

LESSON NOTES

Absolute Beginner S2 #21 Getting Enthusiastic about Japanese Games

CONTENTS

- 2 Kanji
- 2 Romanization
- 3 English
- 3 Vocabulary
- 4 Sample Sentences
- 5 Vocabulary Phrase Usage
- 5 Grammar
- 6 Cultural Insight

21

KANJI

1. かおり: テイラーさんはゲーム、好きですか。
2. テイラー: はい。だいすきです。
 ちょっと・・・おたくです。
3. かおり: じゃ、これをしませんか。
 Wii U です。
4. テイラー: いいですよ。
5. (game over のおと)
6. テイラー: あの・・・もう いちど、しませんか。
7. かおり: えー。
8. テイラー: もう いちど、おねがいします。

ROMANIZATION

1. KAORI: Teirā-san wa gēmu, suki desu ka.
2. TEIRĀ: Hai. Daisuki desu.
 Chotto... otaku desu.
3. KAORI: Ja, kore o shimasen ka? Wii U desu.
4. TEIRĀ: Ii desu yo.
5. (game over no oto)

CONT'D OVER

6. TEIRĀ: Ano...mō ichi-do, shimasen ka.
7. KAORI: Ē.
8. TEIRĀ: Mō ichi-do, onegaishimasu.

ENGLISH

1. KAORI: Taylor, do you like video games?
2. TAYLOR: Yes. I love them.
I'm a bit of... an otaku.
3. KAORI: Well, won't you give this a try? It's the Wii U.
4. TAYLOR: All right.
5. ("game over" sound)
6. TAYLOR: Um... won't you play one more time?
7. KAORI: Huh?
8. TAYLOR: One more time, please!

VOCABULARY

Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English
すき (な)	すき (な)	suki(na)	likable, to like; Adj (na)

おたく	おたく	otaku	geek, nerd, otaku, people with obsessive interests
いちど	いちど	ichi-do	one time, once
おねがいします	おねがいします	onegai shimasu	please
もういちど	もういちど	mō ichi-do	once again, one more time, once more
もう	もう	mō	another, more
あの・・・	あの・・・	ano...	um...
ちょっと	ちょっと	chotto	a bit, a little
だいすき	だいすき	daisuki	to like very much, loveable; Adj(na)
します	します	shimasu	to do ;V3 (-masu form)

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>わたしはにほんがすきです。 <i>Watashi wa Nihon ga suki desu.</i></p> <p>I like Japan.</p>	<p>わたしはゲームがだいすきです。ちょっとおたくです。 <i>Watashi wa gēmu ga daisuki desu. Chotto otaku desu.</i></p> <p>I love video games. I'm a bit of a nerd.</p>
<p>ことし、もういちどメキシコにいきます。 <i>kotoshi, mō ichi-do Mekishiko ni ikimasu.</i></p> <p>I will go to Mexico one more time this year.</p>	<p>みずとメニュー、おねがいします。 <i>Mizu to menyū, onegai shimasu.</i></p> <p>Some water and a menu, please.</p>
<p>もういちど、おねがいします。 <i>Mō ichi-do, onegaishimasu.</i></p> <p>Once more, please.</p>	<p>ことし、もういちどメキシコにいきます。 <i>kotoshi, mō ichi-do Mekishiko ni ikimasu.</i></p> <p>I will go to Mexico one more time this year.</p>

<p>あの、すみません。としょかんはどこですか。</p> <p><i>Ano, sumimasen. Toshokan wa doko desu ka.</i></p> <p>Um, excuse me. Where is the library?</p>	<p>ちょっと、すみません。</p> <p><i>Chotto, sumimasen.</i></p> <p>Excuse me for a minute.</p>
<p>にくがだいすきです。</p> <p><i>Niku ga daisuki desu.</i></p> <p>I love meat.</p>	<p>ゴルフをしますか。</p> <p><i>Gorufu o shimasu ka.</i></p> <p>Do you golf?</p>

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

もういちど (*mō ichido*)

This phrase means "one more time." The polite version is もういちどおねがいします (*mō ichi-do onegai shimasu*), meaning "One more time, please." This phrase is particularly useful when you want to ask someone to repeat something s/he just said.

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is Inviting Someone to Do Something.

もういちどしませんか。

Mō ichi-do shimasen ka.

"Shall we play one more time?"

In this lesson, you'll learn how to ask someone politely whether he or she would like to do something by using the negative form of a verb.

"Would you like to watch a movie?"

In Japanese, it is not polite to ask someone directly "Do you want to~?" Instead, we phrase the question literally as verb-*masen ka*, meaning "Won't you~?"

Remember, in the previous lessons, we learned the *-masen form* of a verb, meaning "don't [verb]"? To ask this question, all you have to do is use this *-masen form* and add the question mark *ka*.

Formation

[Thing] *o* [verb-*masen*] *ka* → "Would you like to [verb] [thing]?"

[Place] *ni ikimasen/kimasen ka* → "Would you like to go/come to [place]?"

Sample Sentences

1. えいがをみませんか。
Eiga o mimasen ka.
"Would you like to watch a movie?"
2. あした、かいものにいきませんか。
Ashita, kaimono ni ikimasen ka.
"Would you like to go shopping tomorrow?"
3. このケーキをたべませんか。
Kono kēki o tabemasen ka.
"Would you like some of this cake?" [Literally, "Would you like to eat this cake?"]

Reference

Please also review the following Grammar Points.

- *-ga suki desu* → Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 21
- *kore* → Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 11
- *Onegai shimasu.* → Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 5

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Would You Be Considered a Geek in Japan?

We usually translate the word おたく (*otaku*) as "geek" or "nerd," but in recent years it has become a rare example of a loanword from Japanese to English that is often left untranslated. In Japan, an *otaku* is usually someone who is obsessed with something that is considered "geeky," such as computers, anime, manga, idol singers, or video games, but we can use it to refer to an overly passionate fan of almost any hobby or form of entertainment. In English,

though, it is restricted specifically to fans of Japanese animation, games, and manga. While in the United States and Europe it seems that some proudly refer to themselves as *otaku*, in Japan people generally do not consider this a positive label, and loudly referring to oneself as such can make Japanese people feel uncomfortable.

Otaku actually comes from an honorific word for someone else's home or family, which we usually write in kanji as お宅 (*o-taku*), and it is said to have spread as a slang term in its current usage during the late 1970s and 1980s.

The Wii U that Kaori and Taylor are playing in the dialogue is the upcoming successor to the Nintendo Wii, which is due to be released in summer 2012. It has a new controller with an embedded touchscreen and will be compatible with all Wii games and hardware.