

LESSON NOTES

Beginner S2 #40 Guys' Night Out 1

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KANJI

1. 久保正敏: 小柴、仕事終わったらメイドバーに行かない？
2. 小柴浩二: お、いいじゃん！行くべ！
3. 久保正敏: じゃあ、何時に仕事終わらせる？
4. 小柴浩二: んじゃ、8時までに終わらせるべ。
5. 久保正敏: OK。んじゃそういうことで。

KANA

1. くぼまさとし: こしば、しごとおわったらメイドバーにいかない？
2. こしばこうじ: お、いいじゃん！いくべ！
3. くぼまさとし: じゃあ、なんじにしごとおわらせる？
4. こしばこうじ: んじゃ、8じまでにおわらせるべ。
5. くぼまさとし: OK。んじゃそういうことで。

ROMANIZATION

1. KUBO MASATOSHI: Koshiba, shigoto owattara meido bā ni ikanai?
2. KOSHIBA KŌJI: O, ii jan! Iku be!

CONT'D OVER

3. KUBO Jā, nanji ni shigoto owaraseru?
MASATOSHI:
4. KOSHIBA KŌJI: Nja, 8 ji made ni owaraseru be.
5. KUBO OK. Nja sō iu koto de.
MASATOSHI:

ENGLISH

1. KUBO After work, why don't we go to a maid bar?
MASATOSHI:
2. KOSHIBA KŌJI: Good idea! Let's go!
3. KUBO Okay, what time should I finish up work?
MASATOSHI:
4. KOSHIBA KŌJI: Umm. You should finish up at 8 o'clock.
5. KUBO Okay. I'll do it like that.
MASATOSHI:

VOCABULARY

Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English
メイドバー	メイドバー	meido bā	maid bar
終わらせる	おわらせる	owaraseru	to get done with

GRAMMAR

(i)--じゃん (--jan)

Jan is a sound contraction for "*ja nai ka*" or "*ja nai no*," which is a phrase that functions like an English tag question. "*Ja nai ka*" or "*ja nai no*" can be used to seek agreement, to inquire about something one is unsure of, or sometimes solely for effect. *Jan* is used at the end of a sentence like "*Ja nai ka*" or "*ja nai no*." Please note, this is slangy and shouldn't be used in formal situations (it most likely will never show up in text books or dictionaries).

じゃん (*jan*) of いいじゃん (*ii jan*) in today's dialog is used just for effect, so it is said in flat intonation. When you want to use じゃん (*jan*) to seek agreement or to inquire about something, you use a rising intonation.

Examples:

去年の夏、海に行ったじゃん。(↑) あれ、楽しかったよな。

Kyonen no natsu, umi ni itta jan(↑). Are, tanoshikatta yo na.

We went to the beach last summer, didn't we. That was a lot of fun.

(* *Jan* is used to seek agreement.)

「去年の夏はどこも行かなかったな。」「えー、海に行ったじゃん。(→/↓)」

"Kyonen no natsu wa doko mo ikanakatta na." "E, umi ni itta jan.(→/↓)"

"We didn't go anywhere last summer." "We went to the sea, didn't we?"

(* *Jan* is used solely for effect, but if you say it in a falling intonation, it can imply your criticism or complaining.)

(ii) --べ (--be)

べ(*be*) is a sentence ending particle to make the sentence soliciting someone to do something. べ(*be*) is originally from dialects in the Kanto or Tohoku area of Japan. It is roughly equivalent to the volitional. It is used by young male speakers in their casual conversations, and has a softer tone than the standard volitional. (Keep in mind, this too is not standard Japanese and probably won't find its way into a textbook or Japanese-English dictionary).

Formation:

Verb. plain non-past + べ(*be*)

食べるべ : *taberu be*: let's eat

Examples:

そろそろ寝るべ。

Sorosoro neru be.

It's time to go to bed now.

さあ、飲むべ。

Sā, nomu be.
Let's drink.

(iii) そういうことで(*sō iu koto de*)

"*Sō iu koto de*" is a set phrase used when you have finally decided on doing something which was just discussed. It means something like "let's do so" in English. In the case of today's dialog, *sō* demonstrates the conclusion of their conversation, which is that they will finish their work by 8 o'clock and go to the maid bar. Grammatically, *de* is considered to be the *te*-form of *da*.

If you need to make sure of the conclusion or agreement after talking with somebody, you can repeat the contents of the conclusion again, without using *sō*. In that case, you can use the structure of "--- *to iu koto de*." "*To iu*" is the combination of the quote marker *to* and *iu* which means "call" or "say." What you agree with somebody is quoted before "*to iu koto de*." For example, in the case of today's dialog, you could say that "*8 ji made ni owaraseru to iu koto de*."

So, this expression is used at the end of the conversation together with *ja* or *sore de wa* which means "then."

Examples:

じゃ、学校で待ち合わせということで。
Ja, gakkō de machiawase to iu koto de.
Then, let's meet up at school.

それでは、次の会議は来週の水曜日ということで。
Sore de wa, tugi no kaigi wa raishū no suiyōbi to iu koto de.
Then, the next meeting is going to be next Wednesday.