

LESSON NOTES

Newbie S5 #15

What Will You Do Tomorrow in Japan?

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KANJI

1. まどか: ママ、紅茶、飲む？
2. お母さん: うん。お願い。
3. まどか: ミルクとおさとう、使う？
4. お母さん: うん。使う。
5. まどか: はい、どうぞ。
ケントも紅茶、飲む？
6. ケント: いや。コーラ飲む。
7. まどか: コーラとケーキ？

KANA

1. まどか: ママ、こうちゃ、のむ？
2. おかあさん: うん。おねがい。
3. まどか: ミルクとおさとう、つかう？
4. おかあさん: うん。つかう。
5. まどか: はい、どうぞ。
ケントもこうちゃ、のむ？
6. ケント: いや。コーラのむ。

CONT'D OVER

7. まどか: コーラとケーキ？

ROMANIZATION

1. MADOKA: Mama, kōcha, nomu?
2. O-KĀ-SAN: Un. Onegai.
3. MADOKA: Miruku to o-satō, tsukau?
4. O-KĀ-SAN: Un. Tsukau.
5. MADOKA: Hai, dōzo.
Kento mo kōcha, nomu?
6. KENTO: Iya. Kōra nomu.
7. MADOKA: Kōra to kēki?

ENGLISH

1. MADOKA: Mom, do you want some tea?
2. MOTHER: Yes, please.
3. MADOKA: Do you want milk and sugar? [Literally, are you going to use milk and sugar?]
4. MOTHER: Yes, I do.

CONT'D OVER

5. MADOKA: Here you are.
Kent, do you want some tea too?
6. KENT: No, I'll have Coke.
7. MADOKA: Coke with cake...?

VOCABULARY

Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English
紅茶	こうちゃ	kōcha	black/Western tea
飲む	のむ	nomu	to drink [class 1]
コーラ	コーラ	kōra	cola
ミルク	ミルク	miruku	milk
砂糖	さとう	satō	sugar
使う	つかう	tsukau	to use; V1
いる	いる	iru	to need, to want; V1
お願い	おねがい	onegai	please
どうぞ	どうぞ	dōzo	go ahead, here you are

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>紅茶を飲みますか。 <i>Kōcha o nomimasu ka.</i></p> <p>Do you drink tea?/Would you like some tea?</p>	<p>温かい紅茶を飲んでください。 <i>Atatakai kōcha o nonde kudasai.</i></p> <p>Please drink warm tea.</p>
<p>コーラはいくらですか。 <i>Kōra wa ikura desu ka.</i></p> <p>How much is the cola?</p>	<p>冷たいミルクをください。 <i>Tsumetai miruku o kudasai.</i></p> <p>Cold milk, please.</p>

砂糖をください。 <i>Satō o kudasai.</i> Please give me the sugar.	パソコンを使う。 <i>Pasokon o tsukau.</i> I'll use a PC.
このオレンジいる？ <i>Kono orenji iru?</i> Do you want this orange?	サインをお願いします。 <i>Sain wo onegai shimasu.</i> Your signature (autograph), please.
はい、どうぞ。 <i>Hai, dōzo.</i> Here you go.	

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

***o-negai* (お願い) ⇒ "Please."**

This word comes from the phrase *o-negai shimasu* (お願いします), which means "please," and we use it when asking for something or asking for a favor. When speaking informal Japanese, you can leave off the *shimasu* and just use *o-negai*, as we saw in the dialogue.

***dōzo* (どうぞ) ⇒ "Please go ahead."/"Here you are."**

If you're offering something to someone or would like someone to go ahead of you or do something before you, use *dōzo*. Are you offering your seat to someone on the train? *Dōzo*. Are you holding the door for someone and would like him or her to go right ahead? *Dōzo*. Are you at a restaurant and someone else's food came before yours and you would like the person to start eating? *Dōzo*. Did you try your hand at making some delicious *o-nigiri* ("rice balls") and would like to offer them to someone? *Dōzo!*

***kōcha* (紅茶) "black tea"**

This is the word for "black tea" in Japanese. At many cafes and restaurants, you will often be asked if you would like *kōhī* (コーヒー), meaning "coffee," or *kōcha* (紅茶), meaning "black tea."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is Using the Dictionary Form of Verbs to Talk about Future Events and Ask Questions.

ママ、紅茶、飲む？

Mama, kōcha, nomu?

"Mum, do you want some tea?"

In this lesson, you'll learn how to talk about the future using the present (non-past) tense of a verb. You'll also learn how to ask questions using the same present (non-past) tense of a verb.

Talking about Future Actions and Events

You may be surprised to learn that in Japanese, there is no future tense! When talking about future events, we simply use the regular present tense (also referred to as the non-past). Whether we are talking about the present or future is mostly left to context. Let's take a look at one of the lines from the dialogue.

For Example:

1. ケント : コーラ 飲む。
Kento: Kōra nomu.
Kent: "I'll have Coke."

Nomu (飲む) is the informal/dictionary form of the verb *nomimasu* (飲みます), meaning "to drink." We use it to talk about things in the present tense ("I drink," "you drink," "she drinks," etc.), but here, Kent is using it to refer to a future action: "I'll have/I'll drink Coke." There is no particle in his sentence because he is speaking casually (where it is optional), but if there were one, the object-marking particle *o* would go in between *kōra* and *nomu*: *Kora o nomu* (コーラを飲む).

First, let's introduce some basic verbs in Japanese in both their formal and informal forms.

Informal Japanese	Formal Japanese	"English"
<i>kau</i> (買う)	<i>kaimasu</i> (買います)	"to buy"
<i>tsukau</i> (使う)	<i>tsukaimasu</i> (使います)	"to use"
<i>iku</i> (行く)	<i>ikimasu</i> (行きます)	"to go"

<i>hanasu</i> (話す)	<i>hanashimasu</i> (話します)	"to speak"
<i>nomu</i> (飲む)	<i>nomimasu</i> (飲みます)	"to drink"

Now, let's use some of those verbs and create sentences that talk about future actions using the informal non-past form.

For Example:

1. 駅(に)行く。
Eki (ni) iku.
"I'll go/I'm going to the station."
2. ネット(を)使う。
Netto(o) tsukau.
"I'll use/I'm going to use the Internet."
3. ビール(を)飲む。
Bīru (o) nomu.
"I'll drink/I'm going to drink beer."

When you combine the non-past form of a verb with a time expression that indicates the future, there is no question that you are talking about the future.

For Example:

<i>Japanese Word Meaning</i> "Tomorrow"	<i>Japanese Sentence</i>	"English"
<i>ashita</i> (明日)	<i>gakkō ni iku.</i> (学校(に)行く。)	"I'll go/I'm going to school tomorrow."

Simple Questions in Informal Japanese

In the fourth, fifth, and sixth lessons, we went over questions that use nouns and adjectives. Now, let's take a look at some simple questions that use verbs. When learning formal Japanese, you may remember the rule of adding the question particle *ka* (か) to create a question.

For Example:

Statement (Formal Japanese)	Question (Formal Japanese)
紅茶を飲みます。 <i>Kōcha o nomimasu.</i> "I'll drink black tea."	紅茶を飲みますか。 <i>Kōcha o nomimasu ka.</i> "Will you drink black tea/Do you want black tea?"

In informal Japanese, however, using the question particle *ka* (か) to form a question often sounds rough and is a part of Japanese men's usage. Instead, we can just use rising intonation to create a question.

For Example:

Statement (Informal Japanese)	Question (Informal Japanese)
紅茶(を)飲む。↓ <i>Kōcha (o) nomu. ↓</i> "I'll drink black tea."	紅茶(を)飲む?↑ <i>Kōcha (o) nomu?↑</i> "Will you drink black tea/Do you want black tea?"

Language Tip

Let's take a look at the common structure for a sentence that includes an object. Because we are focusing on informal speech in this series, a lot of the time we leave particles out of the sentences, but let's take a look at where the particle would normally go.

[A] *wa* [B] *o* Verb

In the above structure, the one performing the action is [A], and the object that the action is being performed on is [B]. In the dialogue, Madoka said *Mama, kōcha, nomu?* meaning "Mom, do you want some tea?" Let's see where the particles would go in this sentence:

	[A]	<i>wa</i>	[B]	<i>o</i>	Verb
With particles	<i>Mama</i>	<i>wa</i>	<i>kocha</i>	<i>o</i>	<i>nomu?</i>
Without particles	<i>Mama</i>		<i>kocha</i>		<i>nomu?</i>

Here, the mother is the one performing the action, so we would mark her with *wa*, and the tea is the object, so we would mark it with *o*.