

## LESSON NOTES

# Survival Phrases S2 #9

## Can You Say It Again?

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# 9

## KANJI

1. もう一度言って下さい。
2. ゆっくり話して下さい。

## KANA

1. もういちどいってください。
2. ゆっくりはなしてください。

## ROMANIZATION

1. Mō ichido itte kudasai.
2. Yukkuri hanashite kudasai.

## ENGLISH

1. Can you say it again?
2. Please speak slowly.

## VOCABULARY

Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English
もう	もう	mō	already, soon, again, more

一度	いちど	ichido	once, one time
言う	いう	iu	to speak, to say
下さい	ください	kudasai	please
ゆっくり	ゆっくり	yukkuri	slowly
話す	はなす	hanasu	to speak, to talk; V1

## SAMPLE SENTENCES

もう、それは終わりましたよ。 <i>Mō, sore wa owarimashita yo.</i> That was already finished.	え？もう一度お願いします。 <i>E? Mō ichi-do onegai shimasu.</i> What? Could you say that again?
何も言わないで下さい。 <i>Nani mo iwanaide kudasai.</i> Please don't say anything.	水を下さい。 <i>Mizu o kudasai.</i> Can I have some water, please?
ゆっくり話して下さい。 <i>Yukkuri hanashite kudasai.</i> Please speak slowly.	彼は英語と日本語を話します。 <i>Kare wa Ei-go to Nihon-go o hanashimasu.</i> He speaks English and Japanese.

## GRAMMAR

### Language Tip

In Japanese, "Can You Say It Again?" is *Mō ichido itte kudasai*. The first phrase, *mō ichido* means, "once again." This is followed by *itte*, which is the conjugated form of *iu* meaning, "to say." The last word, *kudasai*, means, "please." So all together, it's *Mō ichido itte kudasai*. Literally, this means, "Again, say, please."

Now if someone repeats the same sentence for you but at lightning speed, you may want to ask that person to slow down. But you want to ask politely. In Japanese, "Speak slowly please" is *Yutkuri hanashite kudasai*. The first word, *Yutkuri*, means, "slowly." This is followed by *hanashite*, which is the conjugated form of the root verb *hanasu*, which means, "to speak." The last word is the now familiar *kudasai*, meaning, "please." So all

together, we have *Yutkuri hanashite kudasai*. Literally, this means, "Slowly, speak, please." or "Please speak slowly."

## CULTURAL INSIGHT

### Sachiko's Secret: The Short Forms of "Can You Say It Again?"

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#### Tip #1

Today, Sachiko gives you quicker, informal variations of today's phrases. Now, it's much more polite to say the entire sentence. But if it's a bit too long to remember, you can use just the first half of the sentence. You may say, *Mō Ichido*, which is just, "once again" and *Yutkuri*, which is "slowly." Because these phrases by themselves could sound abrupt and might come off as rude, you should bow your head a little as you say them. That's a gesture of respect in Japan. Or perhaps even add the English word "please" at the end as in "*Mō ichido*, please" or "*Yutkuri*, please." Japanese people know the English word "please" so they'll know that you're trying your best to be polite.

#### Tip#2

When you ask someone to repeat a sentence for you, be sure to express your gratitude. You can do that by bowing and saying, *Dōmo arigatō gozaimasu*, which is a very polite way of saying, "Thank you."

And if you still can't catch what the person is saying, you can always ask them to write down the message. We'll cover how to ask that question in another lesson.