

LESSON NOTES

Newbie S1 #25

Japanese Birthdays

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KANJI

1. 病院長: お名前は高山覚です。昭和45年の生まれです。群馬県の出身です。ご家族が3人います。
2. さとし: 家族？
3. 病院長: そうですよ。奥さんと娘さんがいます。
4. さとし: 今二人はどこですか。教えてください。
5. 病院長: それは...高山さん、話があります。高山さんは公安調査庁の役人ですから、まず首相に電話します。ちょっと待ってください。

KANA

1. びょういんちょう: おなまえはたかやまさとるです。しょうわよんじゅうごねんのうまれです。ぐんまけんのしゅっしんです。こかぞくがさんにんいます。
2. さとし: かぞく？
3. びょういんちょう: そうですよ。おくさんとむすめさんがいます。
4. さとし: いまふたりはどこですか。おしえてください。
5. びょういんちょう: それは...たかやまさん、はなしがあります。たかやまさんはこうあんちょうさちょうのやくにんですから、まずしゅしょうにでんわします。ちょっとまってください。

ROMANIZATION

CONT'D OVER

1. BYŌINCHŌ: O-namae wa Takayama Satoshi desu. Shōwa yonjūgo nen no umare desu. Gunma ken no shusshin desu. Go-kazoku ga san-nin imasu.
2. SATOSHI: Kazoku?
3. BYŌINCHŌ: Sō desu yo. Oku-san to musume san ga imasu.
4. SATOSHI: Ima futari wa doko desu ka. Oshiete kudasai.
5. BYŌINCHŌ: Sore wa... Takayama-san hanashi ga arimasu. Takayama-san wa kōan chōsa chō no yakunin desu kara, mazu shushō ni denwa shimasu. Chotto matte kudasai.

ENGLISH

1. DIRECTOR: Your name is Satoshi Takayama. You were born in Showa 45. Your hometown is in Gumma prefecture. You have a family of three.
2. SATOSHI: A family?
3. DIRECTOR: Yes. You have a wife and daughter.
4. SATOSHI: Where are they now? Please tell me!
5. DIRECTOR: That's, well... Takayama-san, I have something to tell you. As you're in the PSIA, we first have to call the Prime Minister. Please wait.

VOCABULARY

Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English
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昭和	しょうわ	shōwa	the Showa Period
生まれ	うまれ	umare	birth
出身	しゅっしん	shusshin	origin, from -
家族	かぞく	kazoku	family
奥さん	おくさん	okusan	wife
公安調査庁	こうあんちょうさち ょう	kōan chōsa chō	Public Security Investigative Agency
役人	やくにん	yakunin	government official
首相	しゅしょう	shushō	Prime Minister, Chancellor (Germany, Austria, etc.)

SAMPLE SENTENCES

彼女はアフリカの出身だそうだ。 <i>Kanojo wa Afurika no shusshin da sō da.</i> Apparently she's from Africa.	田中さんは奥さんと旅行に行った。 <i>Tanaka-san wa oku-san to ryokō ni itta.</i> Mr. Tanaka went on a trip with his wife.
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GRAMMAR

In Japan, people use the Japanese calendar system in addition to the western calendar. The Japanese calendar system corresponds with the reign of the Emperor. *Shōwa* used in today's dialog and means the *Shōwa* era, which corresponds to the reign of Emperor *Shōwa (Hirohito)*, from December 25, 1926 to January 7, 1989. The current period is called *Heisei*, and it is now in *Heisei 19*.

If you live in Japan, you may be required to refer to your birth year by *Shōwa* in some public documents. If you were born in the *Shōwa* era, the easy way to know your birth year using *Shōwa* is to subtract 25 from the last two digits of your birth year by the western calendar. For example, if your birth year is 1970, 70 minus 25 equals 45, which means that 1970 is *Shōwa 45*.

Japanese Calendar	Western Calendar
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Meiji 1 - 45	1868-1912
Taisho 1 - 15	1912-1926
Shōwa 1 - 64	1926-1989
Heisei 1 -	1989-