

## LESSON NOTES

# Survival Phrases S2 #2

## You're Welcome

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# 2

## KANJI

1. どういたしまして。
2. いいえ、いいえ。
3. とんでもないです。
4. こちらこそ。

## KANA

1. どういたしまして。
2. いいえ、いいえ。
3. とんでもないです。
4. こちらこそ。

## ROMANIZATION

1. Dōitashimashite.
2. lie, iie.
3. Tondemo nai desu.
4. Kochira koso.

## ENGLISH

CONT'D OVER

1. You're welcome.
2. It's no big deal. Don't mention it.
3. Oh, no. Thank YOU! (polite form)
4. The pleasure is mine. (polite form)

## VOCABULARY

Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English
どういたしまして	どういたしまして	dō itashimashite	You're welcome. Don't mention it.
いいえ、いいえ。	いいえ、いいえ。	lie,iie	It's no big deal. Don't mention it.
とんでもないです	とんでもないです	Tondemo naidesu	Oh, no. Thank YOU! (polite form)
こちらこそ	こちらこそ	Kochira koso	The pleasure is mine. (polite form)

## SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>A:ありがとうございます。</p> <p>B:どういたしまして。</p> <p>A: <i>Arigatō gozaimasu.</i></p> <p>B: <i>Dō itashimashite.</i></p> <p>A: Thank you very much.</p> <p>B: You're welcome.</p>	<p>A「どうもありがとうございます」 B「いいえ、いいえ。」</p> <p>A: <i>Dōmo arigatō gozaimasu</i> B:<i>lie, iie.</i></p> <p>A. Thank you very much! B. You're welcome.</p>
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A. 「お昼ごはん、ありがとうございます。」 B. 「とんでもないです」

A: *O-hirugohan, arigatōgozaimasu* B: *Tondemonai desu.*

A: Thank you for paying for my lunch. B: No, thank you.

A. 「ありがとうございます」 B 「こちらこそ」

A. *Arigatō gozaimasu* B. *kochirakoso*

A. Thank you very much B.No, thank you!

## GRAMMAR

### Language Tip

The most common way of saying "You're welcome" is *Dō itashimashite*. This is a polite form that we can use with friends, colleagues, senior colleagues, supervisors, and those significantly older than you. You use it in situations where you feel comfortable being thanked. In other words, if you think your actions deserve an expression of appreciation. If someone thanks you for giving them a gift, or answering their question, you could say *Dō itashimashite*, because it's pretty natural for you to be thanked for gestures like that.

But if you think your actions did not deserve thanks, you might want to say a phrase that means, "Don't mention it." In Japanese, we have casual and formal ways of saying this. In a casual situation, you would use *lie, iie*, which literally translates as "No, no", meaning "It's no big deal." For example, when someone thanks you for giving up your seat on the train or picking up something that fell to the floor, saying *lie, iie* conveys the feeling that you thought it was only natural for you to give up your seat or pick up the object, and so you deserve no credit for the courtesy. Remember, use *lie, iie* in response to casual gestures and for casual situations. Most likely, in such situations the person will have thanked you using a casual form such as *Dōmo arigatō*.

For more formal situations, we use *Tondemo nai desu*. Like *lie iie*, *Tondemo nai desu* means, "What I did is really no big deal." But use this phrase in situations where the deeds are a bit more serious and in situations in which both parties benefit. For example, if you go to a job interview and the interviewer thanks you for coming, you should say *Tondemo nai desu*, meaning, "Oh, no. Thank YOU for taking the time out of your busy schedule to interview me." Here's another example. If you were to visit a friend in the intensive care unit, the sick person's family would probably go to great lengths to thank you politely. They would probably say *Dōmo arigatō gozaimasu*. And because they're being so polite and the situation is so serious, you should respond with the same degree of politeness and seriousness. In this situation, *Tondemo nai desu* is the most appropriate response to convey that feeling of "Of course I came. He/she is such a close friend of mine."

## CULTURAL INSIGHT

### Tip #1

And now, Sachiko's Secret. Here is a phrase I like to use in conjunction with the phrases we're learning today. After I say, "Don't mention it," I often add *Kochira koso*, which literally means, "Me, too" in a polite way. But we translate it as "No, no, I should be thanking you," or "The pleasure was mine." It's a short way of saying, "I feel we can share the appreciation we have for each other and connect on a deeper level." And the other person doesn't feel obligated to return the favor.

### Tip #2

Speaking of obligations, Japan has a meticulous custom of gift giving. People give each other gifts at every opportunity. For example, if you have children, then friends, neighbors, and relatives will give gifts for your children's birthdays, enrollments in new schools, graduations, Christmas, New Year, and more. Strictly speaking, each time you receive a gift you're supposed to reciprocate with a gift that is roughly half the price of the gift you receive. Yes, each and every time. Things can get really busy sometimes, especially if you just got married or had a child. You'll be showered with gifts - which is great - but you'll have a huge to-do list waiting for you. To avoid this mess, I usually ask my friends to come to my birthday parties empty-handed.

### Tip #3

Japanese often include gestures to go with "You're welcome." In a casual setting, when we say, *lie, iie* ("No, no, don't mention it"), we typically wave one hand back and forth as we talk. When we say, *Do itashimashite*, typically we nod our heads a bit as if to offer a slight bow. When using the most polite form, *Tondemo nai desu*, we typically do both, wave the hand and bow. But the bow should be a bit more formal (i.e., we bow lower than we would in a casual setting).