

LESSON NOTES

Beginner S5 #9

Why Is That Japanese Phone Ringing off the Hook?

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KANJI

1. メッセージ: ただいま、電話に出ることができません。
 発信音の後に、メッセージをお願いします。
 (ピー)
2. 下山 新: おかしいなあ……。一週間 ずっと 留守電。……。会社につけよう。
3. (リンリンリン)
4. 受付: 101テレビです。
5. 下山 新: 下山と申しますが、遠井さん、いらっしゃいますか。
6. 受付: 遠井ですか？ただいま、外出中です。
 12時位にもどると言っていました。
7. 下山 新: そうですか。じゃ 下山から 電話があったと伝えてください。
8. 受付: かしこまりました。
9. 下山 新: あ、すみません。それから 電話が欲しいと伝えてください。
10. 受付: かしこまりました。

KANA

1. メッセージ: ただいま、でんわに できることができません。
 はっしんおんのあとに、メッセージをおねがいします。
 (ピー)

CONT'D OVER

2. しもやましん: おかしいなあ……。いっしゅうかんずっとるすでん。……。かいしゃにかけよう。
3. (リンリンリン)
4. うけつけ: いちまるいちテレビです。
5. しもやましん: しもやまともうしますが、とおいさん、いらっしゃいますか。
6. うけつけ: とおいですか？ただいま、がいしゅつちゅうです。じゅうじにくらいにもどるといっていました。
7. しもやましん: そうですか。じゃしもやまからでんわがあったとつたえてください。
8. うけつけ: かしこまりました。
9. しもやましん: あ、すみません。それからでんわがほしいとつたえてください。
10. うけつけ: かしこまりました。

ROMANIZATION

1. MESSĒJI: Tadaima, denwa ni deru koto ga dekimasen. Hasshin'on no ato ni, messēji o onegai shimasu.
(Pī)
2. SHIMOYAMA SHIN: okashiinaa.... isshuukan zutto rusuden.... kaisha ni kekeyou.
3. (rinrinrin)

CONT'D OVER

4. UKETSUKE: Ichi-maru-Ichi terebi desu.
5. SHIMOYAMA SHIN: Shomoyama to mōshimasu ga, Tōi-san, irasshaimasu ka.
6. UKETSUKE: Tōi desu ka? Tadaima, gaishutsuchū desu.
Jūni-ji kurai ni modoru to itteimashita.
7. SHIMOYAMA SHIN: Sō desu ka. Ja Shimoyama kara denwa ga atta to tsutaete kudasai.
8. UKETSUKE: Kashikomarimashita.
9. SHIMOYAMA SHIN: A, sumimasen. Sorekara denwa ga hoshii to tsutae tekudasai.
10. UKETSUKE: Kashikomarimashita.

ENGLISH

1. MESSAGE: I can't answer the phone right now.
Please leave a message after the beep.
2. SHIN SHIMOYAMA: That's strange... This whole week I've been getting only the answering machine. Let me try her office.
3. (ring ring)
4. FRONT : Hello, 101 TV.
5. SHIN SHIMOYAMA: My name is Shimoyama. Is Ms. Toi there?

CONT'D OVER

6. FRONT : Toi? She's out of the office at the moment.
She said she'd be back at around twelve.
7. SHIN Really. Okay then, please tell her that there was a phone call from
SHIMOYAMA: Shimoyama.
8. FRONT: Certainly.
9. SHIN Oh, and excuse me, but could you also tell her I'd like a call back?
SHIMOYAMA:
10. FRONT: I certainly will.

VOCABULARY

Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English
電話	でんわ	denwa	telephone, phone call
かしこまりました。	かしこまりました。	Kashikomarimashita	all right, certainly (from clerk to customer)
伝える	つたえる	tsutaeru	to tell, to report, to pass on;V2
もどる	もどる	modoru	to return, to go back;V1
外出	がいしゅつ	gaishutsu	out, going out
いらっしゃいます	いらっしゃいます	irasshaimasu	to be (somewhere), to go, to come;masu form, honorific
申す	もうす	mōsu	(hum) to say, to be called;V1
かける	かける	kakeru	to make a phone call, to dial

ずっと	ずっと	zutto	by far, all along, the whole time
留守電	るすでん	rusuden	answering machine, voice mail (abbr)
おかしい	おかしい	okashii	funny, strange;Adj(i)
発信音	はっしんおん	hasshinon	tone, beep
ただいま	ただいま	tadaima	just now

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>電話をください。 <i>Denwa o kudasai.</i></p> <p>Please call me.</p>	<p>かしこまりました。 <i>Kashikomarimashita.</i></p> <p>Certainly.</p>
<p>田中さんはメッセージを伝えなかった <i>Tanaka-san wa messēji o tsutaenakatta.</i></p> <p>Mr.Tanaka didn't pass on the message.</p>	<p>すぐ、もどります。 <i>Sugu modorimasu.</i></p> <p>I'll be back soon.</p>
<p>父は外出しています。 <i>Chichi wa gaishutsu shite imasu.</i></p> <p>My father has gone out.</p>	<p>田中さんはいらっしゃいますか。 <i>Tanaka-san wa irasshaimasu ka?</i></p> <p>Is Mr. Tanaka there?</p>
<p>水木一男と申します。 <i>Mizuki Kazuo to mōshimasu.</i></p> <p>My name is Kazuo Mizuki.</p>	<p>病院に電話をかけました。 <i>Byōin ni denwa o kakemashita.</i></p> <p>I called the hospital.</p>
<p>僕は、ずっと日本にいたい。 <i>Boku wa zutto nihon ni itai.</i></p> <p>I want to be in Japan forever.</p>	<p>私の留守電を聞きましたか。 <i>Watashino rusuden o kikimashita ka.</i></p> <p>Did you hear my voice mail?</p>
<p>この車はおかしい。 <i>Kono kuruma wa okashii.</i></p> <p>Something's wrong with this car.</p>	<p>発信音の後に、メッセージをどうぞ。 <i>Hasshinon no ato ni messēji o dōzo.</i></p> <p>Please leave a message after the beep.</p>

ただいまより、新郎新婦のご入場です。
Tadaima yori, shinrō shinpu no go-nyūjō desu.

I now present the bride and groom.

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

***Kashikomarimashita* (かしこまりました) "certainly"**

Kashikomaru means "to humble oneself" or "to obey respectfully." *Kashikomarimashita* literally means "I have humbly received your order." We often use this phrase in business situations.

***denwa* (電話) "telephone"**

Both *denwa o kakeru* and *denwa o suru* mean "to make a phone call." The person who receives the phone call is marked by the particle *ni*.

For Example:

1. 下山さんは遠井さんに電話をかけた。
Shimoyama-san wa Tōi-san ni denwa o kaketa.
"Mr. Shimoyama called Ms. Tōi."

***rusuden* (留守電) "answering machine"**

Rusuden is an abbreviation of *rusuban-denwa* (留守番電話).

- *Rusu* (留守) means "being away from home," "absence from home"
- *Ban* (番) means "guard"
- *Denwa* (電話) means "telephone"

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is Useful Expressions for Making a Formal Phone Call.

下山から電話があったと伝えてください。

Shimoyama kara denwa ga atta to tsutaete kudasai.
"Please tell her that there was a phone call from Shimoyama."

In this lesson, you'll learn useful expressions for talking on the phone in a business setting.

How to Identify Yourself on the Phone

1. 下山と申しますが、遠井さん、いらっしゃいますか。
Shimoyama to mōshimasu ga, Tōi-san, irasshaimasu ka.
"This is Shimoyama speaking. Is Ms. Tōi there?"

As you learned in Newbie Series Season 3 Lesson 17, you can introduce your name by putting *to mōshimasu* after your name.

When you want to politely ask whether a person is present, add *wa irasshaimasu ka* after the person's name. *Irassharu* is an honorific way to say *iru*, which means "to exist."

In a formal situation, we recommend that you identify yourself first and then say who you want to talk to. In a business situation, we normally use family names.

Formation

1. "This is (your name)."
[Your name] + *to mōshimasu*.
2. "Is (name) there?"
[The person's name] + *-san* (polite name suffix) + *wa* + *irasshaimasu ka*.

Sample Sentences

1. 田中と申します。東さんは、いらっしゃいますか。
Tanaka to mōshimasu. Higashi-san wa irasshaimasu ka.
"This is Tanaka speaking. Is Mr./Ms. Higashi present?"

In many cases, we insert the conjunction *ga* between these two sentences and omit the particle *wa*.

1. 田中と申しますが、東さん、いらっしゃいますか。
Tanaka to mōshimasu ga Higashi-san irasshaimasu ka.
"This is Tanaka speaking. Is Mr./Ms. Higashi present?"

How to Say that Someone Is out

遠井ですか? ただいま、外出中です。

Tōi desu ka? Tadaima, gaishutsuchū desu.

"Toi? She's out of the office at the moment."

In a business situation, you are not supposed to put any polite name suffix (-*san* or -*kun*) or title after the name of your colleagues or bosses. The people who you work with at the same company are considered people in your in group, so to show respect to someone outside of the in group (a caller, in this case), you should omit the polite name suffix or title.

● ただいま [*tadaima*]

Tadaima basically means *ima*, meaning "now," but *tadaima* has a more formal connotation.

● 外出中 [*gaishutsu-chū*]

When we attach the suffix -*chū* to a noun that indicates action, it means "in the middle of something," "in a certain state," "during," or "while."

For Example:

1. 勉強 [*benkyō*] → 勉強中 [*benkyō-chū*]
"in the middle of studying"
2. 仕事 [*shigoto*] → 仕事 中 [*shigoto-chū*]
"in the middle of working"

How to Leave a Message

Formation

- [person] に [message you want passed on] と伝えてください。
[person] *ni* [message you want passed on] *to tsutaete kudasai*.
"Please tell [person] that [message you want passed on]."

Tsutaeru means "to pass on" or "to tell," so *tsutaete kudasai* means "please pass on (the message)." We use the particle *ni* to mark the person that the message should be passed on to. You can also leave a message by using (message) *to ittekudasai* instead.

Sample Sentences

1. メールを待っていると伝えてください。
Mēru o matteiru to tsutaetekudasai.
"Please tell him/her that I'm waiting for his/her e-mail."
2. お母さんによろしくと伝えてください。
O-kā-san ni yoroshiku to tsutaete kudasai.
"Please give my best regards to your mother."

Reference

Please also review the following grammar points.

- [Verb] + *koto ga dekiru* ⇒ Beginner Series Season 4 Lesson 42
- [Noun] + *no ato* ⇒ Beginner Series Season 5 Lesson 2
- Verb conjugation; volitional form ⇒ Beginner Series Season 4 Lesson 33
- Reported speech; *to itteimashita* ⇒ Beginner Series Season 4 Lesson 46