

LESSON NOTES

Lower Beginner #17

Are the Japanese Police Looking for You?

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17

KANJI

1. (Telephone)
2. WOMAN: はい、イノベイティブ・デザインです。
3. POLICE OFFICER: ござしまけいさつですが、Ken Woodさんはいますか。
4. WOMAN: Ken Wood ですか？しょうしょうおまちください。
5. ♪♪♪
: おまたせしました。Woodは木よう日までやすみです。
すみませんが、もういちど、おなまえをおねがいします。
6. POLICE OFFICER: ござしまけいさつの金木です。
7. WOMAN: けいさつ…。ごようけんは？
8. POLICE OFFICER: だいじょうぶです。また、でんわします。

KANA

1. (Telephone)
2. WOMAN: はい、イノベイティブ・デザインです。
3. POLICE OFFICER: ござしまけいさつですが、Ken Woodさんはいますか。
4. WOMAN: Ken Wood ですか？しょうしょうおまちください。
5. ♪♪♪
: おまたせしました。Woodはもくようびまでやすみです。
すみませんが、もういちど、おなまえをおねがいします。

CONT'D OVER

6. POLICE OFFICER: かごしまけいさつのかなきです。
7. WOMAN: けいさつ…。ごようけんは？
8. POLICE OFFICER: だいじょうぶです。また、でんわします。

ROMANIZATION

1. (Telephone)
2. WOMAN: Hai, Inobeitibu Dezain desu.
3. POLICE OFFICER: Kagoshima keisatsu desu ga, Ken Wood-san wa imasu ka.
4. WOMAN: Ken Wood desu ka? Shōshō o-machi kudasai.
5. ♪♪♪
: O-matase shimashita. Wood wa moku-yōbi made yasumi desu.
 Sumimasen ga, mō ichi-do, o-namae o onegai shimasu.
6. POLICE OFFICER: Kagoshima keisatsu no Kanaki desu.
7. WOMAN: Keisatsu.... go-yōken wa?
8. POLICE OFFICER: Daijōbu desu. Mata, denwa shimasu.

ENGLISH

1. (Telephone)
2. WOMAN: Yes, this is Innovative Design.

CONT'D OVER

3. POLICE OFFICER: This is the Kagoshima Police Department. Is Mr. Ken Wood there?
4. WOMAN: Ken Wood? Please wait a moment.
5. ♪♪♪
: Sorry to keep you waiting. Mr. Wood is on vacation until Thursday.
I'm sorry, but could I have your name again, please?
6. POLICE OFFICER: I'm Kanaki from the Kagoshima Police Department.
7. WOMAN: The police.... May I ask what it's about?
8. POLICE OFFICER: It's fine. I'll call back.

VOCABULARY

Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English
けいさつ	けいさつ	keisatsu	police
おまちください	おまちください	o-machi kudasai	Please wait.
また	また	mata	again
もういちど	もういちど	mō ichi-do	once again, one more time, once more
おまたせしました	おまたせしました	O-matase shimashita.	Sorry to keep you waiting.
ようけん	ようけん	yōken	business, information that should be conveyed
まで	まで	made	until (a time, place)

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>けいさつはどこですか。 <i>Keisatsu wa doko desu ka.</i></p> <p>Where is the police office?</p>	<p>森ですね。しょうしょうおまちください。 <i>Mori desu ne. Shōshō o-machi kudasai.</i></p> <p>Mori, right? Please wait a moment.</p>
<p>じゃ、また。 <i>Ja, mata.</i></p> <p>See you later.</p>	<p>もういちど、おねがいします。 <i>Mō ichi-do, onegaishimasu.</i></p> <p>Once more, please.</p>
<p>おまたせしました。もりです。 <i>O-matase shimashita. Mori desu.</i></p> <p>Sorry to keep you waiting. I'm Mori.</p>	<p>ごようけんは何ですか？ <i>Go-yōken wa nan desu ka?</i></p> <p>May I ask what it's about?</p>
<p>よる8じまではたらきます。 <i>Yoru hachi-ji made hatarakimasu.</i></p> <p>I work until 8 o'clock at night.</p>	

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

けいさつ (*keisatsu*)

This means "police" in English and sometimes indicates "police person" as well. It is one of the national government agencies. The police usually wear a uniform and have a gun in case of an emergency. You can see them on street and also at Koban, known as the "police box."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is Useful Expressions on the Phone.

かごしまけいさつですが、Ken Woodさんはいますか。

Kagoshima keisatsu desu ga, Ken Wood-san wa imasu ka.

"This is the Kagoshima Police Department. Is Mr. Ken Wood there? "

Today's grammar point is about the useful expressions on a phone. Let's have a look at them.

Asking Whether Someone Is There

In order to ask whether someone is there, add the name of the person you would like to

talk to and use this phrase. Please note that it is better that the polite suffix *-san* follows the name, especially on business and formal occasions.

Japanese	[name]	は います か。
Romanization	[name]	<i>wa imasu ka.</i>
"English"	"Is [name] there?"	

For Example:

1. エミリーさんは いますか。
Emirī-san wa imasu ka.
"Is Emily there?"
2. サラちゃん は いますか。
Sara-chan wa imasu ka.
"Is Sarah there?"

Do you remember that Kaori said *Sara-chan* instead of *Sara-san* to call a baby (Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 17)? People commonly use it when they call girls. For boys, people commonly use *-kun*.

Other Useful Phrases

These are the useful phrases when you answer the phone but need to bring someone else to answer.

1. *Shōshō* is a formal vocabulary word that means "a moment."

For Example:

1. しょうしょうおまちください。
Shōshō o-machi kudasai.
"Please wait a moment."

2. Because you keep the audience waiting and say this, the end of the sentence should be in the past form, *-mashita*.

For Example:

1. おまたせしました。
O-matase shimashita.
"Sorry to keep you waiting."

3. You usually omit the latter part, as you saw in the dialogue. *Go-* is a prefix that makes *yōken* more formal

For Example:

1. ごようけんは(何ですか)?
Go-yōken wa (nan desu ka?)
"May I ask what it's about?"

Examples from This Dialogue

1. かごしまけいさつですが、Ken Woodさんはいますか。
Kagoshima keisatsu desu ga, Ken Wood-san wa imasu ka.
"This is the Kagoshima Police Department. Is Mr. Ken Wood there? "
2. しょうしょうおまちください。
Shōshō o-machi kudasai.
"Please wait a moment. "
3. おまたせしました。
O-matase shimashita.
"Sorry to keep you waiting."
4. ごようけんは?
Go-yōken wa?
"May I ask what it's about?"

Reference

Please also review the following Grammar Points.

- [animate objects] *ga imasu* → Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 20
- days of the week → Lower Beginner Season 1 Lesson 12

- *onagai shimasu* → Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 5
- [Name of occupation] *no* [Name] → Lower Beginner Season 1 Lesson 3

CULTURAL INSIGHT

In-Group and Out-Group in Japanese

Japanese people recognize relationships as falling into two groups: one is called an in-group, and the other is an out-group. They affect the usage of the language. In-group refers to someone a speaker thinks is close to the speaker psychologically. It usually includes his or her family members, close friends, and so on, and casual speech tends to be used. On the other hand, out-group refers to someone a speaker thinks is not as close as the member of her/his in-group, and they usually use formal speech. In the dialogue, the policeman added the polite suffix *-san* to Mr. Wood's name because Mr. Wood is not in his in-group. The woman, however, doesn't because they are colleagues, so Mr. Wood is in her in-group.