

LESSON NOTES

Survival Phrases #6 Getting Out of a Jam

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KANJI

1. 英語で大丈夫ですか。
2. 大丈夫ですか。
3. 東京行きですか。

KANA

1. えいごでだいじょうぶですか。
2. だいじょうぶですか。
3. とうきょうゆきですか。

ROMANIZATION

1. Eigo de daijōbu desu ka?
2. Daijōbu desu ka?
3. Tōkyō-yuki desu ka?

ENGLISH

1. Is English okay?
2. Is it okay? / Are you okay?

CONT'D OVER

3. Is this headed for Tokyo? (Used for public transportation)

VOCABULARY

Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English
英語	えいご	Eigo	English
大丈夫	だいじょうぶ	Daijōbu.	Okay. Alright.
～行き	～ゆき	-yuki	heading, bound
地名	ちめい	chimei	place name
違います	ちがいます	chigaimasu	to differ, incorrect; masu form
朝飯	あさめし	asameshi	breakfast (slang)
前	まえ	mae	ago, before; suffix
朝飯前	あさめしまえ	asameshimae	piece of cake

SAMPLE SENTENCES

それは、違います。 <i>Sore wa chigaimasu.</i> That's not right.	私は五分前にここに来ました。 <i>Watashi wa gofun-mae ni koko ni kimashita.</i> I came here 5 minutes ago.
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GRAMMAR

The first phrase in today's lesson was *Eigo de daijōbu desu ka?* (Is English okay?).

There are two elements to this: the phrase *Eigo de* (in English) and *Daijōbu desu ka?* (Is it okay? / Are you okay?). *Eigo* (English) is marked by the particle *de* which can mean 'in, at, by' depending on the context of the sentence. *De* can also be used to mark the tool of usage, as is the case here with *Eigo* (English) being the tool.

Before boarding public transportation in Japan, it is probably a good idea to confirm that

it will go to your destination. The following phrase can be used to accomplish this:
[chimei]yuki desu ka? (Is this headed for [place name]?). *yuki desu ka?* remains the same, and the destination is simply added. For example, in the case of Tōkyō simply add Tōkyō:
Tōkyō-yuki desu ka?(Is this headed for Tokyo?)

The following are possible answers:

はい。そうです。

Hai. Sō desu.

Yes, it is. / Yes. That's right.

いいえ。違います。

いいえ。ちがいます。

Iie. Chigaimasu.

No. That's incorrect/wrong.

The particle *wa* can be used to ask a question, with what follows after *wa* inferred, and therefore not verbally expressed. In the following example, "Where is" is inferred, and therefore omitted. So the literal translation of the following phrase is "Heading for Tokyo is?" with the means of transportation and interrogative inferred.

東京行きは？

とうきょうゆきは？

Tōkyō yuki wa?

Where is the [means of transportation] heading for for Tokyo?

(See Survival Phrases #4 (022_S4_010906) regarding the usage of *wa*)