

## LESSON NOTES

# Survival Phrases S2 #24

## Riding the Rails 2

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# 24

## KANJI

1. 大阪駅までの切符を下さい。

## KANA

1. おおさかえきまでのきっぷをください

## ROMANIZATION

1. Ōsaka eki made no kippu o kudasai.

## ENGLISH

1. Tickets to Osaka Station, please.

## VOCABULARY

Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English
大阪駅	おおさかえき	Ōsaka eki	Osaka Station
切符	きっぷ	kippu	ticket
下さい	ください	kudasai	please
地元	じもと	jimoto	local, hometown
新幹線	しんかんせん	shinkansen	bullet train

## SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>大阪駅はどこにありますか。 <i>Ōsaka eki wa doko ni arimasu ka.</i></p> <p>Where is Osaka station?</p>	<p>二枚切符を下さい。 <i>Ni mai kippu wo kudasai.</i></p> <p>Two tickets please.</p>
<p>水を下さい。 <i>Mizu o kudasai.</i></p> <p>Can I have some water, please?</p>	<p>地元は東京です。 <i>Jimoto wa Tōkyō desu.</i></p> <p>My hometown is Tokyo.</p>

新幹線が、ゆっくりと速度を落としていく。  
*Shinkansen ga yukkuri to sokudo o otoshite iku.*

The bullet train is slowly losing speed.

## GRAMMAR

### Language Tip

The fastest *Shinkansen* model, the super express *Nozomi*, connects Tokyo and Osaka in about two and a half hours. That's about 500 kilometers in distance. It's really convenient! So let's work on getting the ticket.

To get a Bullet Train ticket, we need to ask, "Ticket to destination please." In today's lesson, we'll use Ōsaka Station as a destination. In Japanese, "station" is *eki*. So our location is *Ōsaka eki*. In Japanese, "Tickets to Osaka Station, please" is *Ōsaka eki made no kippu o kudasai*. The first words *Ōsaka eki* are obviously "Osaka Station." This is followed by *made*, a particle we can translate as "to" as in "to a destination." The particle *no* can be roughly translated as "of." *Kippu* means "ticket." So to recap here, we have *Ōsaka eki made no kippu*. Literally, this means, "Osaka Station, to, of, ticket" or "tickets to Osaka Station." Let's take a look at the remaining sentence. *O* is an object-marking particle. And the last word, *kudasai*, means, "please." So altogether, we have *Ōsaka eki made no kippu o kudasai*. Literally, this means "Osaka station, to, of, tickets, please." or "Tickets to Osaka Station, please."

## CULTURAL INSIGHT

### Sachiko's Secret: Faster Than a Speeding Bullet Train

## Tip #1

And now for Sachiko's Secret. I always take the *Shinkansen* when I go home to Osaka from Tokyo where I now live. So I'm a seasoned pro! Let me take you through the steps of buying *Shinkansen* tickets. First, get to a JR station where the *Shinkansen* stops, such as Tokyo Station or Shin-Osaka Station. JR is the name of the previously state-owned train line that covers almost all parts of Japan. Find a *Shinkansen* counter, and tell the person your destination. He'll tell you which *Shinkansen* route you need to take. There are many different *Shinkansen* routes depending on the destination, so be sure you have the right one. For example, the Tokyo-to-Osaka route would be on the *Tokai Shinkansen* Line. So you would go to the counter for the *Tokai Shinkansen*.

At the counter, tell them if you want seats in an ordinary car or the first-class "green car." All seats in the green car are reserved seating, so you will get a specific seat number. But if you want a seat in the ordinary car, you can choose between a reserved or non-reserved seat. The great thing about reserved seats is that you are guaranteed a seat. But you have to make sure you get on that specific train. I personally prefer non-reserved seating because I don't want to worry about making it on time for a particular train. With non-reserved seats, there is always the risk of not being able to sit on the *Shinkansen*. But reserved seats sell out quickly, so a non-reserved ticket may get you on an earlier train. Once you get the ticket, find out which platform your *Shinkansen* leaves from, and make sure you're there when the bullet train pulls in. Enjoy!

## Tip #2

When you get yourself a seat on the *Shinkansen*, pay attention to the vendors that come by. They often sell delicacies from the local regions that the *Shinkansen* is passing by. For example, on my way from Osaka to Tokyo, I can buy *uirō*, a type of jelly snack that is a delicacy from Nagoya. Yummm. If you're not sure what the local delicacies are, just ask the vendor, *Jimoto no gochisō wa?* which is a simplified way of saying, "What are the local delicacies?"