

LESSON NOTES

Lower Beginner #14

Sample Some Japanese Festival Fare

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KANJI

1. KEN: おみせがたくさんありますね。
2. COLLEAGUE: やたいもはじめてですか。
3. KEN: はい。
4. COLLEAGUE: じゃ、何か食べましょう。
5. KEN: いいですね。
6. COLLEAGUE: たこやきはhowですか。
7. KEN: たこ？たこはちょっと・・・。
8. COLLEAGUE: とうもろこしはhowですか。
9. KEN: いいですね。おごりますよ。
10. STREET
VENDOR: いらっしゃいませ。
11. KEN: 二つ、おねがいします。
12. STREET
VENDOR: 1000えんです。
13. KEN: せんえん？高い....。

KANA

CONT'D OVER

1. KEN: おみせがたくさんありますね。
2. COLLEAGUE: やたいもはじめてですか。
3. KEN: はい。
4. COLLEAGUE: じゃ、なにかたべましょう。
5. KEN: いいですね。
6. COLLEAGUE: たこやきはとうですか。
7. KEN: たこ？たこはちょっと・・・。
8. COLLEAGUE: とうもろこしはどうですか。
9. KEN: いいですね。おごりますよ。
10. STREET
VENDOR: いらっしゃいませ。
11. KEN: ふたつ、おねがいします。
12. STREET
VENDOR: 1000えんです。
13. KEN: せんえん？たかい…。

ROMANIZATION

1. KEN: O-mise ga takusan arimasu ne.

CONT'D OVER

2. COLLEAGUE: Yatai mo hajimete desu ka.
3. KEN: Hai.
4. COLLEAGUE: Ja, nani ka tabemashō.
5. KEN: Ii desu ne.
6. COLLEAGUE: Takoyaki wa dō desu ka.
7. KEN: Tako? Tako wa chotto....
8. COLLEAGUE: Tōmorokoshi wa dō desu ka.
9. KEN: Ii desu ne. Ogorimasu yo.
10. STREET VENDOR: Irasshaimase.
11. KEN: Futatsu, onegai shimasu.
12. STREET VENDOR: 1000-en desu.
13. KEN: Sen-en? Takai....

ENGLISH

1. KEN: There are lots of shops, aren't there?
2. COLLEAGUE: Is it your first time seeing food stands, too?

CONT'D OVER

3. KEN: Yes.
4. COLLEAGUE: OK, so let's eat something.
5. KEN: That sounds good.
6. COLLEAGUE: How about octopus dumplings?
7. KEN: Octopus? Octopus is kind of...
8. COLLEAGUE: How about corn on the cob?
9. KEN: That sounds good. I'll treat you.
10. ...
11. STREET VENDOR: Welcome.
12. KEN: Two, please.
13. STREET VENDOR: That's a thousand yen.
14. KEN: A thousand yen? That's expensive...

VOCABULARY

Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English
はじめて	はじめて	hajimete	for the first time
おごります	おごります	ogorimasu	to treat (masu form);V1

何か	なにか	nanika	something
高い	たかい	takai	high, tall, expensive;Adj(i)
どうですか	どうですか	Dō desu ka	How about ...?
たこ	たこ	tako	octopus
みせ	みせ	mise	store
とうもろこし	とうもろこし	tōmorokoshi	corn, maize
二つ	ふたつ	futatsu	2 things (general counter)

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>日本ははじめてですか。 <i>Nihon wa hajimete desu ka.</i></p> <p>Is this your first time in Japan?</p>	<p>おごりますよ。 <i>Ogorimasu yo.</i></p> <p>It's my treat!</p>
<p>何かメッセージはありますか。 <i>Nanika messēji wa arimasu ka.</i></p> <p>Do you have any messages?</p>	<p>ダイヤモンドは高いです。 <i>Daiyamondo wa takai desu.</i></p> <p>Diamonds are expensive.</p>
<p>じゃあ、おこのみやきはどうですか。 <i>Jā, okonomiyaki wa dō desu ka.</i></p> <p>So how about okonomiyaki?</p>	<p>たこが海を泳いでいる。 <i>Tako ga umi o oyoide iru.</i></p> <p>The octopus is swimming in the ocean.</p>
<p>私の国では、たこは食べません。 <i>Watashi no kuni de wa tako wa tabemasen.</i></p> <p>We don't eat octopus in my country.</p>	<p>あそこにおみせがあります。 <i>Asoko ni o-mise ga arimasu.</i></p> <p>There is a store over there.</p>
<p>とうもろこしはえいごで何ですか。 <i>Tōmorokoshi wa Eigo de nan desu ka.</i></p> <p>What do you call tōmorokoshi in English?</p>	<p>ビール、二つください。 <i>Bīru, futatsu kudasai.</i></p> <p>2 glasses of beer, please.</p>

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

何か (*nani ka*)

Nani ka consists of the question word *nani*, meaning "what," and the particle *ka*. This means "something." Other question words can make the word "some..." with the particle *ka*. See the chart below.

Interrogative	+ <i>Ka</i>
何 (<i>nani</i>) "what"	何か (<i>nani ka</i>) "something"
だれ (<i>dare</i>) "who"	だれか (<i>dare ka</i>) "someone"
いつ (<i>itsu</i>) "when"	いつか (<i>itsu ka</i>) "someday," "sometime"
どこ (<i>doko</i>) "where"	どこか (<i>doko ka</i>) "somewhere"

For Example

- 何か買いましたか。
Nani ka kaimashita ka.
"Did you buy anything?"
- 夏休みにどこか行きますか。
Natsu-yasumi ni dokoka ikimasu ka.
"Are you going somewhere for summer vacation?"

General Counter

In Japanese, you use special counters when you count objects. The counter you use depends on the shape or characteristic of the object. The general counter is っ (*tsu*), and you can use it when there is no specific counter or when you don't know the counter. The set only goes up to ten. They do not follow any kind of pattern, so you must memorize them.

Japanese	Romanization	"English"
一っ	<i>hitotsu</i>	"one item"
二っ	<i>futatsu</i>	"two items"
三っ	<i>mittsu</i>	"three items"
四っ	<i>yottsu</i>	"four items"

いつつ	<i>itsutsu</i>	"five items"
むっつ	<i>muttsu</i>	"six items"
ななつ	<i>nanatsu</i>	"seven items"
やっつ	<i>yattsu</i>	"eight items"
ここのつ	<i>kokonotsu</i>	"nine items"
とお	<i>tō</i>	"ten items"

*Tips: However, you would not practically use five to ten unless you need lots of items. Just to start, let's memorize one through five.

高い *takai* (takai)

You already learned *takai* in Lesson 11 as in *takai tokoro*, meaning "high-up places." Just like you say "high" as in price in English, it can be applied to Japanese. *Takai* also means "expensive."

For Example:

1. すしは高いです。
Sushi wa takai desu.
"Sushi is expensive."

おごります。 (*Ogorimasu.*)

Ogorimasu is a verb that means "to treat." If you want to treat someone to a meal, this is the phrase to use. It is common that someone older than you buys you a drink or meal in Japan. Don't forget to say "thanks," or *Gochiso-sama desu*, as a thank-you phrase for the meal.

For Example:

1. A: きょうは私がおごります。
Kyō wa watashi ga ogorimasu.
"It's my treat today."
B: ありがとうございます。ごちそうさまです。
Arigatō gozaimasu. Gochisō-sama desu.
"Thanks. Thank you for the meal."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is How to Invite Someone to Do Something.

じゃ、何か食べましょう。

Ja, nani ka tabemashō.

"OK, so let's eat something."

Today's grammar point is the expression to invite someone to do something, using the verb *mashō*. You'll also learn the expression to suggest something and the appropriate replying expressions.

Review: the Usage of the Verb *Mashō*

We learned how to make the inviting expression verb *mashō* in Absolute Beginner Season 2 Lesson 22. To make the "let's" form of a verb, simply follow these steps: take the verb *masu* → remove *-masu* → add *-mashō* → verb *mashō*

For Example:

Verb <i>Masu</i>	Verb <i>Mashō</i>	"English"
食べます (<i>tabemasu</i>)	食べましょう (<i>tabemashō</i>) "let's eat"	"to eat"
のみます (<i>nomimasu</i>)	のみましょう (<i>nomimashō</i>) "let's drink"	"to drink"
いきます (<i>ikimasu</i>)	いきましょう (<i>ikimashō</i>) "let's go"	"to go"
します (<i>shimasu</i>)	しましょう (<i>shimashō</i>) "let's do [something]"	"to do"

How to Suggest Something

In the dialogue, the colleague suggested some food to Ken using [something] *wa dō desu ka?* You can simply use this by inserting what you would like to suggest in the bracket.

Japanese	[something]	は	どうですか。
Romanization	[something]	wa	dō desu ka.
"English"	"How about [something]?"		

For Example:

1. りょこうにいきましょう。日本はどうですか。
Ryokō ni ikimashō. Nihon wa dō desu ka.
 "Let's go traveling. How about Japan?"
2. お昼にしましょう。カレーライスはどうですか。
O-hiru ni shimashō. Karē raisu wa dō desu ka.
 "Let's take a lunch break. How about curry and rice?"

How to Reply With a Suggestion

When someone suggests something to you, you must accept or reject it. These are some of the good answers. Let's check them out.

Japanese	いいですね。	[item]はちょっと・・・。
Romanization	ii desu ne.	[item] wa chotto...
"English"	"That sounds good."	"[item] is kind of..."

The second phrase --- *wa chotto...* would come in handy when you would like to give negative answers indirectly. Please note that the literal translation of ...*wa chotto...* would be "I'm sorry, but...is a little..." In general, saying "no" directly is considered informal in Japanese culture. Let's take a look at the examples as the answer to the sample sentences above.

For Example:

1. B1 : いいですね。きょうとは どうですか。
ii desu ne. Kyōto wa dō desu ka.
 "That sounds good. How about Kyoto?"
 B2 : にほんは ちょっと・・・。かんこくはどうですか。
Nihon wa chotto... Kankoku wa dō desu ka.
 "Japan is kind of... How about Korea?"

2. B1 : いいですね。えきにおいしいカレー屋がありますよ。
li desu ne. Eki ni oishii karē-ya ga arimasu yo.
"That sounds good. I know a good curry restaurant at the station."
B2 : カレーはちょっと……。ていしょくは どうですか。
Karē wa chotto... Teishoku wa dō desu ka.
"Curry is kind of... How about *teishoku*?"

Examples From This Dialogue

1. じゃ、何か食べましょう。
Ja, nani ka tabemashō.
"OK, so let's eat something."
2. いいですね。
li desu ne.
"That sounds good."
3. たこやきは どうですか。
Takoyaki wa dō desu ka.
"How about octopus dumplings?"
4. たこ？たこはちょっと…。
Tako? Tako wa chotto...
"Octopus? Octopus is kind of..."

Reference

Please also review the following Grammar Points.

- [something] *wa hajimete desu.* → Lower Beginner Season 1 Lesson 13
- Verb *mashō* → Absolute Beginner Season 2 Lesson 22
- ... *wa dō desu ka.* → Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 13
- ... *wa chotto...* → Absolute Beginner Season 2 Lesson 18

- [item] *onegaishimasu* → Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 5
- Big numbers → Absolute Beginner Season 2 Lesson 12

CULTURAL INSIGHT

***Yatai*, Food Stalls in Japan**

You can see *yatai*, meaning "food stalls," lined up along a main street at any festivals in Japan. They are usually described as small mobile shops with wheels or tents that sell food or toys. Some of the common stalls would be *yakisoba*, which sell "pan-fried noodles"; *okonomiyaki*, which sell "savory Japanese pancakes"; *anзу ame*, which sell "candy apricots"; and *wata ame*, which sell "fairy floss." Because these stalls are special for festivals, the price tends to be more expensive than that in any other place. For example, one serving of *okonomiyaki* costs 500 yen or more (at the time of writing in 2013).