

LESSON NOTES

Survival Phrases S2 #21

Riding the Bus 1

CONTENTS

- 2 Kanji
- 2 Kana
- 2 Romanization
- 2 English
- 2 Vocabulary
- 3 Sample Sentences
- 3 Grammar
- 4 Cultural Insight

21

KANJI

1. 成田空港までの切符を一枚下さい。
2. バス停はどこですか？

KANA

1. なりたくうこうまでの きっぷを いちまい ください。
2. ばすていはどこですか？

ROMANIZATION

1. Narita kūkō made no kippu o ichi-mai kudasai.
2. Basu tei wa doko desu ka?

ENGLISH

1. One ticket to Narita Airport, please.
2. Where is the bus stop?

VOCABULARY

Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English
2枚	にまい	ni-mai	two tickets or pieces of paper

成田空港	なりたこうこう	Narita Kūkō	Narita Airport
まで	まで	made	to, until
切符	きっぷ	kippu	ticket
バス停	バスてい	basu tei	bus stop

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>二枚切符を下さい。 <i>Ni mai kippu wo kudasai.</i></p> <p>Two tickets please.</p>	<p>成田空港までいくらですか。 <i>Narita Kūkō made ikura desu ka.</i></p> <p>How much does it cost to go to Narita airport?</p>
<p>成田空港までの切符を二枚下さい。 <i>Narita Kūkō made no kippu wo nimai kudasai.</i></p> <p>Two tickets to Narita airport please.</p>	<p>切符を四枚ください。 <i>Kippu o yon-mai kudasai.</i></p> <p>Four tickets, please.</p>
<p>わたしは、次のバス停で降ります。 <i>Watashi wa, tsugi no basutei de orimasu.</i></p> <p>I'll get off at the next bus stop.</p>	

GRAMMAR

Language Tip

Let's practice getting a bus ticket to Narita Airport. There are many ways to get to the airport, but if you have a lot of luggage, the bus may be the easiest because you can check your baggage in and just relax or sleep for a few hours on your way to the airport. If you took the trains, you may have to lug your baggage up and down the stairs to get to the platform, and you'll take up a lot of space on the train.

So let's go over getting tickets for a long-distance bus ride to Narita Airport. In Japanese, "One ticket to Narita Airport, please" is *Narita kūkō made no kippu o ichi mai kudasai*. The first words *Narita kūkō* mean "Narita Airport." This is followed by the word *made*, which means, "to" as in destination. *No* is a particle indicating the possessive form. *Kippu* means "ticket." The next word *o* is an object-marking particle. And *ichi* is "one." *Mai* is a counter

for tickets and other paper objects. And the last word, *kudasai*, means "please" or "please give me."

If you want to buy more than one ticket, simply change the word *ichi*, "one," to the number of tickets you want to purchase. For example, if you wanted to buy two tickets, you can change the number to *ni mai*" (Check out our lessons on counting numbers!) So the whole sentence would be *Narita kūkō made no kippu o ni mai kudasai*.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Sachiko's Secret: Riding Neighborhood Buses in Japan

Tip #1

Now it's time for Sachiko's Secret! If you're going to ride the local buses that circle around a small neighborhood, you won't need to buy tickets beforehand. Usually, a local bus ride is one set price regardless of how long you ride it. Fares are usually the equivalent of about two US dollars for a one-way ride. When boarding a bus, you simply pay the fare into a machine right next to the driver. If you don't have exact change, you should tell your driver first because there's a separate slot you need to put your money into. Show the driver the money you have, and he'll point to the appropriate slot that dispenses change.

While on the bus, the driver will call out the name of the next stop, so keep your ears open! Because right before your next stop, you need to press a red button to let the driver know you'll be getting off. If there's no one standing by the bus stop, and none of the passengers are getting off at that bus stop, the bus will not make a stop. So be sure to press that red button located all over the bus next to each seat. You don't want to be left behind when you're trying to stick to your itinerary!

Tip #2

In Japan, the local bus stops are typically very small. They don't come with huge roof-top stalls. Most of the time, you'll find just a small round sign on a stick. So you may have difficulty finding the bus stop. There will be a timetable underneath the sign so that might help in identifying bus stops. But just in case, let's go over how to ask where the bus stop is. In Japanese, that would be *Basu tei wa doko desu ka?* The first word, *basu*, is the Japanese pronunciation of the English word "bus." *Basu tei* means, "bus stop." The next word is the topic-marking particle *wa*, followed by *doko*, which means "where." *Desu* is the rough equivalent of the verb "to be." And *ka* is the particle that turns a sentence into an interrogative.