

LESSON TRANSCRIPT

# Lower Beginner #19

## Getting a New Credit Card in Japan

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# 19

## INTRODUCTION

Alisha: Hi everyone! アリッシャです！ Alisha here!

Natsuko: こんにちは！ ナツコです！ Hi everyone, I'm Natsuko.

Alisha: Welcome to Lower Beginner Season 1, Lesson 19 – “Getting a New Credit Card in Japan” In this lesson, we’ll learn how to form the past tense of verbs and how to say your birthday in Japanese.

Natsuko: Where does this lesson’s dialog take place?

Alisha: In the last lesson, Ken realized he’d lost his credit card. So he’s now making a phone call to his credit card company. では、聞きましょう。

Natsuko: Let’s listen to the conversation!

## POST CONVERSATION BANTER

Natsuko: Credit cards are very convenient, but when you realize that you’ve lost it....

Alisha: It’s a nightmare! We never want to experience the conversation Ken is having...

Natsuko: True. In Japan, having credit cards was considered as something for adults. When I see Hollywood movies, I often see children using their parents’ credit cards, but I’ve never seen that in Japan.

Alisha: I get the impression that not many Japanese stores accept credit cards.

Natsuko: That might be true. It’s getting more and more common to pay by credit card even if the total amount is small, but payment by credit card is still usually for large purchases.

Alisha: How about you listeners? Have you shopped in Japan using your credit card? Tell us about your experience! Now let’s move on to the vocabulary.

## KEY VOCAB AND PHRASES

Alisha: Let's have a closer look at the usage for some of the words and phrases from this lesson. The first word we'll look at is....

Natsuko: せいねんがっぴ; this word is very logical! When you write it with kanji, you'll see: せい which is the kanji for birth or born. Then we have ねん, which is the kanji for “year”, followed by がっぴ, which is written with kanjis for “month” and “day”.

Alisha: Literally, “born year, month and day”! That’s easy to remember. So, now, you have to tell your date of birth. Let’s start with months.

Natsuko: Names of months in Japanese are very easy. Basically, it’s [number] + “gatsu”. For example, January is いちがつ; the month 1.

Alisha: Sounds easy! Let’s go through. Again, January is?

Natsuko:

いちがつ

Alisha: February

Natsuko: にがつ

Alisha: March

Natsuko: さんがつ

Alisha: April

Natsuko: しがつ

Alisha: May

Natsuko: ごがつ

Alisha: June

Natsuko: ろくがつ

Alisha: July

Natsuko: しちがつ

Alisha: August

Natsuko: はちがつ

Alisha: September

Natsuko: くがつ

Alisha: October

Natsuko: じゅうがつ

Alisha: November

Natsuko: じゅういちがつ

Alisha: and December

Natsuko: じゅうにがつ

Alisha: How was it?

Natsuko: Please remember April is しがつ with し and September is くがつ with く.

Alisha: How would you ask what month?

Natsuko: Simply put なん meaning “what” before “gatsu”: なんがつ。Now, using the word 誕生日 meaning “birthday”, we can ask 誕生日は、何月ですか。 “What month is your birthday in?”

Alisha: To answer that question, say the month of your birthday and add “desu”, like...

Natsuko: しがつです。

Alisha: Easy, right? Okay; now onto the grammar.

## LESSON FOCUS

Alisha: In this lesson, we’re going to learn about the past tense of a verb, using “-mashita”.

Natsuko: We’ve learned this in Absolute Beginner Season 2 Lesson 19.

Alisha: Do you remember how to form the past tense of a verb? First, remove the final

–masu from the verb, and simply attach –mashita.

Natsuko: In the dialog, Ken said カードを、おとしました。This おとしました is the past tense of the verb おとします。

Alisha: Let's look at the past tense of verbs we've already learnt. Natsuko, what's the past tense of the verb つかいます, "to use"?

Natsuko: つかい、ました。つかいました。

Alisha: And how about, あります

Natsuko: ありました

Alisha: Next, します?

Natsuko: しました

Alisha: Now listeners, try to say the past tense of みます, "to see" or "to look".

Natsuko: [wait 5 sec.] みました

Alisha: How about, いきます, "to go"?

Natsuko: [wait 5 sec.] きました

Alisha: Did you get it right?

Natsuko: Alisha, 東京タワーに行きましたか? "Have you been to Tokyo tower?"

Alisha: はい、いきました。"Yes, I have". Now we can say what we've done in the past!

Natsuko: Here's the question to all of you, listeners, きのう、日本語を勉強しましたか。"Did you study Japanese yesterday?"

Alisha: Good question! Please tell us your answer in the comments of this lesson. We're looking forward to hearing your answer!

## OUTRO

Alisha: That's about all we have time for this lesson! Please practice the words we've learned in this lesson. See you next time.

Natsuko: じゃ、また。