

LESSON NOTES

Lower Beginner #7

Playing by 'The Rules' in Japan

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KANJI

1. (train)
2. MS. MORI: Woodさん？森です。
3. KEN WOOD: あ...おはようございます。
それは、えいごの本ですか。
4. MS. MORI: え？(laugh)はい。
5. KEN WOOD: "The Rules"?? もりさんのですか。
6. MS. MORI: わたしではありません。ともだちのです。
7. KEN WOOD: へー。(laugh)
8. MS. MORI: わたしはどくしんじゃないです。でも、これはおもしろいです。

KANA

1. (train)
2. MS. MORI: Woodさん？もりです。
3. KEN WOOD: あ...おはようございます。
それは、えいごのほんですか。
4. MS. MORI: え？(laugh)はい。
5. KEN WOOD: "The Rules"?? もりさんのですか。

CONT'D OVER

6. MS. MORI: わたしではありません。ともだちのです。
7. KEN WOOD: へー。(laugh)
8. MS. MORI: わたしはどくしんじゃないです。でも、これはおもしろいです。

ROMANIZATION

1. (train)
2. MS. MORI: Wood san? Mori desu.
3. KEN WOOD: A... Ohayō gozaimasu.
Sore wa, eigo no hon desu ka.
4. MS. MORI: E?(laugh) Hai.
5. KEN WOOD: "The Rules"?? Mori-san no desu ka.
6. MS. MORI: Watashi no de wa arimasen. Tomodachi no desu.
7. KEN WOOD: Hē.(laugh)
8. MS. MORI: Watashi wa dokushin ja nai desu. Demo, kore wa omoshiroi desu.

ENGLISH

1. (train)
2. MS. MORI: Mr. Wood? It's me, Mori.

CONT'D OVER

3. KEN WOOD: Oh....good morning.
Is that book in English?
4. MS. MORI: Huh?(laugh) Yes.
5. KEN WOOD: "The Rules"? Is that yours?
6. MS. MORI: It's not mine. It's my friend's.
7. KEN WOOD: Is that right.(laugh)
8. MS. MORI: I'm not single. But this is an interesting book.

VOCABULARY

Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English
えいご	えいご	Eigo	English (language)
ともだち	ともだち	tomodachi	friend
おもしろい	おもしろい	omoshiroi	funny, interesting, amusing;Adj(i)
の	の	no	particle indicating possession
本	ほん	hon	book
どくしん	どくしん	dokushin	single, unmarried,

SAMPLE SENTENCES

えいごがわかりますか。 <i>Eigo ga wakarimasu ka.</i> Do you understand English?	ともだちのマンションにいきました。 <i>Tomodachi no manshon ni ikimashita.</i> I went to my friend's apartment.
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日本のテレビコマーシャルはおもしろい。 <i>Nihon no terebi komāsharu wa omoshiroi.</i> Japanese TV commercials are interesting.	こちらは森さんのおくさんです。 <i>Kochira wa Mori-san no okusan desu.</i> This is Mr. Mori's wife.
この本はいくらですか。 <i>Kono hon wa ikura desu ka.</i> How much is this book?	たなかさんはどくしんです。 <i>Takana-san wa dokushin desu.</i> Mr. Tanaka is not married.

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

えいご (*eigo*)

This is the word for "the English language" in Japanese. It ends with the suffix that means "language," *go* (ご). Let's check out the related vocabulary.

Japanese	Romanization	"English"
日本語	<i>Nihongo</i>	"the Japanese language"
中国語	<i>Chūgokugo</i>	"the Chinese/Mandarin language"
韓国語	<i>Kankokugo</i>	"the Korean language"
フランス語	<i>Furansugo</i>	"the French language"
スペイン語	<i>Supeingo</i>	"the Spanish language"

へー (*hee*)

This means "Really?" "Neat!" or "Wow!" See other common words and phrases we commonly use in response to what someone says in a conversation in Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 16.

でも (*demo*)

This means "but." Just as in conversational English, it can come at the beginning of a sentence to introduce a contrasting statement.

どくしん (*dokushin*)

This means "single" or "not married." The opposite phrase is (けっこんしています *kekkon shite imasu*), meaning "married."

For Example:

1. A: どくしんですか。
Dokushin desu ka?
"Are you single?"
B: はい。そうです。
Hai, sō desu.
"Yes."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is the Negative Sentence.

わたしのではありません。
Watashi no de wa arimasen.
"It's not mine."

This grammar point covers the negative versions of the *A wa B desu*, "A is B" structure, which are *A wa B de wa arimasen* and the slightly more informal *ja arimasen* and *ja nai desu*.

Japanese	Romaji	"English"
AはBではありません。	<i>A wa B de wa arimasen.</i>	"A isn't B."
AはBじゃありません。	<i>A wa B ja arimasen.</i>	"A isn't B."
AはBじゃないです。	<i>A wa B ja nai desu.</i>	"A isn't B."

*You can replace A and B with any nouns or noun phrases.

*Although all of these expressions are polite, *ではありません (de wa arimasen)* is the most polite.

For Example:

1. これはケンさんの本ではありません。
Kore wa Ken-san no hon de wa arimasen.
"This isn't Ken's book."

2. わたしはアメリカ人じゃないです。オーストラリア人です。
Watashi wa Amerika-jin ja nai desu. Ōsutoraria-jin desu.
"I'm not American. I'm Australian."

Review: The Particle *No*

You learned how to say that something belongs to someone in Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 10. This time, let's have a look at an extended usage of *の*, which enables you to omit the following noun to avoid repeating the same word twice. In today's dialogue, it is clear that the speaker is talking about a book, even though the speaker used *no* and omitted the actual noun *hon*, meaning "book." We usually use this phrase when answering questions.

For Example:

1. A: これはキムさんのかばんですか。
Kore wa Kim-san no kaban desu ka.
"Is this Kim's bag?"
B: はい、キムさんのです。
Hai, Kim-san no desu.
"Yes, it's Kim's."
2. A: それは森本さんのパソコンですか。
Sore wa Morimoto-san no pasokon desu ka.
"Is that your computer, Mr. Morimoto?"
B: いいえ、わたしのじゃないです。
lie, watashi no ja nai desu.
"No, it's not mine."

Examples From This Dialogue

1. Ken Wood: "The Rules"?? もりさんのですか。
"The Rules"?? Mori-san no desu ka.
"The Rules'? Is that yours?"
Ms. Mori: わたしの上ではありません。ともだちの上です。
Watashi no de wa arimasen. Tomodachi no desu.
"It's not mine. It's my friend's."

2. わたしはどくしんじゃないです。
Watashi wa dokushin ja nai desu.
"I'm not single."

Reference

Please also review the following Grammar Points.

- suffix *-go* → Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 24
- particle *no* → Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 10
- *hee* → Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 16
- *demo* → Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 14
- usage of adjectives → Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 15

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Commuting Train/Commuter Trains

A commuter train is called つうきんでんしゃ (*tsūkin densha*) or つうきんれっしゃ (*tsūkin ressha*) in Japanese. Most people use trains to go to work and school, especially in big cities. This is partly because bad traffic jams tend to occur in city areas during rush hours and because trains usually run very punctually. During the morning rush hour, most people move from the suburb where they live to the city where their offices or schools are. You'll see how a small space can be packed with people! A packed train is called まんいんでんしゃ (*man'in densha*) in Japanese.