

LESSON NOTES

Newbie S5 #16

How You Can Develop Good Japanese Habits

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KANJI

1. ケント: このケーキ、めちゃくちゃうまい!
2. お母さん: あら、ケント君、甘いもの食べるの?
3. ケント: はい。食べます。
4. お母さん: もっと食べる?
5. ケント: うん。おかわり。
・・・あ・・・おかわりおねがいします。
6. お母さん: はい、どうぞ。

KANA

1. ケント: このケーキ、めちゃくちゃうまい!
2. おかあさん: あら、ケントくん、あまいものたべるの?
3. ケント: はい。たべます。
4. おかあさん: もっとたべる?
5. ケント: うん。おかわり。
・・・あ・・・おかわりおねがいします。
6. おかあさん: はい、どうぞ。

ROMANIZATION

CONT'D OVER

1. KENTO: Kono kēki, mechakucha umai!
2. O-KĀ-SAN: Ara, Kento-kun, amai mono taberu no?
3. KENTO: Hai. Tabemasu.
4. O-KĀ-SAN: Motto taberu?
5. KENTO: Un. Okawari.
... a... okawari o-negai shimasu.
6. O-KĀ-SAN: Hai, dōzo.

ENGLISH

1. KENT: This cake is totally amazing!
2. MADOKA'S MOTHER: Oh, Kent, you eat sweets?
3. KENT: Yes, I do.
4. MADOKA'S MOTHER: Do you want some more?
5. KENT: Yeah, I'll take seconds.
...Um, I mean, please may I have seconds?
6. MADOKA'S MOTHER: Here you go.

VOCABULARY

Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English
めちゃくちゃ	めちゃくちゃ	mechakucha	extremely, insanely
うまい	うまい	umai	delicious, tasty; Adj(i)
甘い	あまい	amai	sweet; i adjective
もの	もの	mono	thing
食べる	たべる	taberu	to eat; V2
食べます	たべます	tabemasu	to eat; masu form
おかわり		okawari	a second helping, refill
もっと	もっと	motto	more

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>今までに見たことがないくらいめちゃくちゃ大きいスイカを食べた。 <i>Ima made ni mita koto ga nai kurai mechakucha okii suika o tabeta.</i></p> <p>I ate a watermelon that was bigger than any I had ever seen before.</p>	<p>このスパゲティはうまい！！ <i>Kono supagetti wa umai!!</i></p> <p>This spaghetti is delicious!</p>
<p>アメリカのクッキーは甘いです。 <i>Amerika no kukkī wa amai desu.</i></p> <p>American cookies are sweet.</p>	<p>甘いものが食べたいです。 <i>Amai mono ga tabetai desu.</i></p> <p>I want to eat something sweet.</p>
<p>おやつを毎日食べる。 <i>Oyatsu o mainichi taberu.</i></p> <p>I eat snacks every day.</p>	<p>毎朝、納豆を食べます。 <i>Maiasa, nattō o tabemasu.</i></p> <p>I eat nattō every morning.</p>
<p>おかわり、お願いします。 <i>Okawari onegai shimasu.</i></p> <p>A refill please.</p>	<p>もっと水をください！ <i>Motto mizu o kudasai.</i></p> <p>Please give me more water!</p>

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

umai (うまい) "delicious," "good" (talking about food)

The word *umai* has two major meanings. The meaning we'll discuss in this lesson is the one that means "delicious" or "good." It has the same meaning as the word *oishii* (おいしい), but *umai* has a more casual nuance. Men especially use this word to talk about food.

taberu (食べる) "to eat"

Taberu is the verb for "to eat." It is known as a Class Two verb, and the polite form is *tabemasu*.

motto (もっと) "more"

Motto is an adverb (?) meaning "more." When coupled with a verb, it means to do more of that verb. For example, *motto taberu* (もっと食べる) means to "eat more," *motto nomu* (もっと飲む) means to "drink more," and so on.

okawari (おかわり) "second helping"

Okawari is a phrase that means "more please!" and indicates that you'd like a second helping of food. *Okawari* by itself is quite informal, but you can make it polite by adding *onagai shimasu* ("please") to the end of it like Kent did in the conversation.

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is Using the Present Form of Verbs to Talk About Habitual Actions.

ケント君、甘いもの食べるの？

Kento-kun, amai mono taberu no?

"Kent, you eat sweets?"

In the last lesson, you learned how to use the present form of a verb to talk about future actions and events. In this lesson, you will learn how to use the same present form of a verb to talk about habitual actions or actions that occur on a regular basis. When you use the present form of a verb in this way, you can talk about your daily routines and habits.

Talking about Habitual Actions

Let's take a look at how to talk about habitual actions or actions in general using the present form of a verb.

First, let's review some verbs we commonly use when talking about habitual actions, such as daily routines.

For Example:

Informal

Formal

"English"

<i>taberu</i> (食べる)	<i>tabemasu</i> (食べます)	"to eat"
<i>okiru</i> (起きる)	<i>okimasu</i> (起きます)	"to wake up"
<i>neru</i> (ねる)	<i>nemasu</i> (ねます)	"to sleep"
<i>miru</i> (見る)	<i>mimasu</i> (見ます)	"to see," "to look," "to watch"

In the dialogue, Madoka's mother notices that Kent really seemed to like the cake and asks him whether he eats sweets. Here, the verb *taberu* is in the present tense, and she is asking Kent whether he eats sweets in general.

For Example:

1. ケント君、甘いもの食べるの？
Kento-kun, amai mono taberu no?
 "Kent, you eat sweets?"

Let's look at some more examples. When talking about habitual actions, it is common to use adverbs that mention frequency, such as *yoku* (よく), meaning "often," or *itsumo* (いつも), meaning "always," as we see below:

Subject	Adverb	Action	"English" (talking about habitual actions)
<i>Madoka wa</i> (まどかは)	<i>itsumo</i> (いつも)	<i>nyusu o miru.</i> (ニュースをみる。)	"Madoka always watches the news."
<i>Kento wa</i> (ケントは)	<i>Yoku</i> (よく)	<i>kare o taberu.</i> (カレーを食べる。)	"Kent often eats curry."

Examples From This Dialogue

1. お母さん: ケント君、甘いもの食べるの?
O-kā-san: Kento-kun, amai mono taberu no?
Madoka's mother: "Kent, you eat sweets?"
2. ケント: はい。食べます。
Kento: Hai. Tabemasu.
"Kent: Yes, I do (eat sweets)."

Language Tip: The Particle *No* (の) at the End of Questions

The sentence-ending particle の indicates a colloquial question, explanation, or emphasis. When you attach の at the end of an informal sentence, the sentence turns to a question. The intonation rises at の.

For Example:

1. お母さん: **ケント君、甘いもの食べるの?**
*O-kā-san: Kento-kun, amai mono taberu **no**?*
Madoka's mother: "Kent, you eat sweets?"