

LESSON NOTES

Survival Phrases S2 #23

Riding the Rails 1

CONTENTS

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

23

KANJI

1. 東京駅までの切符を下さい。

KANA

1. とうきょうえきまでのきっぷをください。

ROMANIZATION

1. Tōkyō eki made no kippu o kudasai.

ENGLISH

1. A ticket to Tokyo Station, please.

VOCABULARY

Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English
東京駅	とうきょうえき	Tōkyō Eki	Tokyo Station
切符	きっぷ	kippu	ticket
行きますか	いきますか	ikimasu ka	does it go (polite form)
一枚	いちまい	ichi-mai	one sheet, one piece

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>ここは東京駅です。 <i>Koko wa Tōkyō eki desu.</i></p> <p>This is Tokyo Station.</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>このバスは成田に行きますか。 <i>Kono basu wa Narita ni ikimasu ka.</i></p> <p>Does this bus go to Narita?</p>	<p>東京駅までの切符を一枚ください。 <i>Tōkyō eki made no kippu wo ichi-mai kudasai.</i></p> <p>One ticket to Tokyo Station please.</p>

GRAMMAR

Language Tip

In Japan, we can buy train tickets at the ticket gate window or vending machines within each station. In Japanese, "One ticket to Tokyo Station, please" is *Tōkyō eki made no kippu o kudasai*. The first words *Tōkyō eki* mean, "Tokyo Station." The following word, *made*, means "to" as in "to a destination." This is followed by *no*, which is the rough equivalent of "of." This is followed by *kippu*, which means "ticket." So far, we have *Tōkyō eki made no kippu*, which means "ticket to Tokyo Station."

The last word *kudasai* means, "please give me." So altogether we have, *Tōkyō Eki made no kippu o kudasai*. Literally, this means, "To Tokyo Station, of, ticket, please give me." or "Please give me a ticket to Tokyo Station."

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Sachiko's Secret: Navigating the Tokyo Subway

Tip #1

Today's Sachiko's Secret is encouraging news about the Tokyo subway system. I don't remember when this happened, but decades ago, all the station names were written mostly in Japanese or just alphabetization of the Japanese names. So foreigners had no choice but to memorize really long and complicated names such as *Shinjuku San-chōme*.

But now, in addition to the original Japanese names, each station has an alphabet indicating the train line and a number indicating the stop. For example, the station called *Shinjuku*

San-chōme on the *Marunouchi* Line is also written as M9. "M" stands for the *Marunouchi* subway line. "9" means the ninth stop. So "M9" means the ninth stop on the *Marunouchi* Line. When you look at a map or look at the platforms when riding the trains, all you have to remember is "M9." That's much easier to remember than long names such as *Shinjuku San-chōme* or *Akasaka Mitsuke*.

Tip #2

If you look at a Tokyo subway map, you'll notice that it's very colorful! Now, the colors indicating each subway line are not just random colors the printer used when printing the map. Each subway line has a symbolic color, and that color is used on the platforms, maps, trains, and everything! For example, the *Marunouchi* Line, which we talked about earlier, is always red. So if you're at the maze-like *Shinjuku* Station (where numerous train lines merge) and looking for the *Marunouchi* Line, you can simply follow the directions marked in red. The words "*Marunouchi* Line" are most likely written in red to catch your eyes. This little knowledge could help you from going insane underground! Oh, and watch out for the pink *Ōedo* Line! Because it's one of the newer lines, it's located really deep underground. This means you have to take many, many flights of stairs to reach the platform! It can get really exhausting commuting on the *Ōedo* Line everyday!