

LESSON NOTES

Lower Beginner #10

Is Being Allergic to Animals Weird in Japan?

CONTENTS

- 2 Kanji
- 2 Kana
- 3 Romanization
- 4 English
- 4 Vocabulary
- 5 Sample Sentences
- 5 Vocabulary Phrase Usage
- 7 Grammar
- 9 Cultural Insight

10

KANJI

1. BOY: 本とう？おねえさん、いぬきれい？
2. EMILY: きれいじゃないです。でも…。
3. BOY: でも？
4. EMILY: アレルギーがあります。
5. BOY: どうぶつアレルギー？
6. EMILY: 犬アレルギーです。
7. BOY: 犬アレルギー？
8. EMILY: へんですか。
9. BOY: へんじゃないよ。しょうがないよ。
ゴハンもアレルギーがあるよ。ね？ゴハン。
10. (Dog barks)

KANA

1. BOY: ほんとう？おねえさん、いぬきれい？
2. EMILY: きれいじゃないです。でも…。
3. BOY: でも？
4. EMILY: アレルギーがあります。

CONT'D OVER

5. BOY: どうぶつアレルギー？
6. EMILY: いぬアレルギーです。
7. BOY: いぬアレルギー？
8. EMILY: へんですか。
9. BOY: へんじゃないよ。しょうがないよ。
ゴハンもアレルギーがあるよ。ね？ゴハン。
10. (Dog barks)

ROMANIZATION

1. BOY: Hontō? Onēsan, inu kirai?
2. EMILY: Kirai ja nai desu. Demo....
3. BOY: Demo?
4. EMILY: Arerugī ga arimasu.
5. BOY: Dōbutsu arerugī?
6. EMILY: Inu arerugī desu.
7. BOY: Inu arerugī?
8. EMILY: Hen desu ka.

CONT'D OVER

9. BOY: Hen ja nai yo. Shō ga nai yo.
Gohan mo arerugī ga aru yo. Ne? Gohan.
10. (Dog barks)

ENGLISH

1. BOY: Really? Miss, do you hate dogs?
2. EMILY: I don't hate them. But....
3. BOY: But?
4. EMILY: I'm allergic.
5. BOY: Allergic to animals?
6. EMILY: Allergic to dogs.
7. BOY: Allergic to dogs?
8. EMILY: Is that weird?
9. BOY: It's not weird. You can't help it.
Gohan has allergies, too. Right, Gohan?
10. (Dog barks)

VOCABULARY

Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English
-------	------	--------	---------

本とう?	ほんとう?	Hontō?	Really?
も	も	mo	also, too; particle
あります	あります	arimasu	to be, to exist, to have, to be located; V1 -masu form
どうぶつ	どうぶつ	dōbutsu	animal
しょうがない	しょうがない	shō ga nai	can't be helped; Adj (i)
へん	へん	hen	weird, funny, strange; Adj(na)
アレルギー	アレルギー	arerugī	allergy

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>本とう? <i>Hontō?</i></p> <p>Really?</p>	<p>これにもにくです。 <i>Kore mo niku desu.</i></p> <p>This is also meat.</p>
<p>アレルギーがあります。 <i>Arerugī ga arimasu.</i></p> <p>I have allergies.</p>	<p>どうぶつはすきですか。 <i>Dōbutsu wa suki desu ka.</i></p> <p>Do you like animals?</p>
<p>しょうがないですね。 <i>Shō ga nai desu ne.</i></p> <p>I have no other choices.</p>	<p>へんなおさをのみました。 <i>Hen na o-sake o nomimashita.</i></p> <p>I drank some strange alcohol.</p>
<p>ピーナッツアレルギーがあります。 <i>Pinattsu arerugī ga arimasu.</i></p> <p>I'm allergic to peanuts.</p>	

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

アレルギー (arerugi)

This means "allergy" in English. When you are allergic to something, an allergen usually comes before *arerugi*, and we use the pattern ～があります. Let's check out the examples.

For Example:

1. たまごアレルギーがあります。
Tamago arerugi ga arimasu.
"I'm allergic to eggs."

Allergic To...	Japanese	Romanization
"dogs"	犬アレルギー	<i>inu arerugi</i>
"cats"	ねこアレルギー	<i>neko arerugi</i>
"wheat"	小むぎアレルギー	<i>komugi arerugi</i>
"milk"	ぎゅうにゅうアレルギー	<i>gyūnyū arerugi</i>

しょうがない (shōganai)

Shōganai is an *-i* adjective meaning "can't be helped" or "nothing can be done." People use this phrase when they accept something inevitable. In this dialogue, the boy uses it because it is not her fault that Emily is allergic to dogs. You can also use this phrase when gently teasing someone: "You're hopeless!"

For Example:

1. (A and B are walking in a hurry)
A: ちょっとまってください。つかれました。
Chotto matte kudasai. Tsukaremashita.
"Stop a minute. I'm tired."
B: しょうがないな。じゃ、ちょっとやすみましょう。
Shōganai na. Ja, chotto yasumimasho.
"You're hopeless/It can't be helped. OK, let's take a break."

particle も (-mo)

The particle *mo* means "also" or "too." When two objects share the same property, we can use this particle. We can use it in both affirmative and negative sentences. Please also note that

mo replaces the particles *wa*, *ga*, and *o* and follows other particles.

For Example:

1. チワワは小さいです。パピヨンも小さいです。
Chiwawa wa chiisai desu. Papiyon mo chiisai desu.
"Chihuahuas are small. Papillons are small too."
2. とうきょうにいきます。おおさかにもいきます。
Tōkyō ni mo ikimasu. Ōsaka ni mo ikimasu.
"I'm going to Tokyo. I'm also going to Osaka."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is the Negative Sentence Using *Na* Adjectives.

きらいじゃないです。

Kirai ja nai desu.

"I don't hate them."

This lesson's grammar point covers the negative of *-na* adjectives.

In order to form the negative of *-na* adjectives,

- 1) remove the final *-na* and
- 2) attach *-janai*.

See the following table.

For Example:

<i>Na</i> Adjective	"English"			Negative	"English"
すき (な) <i>suki(na)</i>	"like"	→	すき- (な) <i>suki-(na)</i>	すきじゃ ない <i>suki ja nai</i>	"don't like"

かんたん (な) kantan (na)	"easy"	→	かんたん- (な) kantan- na	→	かんたん じゃない kantan ja nai	"not easy"
とくべつ tokubetsu u(na)	"special"	→	とくべつ- (な) tokubetsu u-na	→	とくべつ じゃない tokubetsu u ja nai	"not special"

There are some irregular *-na* adjectives. The adjectives *kirei*, meaning "clean," and *kirai*, meaning "dislike," are categorized as *-na* adjectives although they end with *-i*.

-Na Adjective	"English"				Negative	"English"
きれい (な) kirei	"clean"		きれい- (な) kirei-(na)	→	きれいじ ゃない kirei ja nai	"not clean" "not beautiful"
きらい (な) kirai(na)	"dislike"	→	きらい- (な) kirai-na	→	きらいじ ゃない kirai ja nai	"don't dislike"

For Example:

- いぬがすきじゃないです。
Inu ga suki ja nai desu.
"I don't like dogs."
- かんじはかんたんじゃないです。
Kanji wa kantan ja nai desu.
"Kanji aren't easy."

3. そのはしはきれいじゃないです。
Sono hashi wa kirei ja nai desu.
"Those chopsticks are not clean."

Examples From This Dialogue

1. きらいじゃないです。
Kirai ja nai desu.
"I don't hate them."
2. へんじゃないよ。
Hen ja nai yo.
"It's not weird."

Reference

Please also review the following Grammar Points.

- *suki/kirai* → Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 18
- particle *mo* → Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 15
- particle *yo* → Lower Beginner Season 1 Lesson 9

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Are You Allergic to Anything?

Allergies are very common in Japan, and one of the most common is かふんしょう (*kafun-shō*), meaning "hay fever." According to a national survey conducted in 2008, about thirty percent of the population has light to heavy hay fever. One of the most popular anti-hay fever products is paper masks. Most people with hay fever wear masks as well as glasses to avoid taking in pollen dust. They also gargle. It is also recommended to wear smooth-textured jackets to avoid bringing pollen into the home.