

## LESSON NOTES

# Newbie S5 #24

# You're Never There When I Call You in Japan

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# 24

# KANJI

1. (電話)
2. 赤木まどか: はい、赤木です。
3. ケントのお父さん: あ、まどかちゃん?ケントの父です。  
ケントいる?
4. 赤木まどか: 今、ちょっと・・・いません。
5. ケントのお父さん: いないの?どこにいるの?
6. 赤木まどか: 学校にいます。  
サッカーの練習中です。
7. ケントのお父さん: あ、なるほど。  
じゃ、ケントの携帯に電話するね。
8. 赤木まどか: はい。お願いします。

# KANA

1. (でんわ)
2. あかぎまどか: はい、あかぎです。
3. ケントのおとうさん: あ、まどかちゃん?ケントのちちです。  
ケントいる?
4. あかぎまどか: いま、ちょっと・・・いません。

CONT'D OVER

5. ケントのおとうさん:      いないの？どこにいるの？
6. あかぎまどか:              がっこうにいます。  
   サッカーのれんしゅうちゅうです。
7. ケントのおとうさん:      あ、なるほど。  
   じゃ、ケントのけいたいにてんわするね。
8. あかぎまどか:              はい。おねがいします。

## ROMANIZATION

1. (denwa)
2. AKAGI MADOKA:      Hai, Akagi desu.
3. KENTO NO O-TŌ-      A, Madoka-chan? Kento no chichi desu.  
SAN:                      Kento iru?
4. AKAGI MADOKA:      Ima, chotto... imasen.
5. KENTO NO O-TŌ-      Inai no? Doko ni iru no?  
SAN:
6. AKAGI MADOKA:      Gakkō ni imasu.  
   Sakkā no renshūchū desu.
7. KENTO NO O-TŌ-      A, naruhodo.  
SAN:                      Ja, Kento no keitai ni denwa suru ne.
8. AKAGI MADOKA:      Hai. O-negai shimasu.

## ENGLISH

CONT'D OVER

1. (On the telephone)
2. MADOKA AKAGI: Yes, this is the Akagi residence.
3. KENT'S FATHER: Ah, Madoka? It's Kent's dad.  
Is Kent there?
4. MADOKA AKAGI: Um, right now he's actually...not here.
5. KENT'S FATHER: He's not there? Where is he?
6. MADOKA AKAGI: He's at school.  
He's in the middle of soccer practice.
7. KENT'S FATHER: Ah, I see.  
All right, I'll call his cell phone, then.
8. MADOKA AKAGI: Yes, please do.

## VOCABULARY

Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English
学校	がっこう	gakkō	school
いる	いる	iru	to be (animate), to exist; class 2
練習中	れんしゅうちゅう	renshūchū	during practice; in the middle of practice
どこ	どこ	doko	where
なるほど	なるほど	naruhodo	I see, that's right, indeed
電話する	でんわする	denwa suru	to make a phone call
携帯	けいたい	keitai	cell phone (abbr.)

## SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>学校は家から、ちょっと遠いです。 <i>Gakkō wa ie kara, chotto tōi desu.</i></p> <p>The school is a bit far from my home.</p>	<p>その家には二匹の犬がいる。 <i>Sono ie ni wa ni-hiki no inu ga iru.</i></p> <p>There are two dogs in that house.</p>
<p>彼は今、バスケ練習中です。 <i>kare wa ima, basuke renshūchū desu.</i></p> <p>He's in the middle of basketball practice right now.</p>	<p>沖縄はどこですか。 <i>Okinawa wa doko desu ka.</i></p> <p>Where is Okinawa?</p>
<p>なるほど。それは分かりやすいですね。 <i>Naruhodo. Sore wa wakari yasui desu ne.</i></p> <p>I see. That's easy to understand.</p>	<p>毎晩、彼女に電話します。 <i>Maiban, kanojo ni denwa shimasu.</i></p> <p>I make a phone call to my girlfriend every night.</p>
<p>最近、携帯は高いです。 <i>Saikin, keitai wa takai desu.</i></p> <p>Cell phones are expensive nowadays.</p>	

## VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

### **keitai (携帯) "cell phone"**

*Keitai* is short for *keitai denwa* (携帯電話), which means "cell phone" or "mobile phone". *Keitai* by itself originally meant "portable," but many people use it to mean cell phone in the same way we might say "cell" or "mobile" in English.

### **denwa suru (電話する) "to make a call"**

You may remember the noun *denwa* (電話), which refers to a "phone" or a "phone call." By adding the verb *suru* (する) to it, it becomes a verb, meaning "to make a phone call."

### **naruhodo (なるほど) "I see," "I get it"**

*Naruhodo* is a common phrase in Japanese meaning "I see" or "I get it." If someone explains something to you and makes something clear so that you understand, you can reply with *naruhodo*.

### **chū (中) "in the middle of"**

When the suffix *-chū* is attached to a noun that indicates action, it means "in the middle of something," "in a certain state," "during," or "while."

### **For Example:**

1. *benkyō* (勉強) → *benkyō-chū* (勉強中) "in the middle of studying"
2. *shigoto* (仕事) → *shigoto-chū* (仕事中) "in the middle of working"

## GRAMMAR

**The Focus of This Lesson Is the Verb *Iru/Imasu*.**

**ケントいる？**

***Kento iru?***

**"Is Kent there?"**

In this lesson, we'll look at the usage of the verb *iru* (いる), which is *imasu* (います) in the polite form. *Iru* is a verb that means "to be" or "to exist" (talking about existence). It is very similar to the verb *aru* that we studied in the last lesson, but note that *iru* only applies to animate objects, such as people and animals.

### Using *Iru/Imasu* to Mean "to Be" or "to Exist"

*Iru* means "to be" or "to exist" when talking about animate objects such as people or animals. The formation is [person/animal you are talking about] + particle *ga* + *iru*.

Construction	Japanese	"English"
Informal	~ <i>ga iru</i> (~ がいる)	"[person] is here" "There is/are ~"
Formal	~ <i>ga imasu</i> (~ がいます)	"[person] is here" "There is/are ~"

Let's take a look at some examples.

#### For Example:

Person/Animal	<i>ga iru</i>	"English"
<i>Kento</i> (ケント)	<i>ga iru</i> (がいる)	"Kent is here."

<i>Sensei</i> (先生)	<i>ga iru</i> (がいる)	"The teacher is here."
<i>ototo</i> (弟)	<i>ga iru</i> (がいる)	"(I) have a younger brother."*
<i>kareshi</i> (彼氏)	<i>ga iru</i> (がいる)	"(I) have a boyfriend."*

\*When talking about members of your family ("I have a brother," etc.), we use the verb *iru*, and we translate it as "I have" in English. We also use this construction when talking about boyfriends or girlfriends.

### For Example:

1. ケントのお父さん：ケントいる？  
*Kento no o-tō-san: Kento iru?*  
 Kent's Father: "Is Kent there?"
2. ケントのお父さん：どこにいるの？  
 赤木まどか：学校にいます。  
*Kento no o-tō-san: Doko ni iru no?*  
*Akagi Madoka: Gakkō ni imasu.*  
 Kent's Father: "Where is he?"  
 Madoka Akagi: "He's at school."

### Negative Form of *Iru/Imasu*

Now let's look at the negative form of *iru/imasu*.

Construction	Japanese	English
Informal	~ <i>ga inai</i> (~ がいな)	"[person] isn't here." "There is/are no ~."
Formal	~ <i>ga imasen</i> (~ がいませ)	"[person] isn't here." "There is/are no ~."

Let's take a look at some examples.

### For Example:

<i>Person/Animal</i>	<i>ga inai</i>	"English"
<i>Madoka</i> (まどか)	<i>ga inai</i> (がいない)	"Madoka is not here."
<i>Sensei</i> (先生)	<i>ga inai</i> (がいない)	"The teacher is not here. "
<i>kyōdai</i> (兄弟)	<i>ga inai</i> (がいない)	"(I) don't have any siblings."
<i>kanojo</i> (彼女)	<i>ga inai</i> (がいない)	"(I) don't have a girlfriend."

### For Example:

1. 赤木まどか：今、ちょっと・・・いません。  
*Akagi Madoka: Ima, chotto...imasen.*  
Madoka Akagi: "Um, right now he's actually...not here."
2. ケントのお父さん：いないの？  
*Kento no o-tō-san: Inai no?*  
"Kent's Father: He's not there?"