

## LESSON NOTES

# Newbie S1 #3

# Keys to Japanese Conversation

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# 3

## KANJI

1. 山口: お久しぶりです。
2. 渡辺: そうですね。しばらくですね。
3. 山口: お元気ですか？
4. 渡辺: はい、元気ですよ。お元気ですか？
5. 山口: お蔭様で、元気です。

## KANA

1. やまぐち: おひさしぶりです。
2. わたなべ: そうですね。しばらくですね。
3. やまぐち: おげんきですか？
4. わたなべ: はい、げんきですよ。おげんきですか？
5. やまぐち: おかげさまで、げんきです。

## ROMANIZATION

1. YAMAGUCHI: O-hisashiburi desu.
2. WATANABE: Sō desu ne. Shibaraku desu ne.
3. YAMAGUCHI: O-genki desu ka?

CONT'D OVER

4. WATANABE: Hai, genki desu yo. O-genki desu ka?
5. YAMAGUCHI: O-kage-sama de, genki desu.

## ENGLISH

1. YAMAGUCHI: I haven't heard from you in a long time.
2. WATANABE: That's right. It's been a while.
3. YAMAGUCHI: How are you?
4. WATANABE: Yes, I'm good. How are you?
5. YAMAGUCHI: Thanks to you, I'm fine.

## VOCABULARY

Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English
お久しぶりです	おひさしぶりです	Ohisashiburi desu	Long time no see. (formal)
そうですね。	そうですね。	Sō desu ne.	That's right.
しばらくですね	しばらくですね	Shibaraku desu ne	It's been a while.
お元気ですか。	おげんきですか。	Ogenki desu ka	How are you?
はい、元気ですよ	はい、げんきですよ	Hai, genki desu yo	Yes, I'm good.
おかげさまで、元気 です	おかげさまで、げん きです	Okagesama de genki desu	Thanks to you, I'm fine.

## SAMPLE SENTENCES

テイラーさん、おひさしぶりです。 <i>Teira-san, o-hisashiburi desu.</i>	あ、そうですね。 <i>A, sō desu ne.</i>
Taylor, long time no see!	Oh, yes, that's right.

A. 「お元気ですか。」 B. 「はい、すごく元気です。」  
*A. Ogenki desu ka. B. Hai, sugoku genki desu.*

A: How are you? B: I'm great!

## GRAMMAR

Today's grammar points are the interrogative particle *ka* and the sentence-ending particles *yo* and *ne*.

*Ka* is a sentence-ending particle that can be used to change a declarative statement into a yes-no question, or in combination with interrogative words such as *nani* ("what"), *dare* ("who"), etc. to ask an open-ended question. In Japanese, the subject is often inferred once it is known, or if it can be inferred through context of the question or situation. In a situation similar to that of today's conversation, but in which there are more than two people, it may be necessary for the speaker to specify to whom he/she is asking "How are you?"

Today's second grammar point is the sentence-ending particle *yo*, which is used by the speaker to express a strong conviction about something or to emphatically declare something. For example, there is a notable difference between the following two replies to the question, "*O-genki desu ka?*" ("How are you?")

- 1) *Genki desu.* - I'm well./I'm good.
- 2) *Genki desu yo.* - I'm well!/I'm good!

Today's third grammar point is the sentence ending particle *ne*, which acts as a tag question used to provoke a response from the listening party, usually confirmation of or agreement with the speaker's statement, regarding a topic of mutual knowledge.

In today's dialog, it is used to confirm the initial speaker's notion that it has been a while since they last spoke.

- 1) *O-hisashiburi desu.* - "I haven't heard from you in a long time."
- 2) *Sō desu ne. Shibaraku desu ne.* - "That's right. It's been a while."

Finally, today's lesson introduced two phrases that are used as an initial greeting when the parties speaking are familiar to one another but have not seen or spoken to each other for an extended period of time: "*O-hisashiburi desu.*" and "*Shibaraku desu.*"