*, which marks direction, and the verb *ikimasu*, which means "go."

So, literally, we would translate this sentence as "As for [person], [vehicle] by [place] goes."

Formation

[Person] *wa* [means of transportation] *de* [place] *ni ikimasu* → "[Person] goes to [place] by [means of transportation]."

In English, we say "on foot" to mean to go somewhere by walking. In Japanese, this is

あるきで (*aruki de*), which literally means "by walking." We can fit it into the above pattern just like any other means of transportation.

"How does he get to work?" / "How are you getting home?"

To make this into a question and ask "How does [person] get to [place]?" or, in more natural English, "How is [person] getting to [place]?" you simply replace the name of the transportation with *nani*, meaning "what," and add the *ka*, which is the "question mark," at the end of the sentence.

Formation

[Person] wa nani de [place] ni ikimasu ka → "How does [person] get to [place]?" / "How is [person] getting to [place]?"

Of course, as in previous lessons, when people answer the above question, they will almost always omit the name of the place to which they are going, as they have already stated it in the question and it is therefore implied.

For Example:

1. すずきさんはなににでしごとにいけますか。

A: *Suzuki-san wa nani de shigoto ni ikimasu ka.*

A: "How do you get to work, Mr. Suzuki?"

わたしはでんしゃでいきます。

B: *Watashi wa densha de ikimasu.*

B: "I get to work by train."

2. わたしはじてんしゃでパーティーにいけます。けいこちゃんも。

A: *Watashi wa jitensha de paatii ni ikimasu. Keiko-chan wa.*

A: "I'm going to the party by bike. How about you, Keiko?"

わたしもじてんしゃでいきます。

B: *Watashi mo jitensha de ikimasu.*

B: "I'm going by bike too."

Reference

Please also review the following Grammar Points.

- *ikimasu / kimasu* → Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 23