

## LESSON NOTES

# Lower Beginner #9

## The Scariest Little Dog in Japan

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# 9

# KANJI

1. (Park)
2. (Dog barks)
3. EMILY: きゃ！
4. BOY(ABOUT 6 YEARS OLD): こら！ゴハン！  
おねえさん、ごめんなさい。だいじょうぶ？
5. EMILY: だいじょうぶです。  
小さいですね。これ、チワワですか。
6. BOY: ううん。パピヨン。
7. (Dog barks )
8. EMILY: きゃ！
9. BOY: ゴハン！しーっ！...
10. EMILY: (Hem)ゴハンはこのいぬのなまえですか。
11. BOY: うん。ソン・ゴハン。  
...おねえさん、いぬ、こわい？
12. EMILY: こ、こ、こわくないですよ。かわいいですよ。

# KANA

1. (Park)

CONT'D OVER

2. (Dog barks)
3. EMILY: きゃ!
4. BOY(ABOUT 6 YEARS OLD): こら!ゴハン!  
おねえさん、ごめんなさい。だいじょうぶ?
5. EMILY: だいじょうぶです。  
ちいさいですね。これ、チワワですか。
6. BOY: ううん。パピヨン。
7. (Dog barks )
8. EMILY: きゃ!
9. BOY: ゴハン!しーっ!...
10. EMILY: (Hem)ゴハンはこのいぬのなまえですか。
11. BOY: うん。ソン・ゴハン。  
...おねえさん、いぬ、こわい?
12. EMILY: こ、こ、こわくないですよ。かわいいですよ。

## ROMANIZATION

1. (Park)
2. (Dog barks)

CONT'D OVER

3. EMILY: Kya!
4. BOY(ABOUT 6 YEARS OLD): Kora! Gohan!  
Onēsan, gomen nasai.Daijōbu?
5. EMILY: Daijōbu desu. Chīsai desu ne. Kore, chiwawa desu ka.
6. BOY: Uun. Papiyon.
7. (Dog barks)
8. EMILY: Kya!
9. BOY: Gohan! Shī!...
10. EMILY: (Hem) Gohan wa kono inu no namae desu ka.
11. BOY: Un. Son Gohan.  
...Onēsan, inu, kowai?
12. EMILY: Ko, ko, kowakunai desu yo. Kawaii desu yo.

## ENGLISH

1. (Park)
2. (Dog barks)
3. EMILY MARTIN: Ahh!
4. BOY (ABOUT SIX YEARS OLD): Hey! Gohan!  
I'm sorry, Miss. Are you all right?

CONT'D OVER

5. EMILY MARTIN: I'm fine.  
It's really small, isn't it? Is it a chihuahua?
6. BOY: Nope. It's a papillon.
7. (Dog barks)
8. EMILY MARTIN: Ahh!
9. BOY: Gohan! Shh!
10. EMILY MARTIN: (Hem) Is "Gohan" this dog's name?
11. BOY: Yeah. Son Gohan.  
Miss, are you scared of dogs?
12. EMILY MARTIN: They're n-n-not scary! They're cute!

## VOCABULARY

| Kanji   | Kana    | Romaji       | English   |
|---------|---------|--------------|---|
| こら!     | こら!     | kora         | (very casual) hey!, oi!   |
| こわい     | こわい     | kowai        | (someone is) scared, afraid, (something is) scary, frightening; Adj (i) |
| おねえさん   | おねえさん   | o-nē-san     | you (when addressing a young woman), young lady, miss                   |
| よ       | よ       | yo           | particle to add emphasis  |
| ごめんなさい。 | ごめんなさい。 | Gomen nasai. | I'm sorry.  |

|        |        |         |                            |
|--------|--------|---------|----------------------------|
| 小さい    | ちいさい   | chiisai | small, tiny, little;Adj(i) |
| だいじょうぶ | だいじょうぶ | daijōbu | all right , O.K.;Adj(na)   |
| なまえ    | なまえ    | namae   | name                       |

## SAMPLE SENTENCES

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <p>こら! おこりますよ。<br/><i>Kora! Okorimasu yo.</i></p> <p>(a mother to her kids) Hey!</p> | <p>これは 怖い えいが です。<br/><i>Kore wa kowai eiga desu.</i></p> <p>This is scary movie.</p>                       |
| <p>おねえさん、だいじょうぶ?<br/><i>O-nē-san, daijōbu?</i></p> <p>Are you all right, miss?</p>   | <p>そうですよ。<br/><i>Sō desu yo.</i></p> <p>That's right, you know.</p>   |
| <p>おねえさん、ごめんなさい。<br/><i>O-nē-san, gomen nasai.</i></p> <p>I'm sorry.</p>             | <p>パピヨンは小さいいぬです。<br/><i>Papiyon wa chiisai inu desu.</i></p> <p>A papillon is a small dog.</p>              |
| <p>わたしはだいじょうぶです。<br/><i>Watashi wa daijōbu desu.</i></p> <p>I'm all right.</p>       | <p>わたしの いぬの なまえは ポチです。<br/><i>Watashi no inu no namae wa Pochi desu.</i></p> <p>My dog's name is Pochi.</p> |

## VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

Sentence-ending particles - よ (-yo) and ね (-ne)

These single-letter elements are called particles. -Yo is a sentence-ending particle that emphasizes the speaker's assertion. It is similar to the exclamation mark, "!." Another, -ne, indicates an expression of admiration or agreement with the other person. It is similar to the English tag questions "isn't it?" and "doesn't it?" and so forth. Absolute Beginner Season 2 Lesson 17 and Season 1 Lesson 20 also cover -yo and -ne, respectively.

**For Example:**

1. ちいさいですね。  
*Chiisai desu ne.*  
"It's really small, isn't it?"
2. こわくないですよ。  
*Kowakunai desu yo.*  
"It's not scary!"

### だいじょうぶ (*daijōbu*)

This is one of the most commonly used words in Japanese; it means "all right" or "OK." You can use it as a question and also as an answer, as you can see in the dialogue. Make sure to say it with appropriate intonation depending on the usage. Let's review other usages as seen in Absolute Beginner Season 1, Lesson 12.

#### For Example:

1. A: だいじょうぶ? ↑  
*Daijōbu?*  
"Are you all right?"  
B: うん、だいじょうぶ。 ↓  
*Un, daijōbu.*  
"Yep, I'm fine."

### こら! (*Kora!*)

*Kora* is an interjection we use for scolding someone. Adults usually use this word when scolding children, but the boy used it with his dog in this dialogue.

### おねえさん (*o-nē-san*)

This literally means "older sister." However, it can also mean "you" when we use it to address a young woman unknown to the speaker, similar to "young lady" in English. We usually translate "you" as *anata*, but this is best avoided when we are speaking with strangers as it can sound overly familiar and offensive. The equivalent word for addressing young men is *onīsan*, or "older brother."

#### For Example:

1. おねえさん  
*o-nē-san*  
"you," "miss," and "young lady" when addressing a young woman

2. おにいさん  
*o-nī-san*  
 "you," "sir," and "young man" when addressing a young man

この (*kono*)

This word means "this," but please note that we cannot use it on its own; it must precede a noun. Please see the previous lesson in this series, Lesson 8, for a detailed explanation.

## GRAMMAR

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

こ、こ、こわくないですよ。

*Ko, ko, kowakunai desu yo.*

"They're n-n-not scary!"

Today's grammar point covers the negative form of *i*-adjectives.

In order to make the negative form of *i*-adjectives,

- 1) remove the final *i* and
- 2) attach *-kunai*.

See the following table.

**For Example:**

| <i>I</i><br>Adjective     | "English"     |   |                              |   | Negative                        | "English"         |
|---------------------------|---------------|---|------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|-------------------|
| 小さい<br><i>chiisai</i>     | "small"       | → | ちいさい<br>い<br><i>chiisa-i</i> | → | 小さくない<br><i>chiisakunai</i>     | "not small"       |
| おもしろい<br><i>omoshiroi</i> | "interesting" | → | おもしろい<br><i>omoshiroi</i>    | → | おもしろくない<br><i>omoshirokunai</i> | "not interesting" |

|                         |                      |   |  |   |  |                                    |
|-------------------------|----------------------|---|--|---|--|------------------------------------|
| たのしい<br><i>tanoshii</i> | "fun"                | → | たのしー<br>い<br><i>tanoshi-</i><br><i>i</i> | → | たのしく<br>ない<br><i>tanoshiku</i><br><i>nai</i> | "not fun"                          |
| こわい<br><i>kowai</i>     | "scary,"<br>"scared" | → | こわーい<br><i>kowa-</i><br><i>i</i>         | → | こわくな<br>い<br><i>kowakun</i><br><i>ai</i>     | "not<br>scary,"<br>"not<br>scared" |
| かわいい<br><i>kawaii</i>   | "cute"               | → | かわいー<br>い<br><i>kawai-</i><br><i>i</i>   | → | かわいく<br>ない<br><i>kawaikun</i><br><i>ai</i>   | "not<br>cute"                      |

There is one irregular *i*-adjective. The adjective *ii*, meaning "good," is derived from the more polite *yoi*, and its negative conjugation is based on *yoi*.

| <b><i>I</i></b><br><b>Adjective</b> | <b>"English"</b> |   |                                       |   | <b>Negative</b>        | <b>"English"</b> |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|---|---------------------------------------|---|------------------------|------------------|
| いい<br>(よい)<br><i>ii (yoi)</i>       | "good"           | → | いーい<br>(よー<br>い)<br><i>i-i (yo-i)</i> | → | よくない<br><i>yokunai</i> | "not<br>good"    |

We conjugate adjectives that incorporate *ii* in the same way. For example, *kakkōii*, meaning "cool" or "good-looking," becomes *kakkōyokunai*.

### For Example:

1. しばいぬは小さくないです。  
*Shibainu wa chiisakunai desu.*  
"The shiba inu dog is not small."

2. このえいがはこわくないです。  
*Kono eiga wa kowakunai desu.*  
"This movie is not scary."
  
3. そのねこはかわいくないです。でも、おもしろいかおです。  
*Sono neko wa kawaikunai desu. Demo omoshiroi kao desu.*  
"That cat is not cute. But it has a funny face."

### Examples From This Dialogue

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1. こ、こ、こわくないですよ。  
*Ko, ko, kowakunai desu yo.*  
"They're n-n-not scary!"

### Reference

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Please also review the following Grammar Points.

- *-ne* → Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 20
  
- the usage of adjectives → Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 15
  
- *daijōbu desu ka.* → Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 12
  
- *-no* → Absolute Beginner Season 1 Lesson 10
  
- Asking question → Lower Beginner Season 1 Lesson 2
  
- *kono* → Lower Beginner Season 1 Lesson 8
  
- *-yo* → Absolute Beginner Season 2 Lesson 17

## CULTURAL INSIGHT

## Apologizing in Japanese

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People commonly use *Gomen'nasai* when they apologize to others. This is equivalent to "I'm sorry." You can use this phrase when you've bothered someone: for example, if you bump into someone in the street. There is another phrase for apologizing: *Sumimasen*, meaning "Excuse me" or "I'm sorry," depending on the context. In a business situation, we use *sumimasen* more commonly than *gomen'nasai* for "I'm sorry." Please note that you can use *sumimasen* but not *gomen'nasai* when trying to get the attention of staff in restaurants and shops.

### For Example:

1. *OK!: Gomen'nasai, daijōbu desu ka?*  
*OK!: Sumimasen, daijōbu desu ka?*  
"Oh, sorry. Are you all right?"
2. *NG!: Gomen'nasai, o-mizu kudasai.*  
*OK!: Sumimasen, o-mizu kudasai.*  
"Excuse me, can I have some water?"