

LESSON NOTES

Upper Beginner S1 #18

Be Careful Which Train You Get On in Japan

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18

KANJI

1. アナウンス: ドアが閉まります。ご注意ください。
駆け込み乗車は危ないですからおやめください。
2. 客 (男): あー、待って、待って！
(The doors close)
3. 客 (男): ふー。ぎりぎりセーフ！
(…あれ？何でみんな俺のことを見てるんだ？)
4. アナウンス: ただいまの時間、一番前の車両は女性専用車両になっておりますので、ご協力お願いいたします。
5. 客 (男): (おおお！しまった！そうか、ここは女性専用だ…。
だから、みんな俺を見ているんだー。)
6. アナウンス: 次は赤坂、赤坂。お出口は右側です。
7. 客 (男): 失礼しましたー。

KANA

1. アナウンス: ドアがしまります。ごちゅういください。
かけこみじょうしゃはあぶないですからおやめください。
2. きゃく (おとこ): あー、まって、まって！
(The doors close)
3. きゃく (おとこ): ふー。ぎりぎりセーフ！
(…あれ？なんでみんなおれのことをみてるんだ？)

CONT'D OVER

4. アナウンス: ただいまのじかん、いちばんまえのしゃりょうはじょせいせんようしゃりょうになっておりますので、ごきょうりょくおねがいいたします。
5. きゃく (おとこ): (おおお!しまった!そうか、ここはじょせいせんようだ…。だから、みんなおれをみているんだー。)
6. アナウンス: つぎはあかさか、あかさか。おでぐちはみぎがわです。
7. きゃく (おとこ): しつれいしましたー。

ROMANIZATION

1. ANAUNSU: Doa ga shimarimasu. Go-chūi kudasai.
Kakekomi jōsha wa abunai desu kara o-yame kudasai.
2. KYAKU (OTOKO): Ā, matte, matte!
(The doors close)
3. KYAKU (OTOKO): Fū. Girigiri sēfu!
(... Are? Nan de minna ore no koto o miteru n da?)
4. ANAUNSU: Tadaima no jikan, ichi-ban mae no sharyō wa josei senyō sharyō ni natte orimasu no de, go-kyōryoku onegai itashimasu.
5. KYAKU (OTOKO): (Ō! Shimatta! Sōka, koko wa josei senyō da...
Dakara, minna ore o mite iru n dā.)
6. ANAUNSU: Tsugi wa Akasaka, Akasaka. O-deguchi wa migigawa desu.
7. KYAKU (OTOKO): Shitsurei shimashitā.

ENGLISH

CONT'D OVER

1. ANNOUNCEMENT: The doors are closing. Please take care.
T: Running for the train is dangerous, so please do not do it.
2. PASSENGER (MAN): Ahh, wait, wait!
(The doors close)
3. PASSENGER (MAN): Whew. Just made it!
(Huh? Why is everyone looking at me?)
4. ANNOUNCEMENT: At the present time, the first carriage is operating as a women-only carriage. We kindly ask for your cooperation.
5. PASSENGER (MAN): (Ohhh! Damn it! This is the women-only carriage, is it? So that's why everyone's looking at me!)
6. ANNOUNCEMENT: The next station is Akasaka, Akasaka. The exit is on the right-hand side.
7. PASSENGER (MAN): Pardon me!

VOCABULARY

Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English
乗車	じょうしゃ	jōsha	boarding a form of transportation
やめる	やめる	yameru	to quit, to end, to stop; V2
ぎりぎり	ぎりぎり	girigiri	barely, at the last moment
駆け込み	かけこみ	kakekomi	last-minute rush, stampede
車両	しゃりょう	sharyō	railway car, railway vehicle

しまった！	しまった！	Shimatta!	Oh, no!, Oops!
閉まる	しまる	shimaru	to close, to be shut; V1
右側	みぎがわ	migi gawa	(the) right side
女性	じょせい	josei	woman, female
専用	せんよう	sen'yō	exclusive use

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>ご乗車ありがとうございます。 <i>Go-jōsha arigatō gozaimasu.</i></p> <p>Welcome aboard.</p>	<p>やめて。 <i>Yamete.</i></p> <p>Stop it!</p>
<p>ぎりぎりテストに合格した。 <i>Girigiri tesuto ni gōkaku shita.</i></p> <p>I just barely passed the test.</p>	<p>駆け込み乗車禁止。 <i>Kakekomijōsha kinshi.</i></p> <p>Don't run to catch the train.</p>
<p>一番後ろの車両に乗って、車掌さんを見るのが好きだ。 <i>Ichi-ban ushiro no sharyō ni notte shashō-san o miru no ga suki da.</i></p> <p>I love watching the conductor when I ride in the last train car.</p>	<p>しまった！財布を忘れた！ <i>Shimatta! Saifu o wasureta!</i></p> <p>Shoot! I forgot my wallet.</p>
<p>ドアが閉まった。 <i>Doa ga shimatta.</i></p> <p>The door closed.</p>	<p>右側に見えるのは、東京タワーです。 <i>Migigawa ni mieru no wa Tōkyō Tawā desu.</i></p> <p>What you see on your right side is Tokyo Tower.</p>
<p>男性より女性のほうが長く生きる。 <i>Dansei yori jousei no hō ga nagaku ikiru.</i></p> <p>Women live longer than men.</p>	<p>この道はせまいので、歩行者専用です。 <i>Kono michi wa semai no de, hokōsha senyō desu.</i></p> <p>This street is narrow, so it's exclusively for pedestrians.</p>

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

駆け込み乗車 (*kakekomi jōsha*) "dashing for a train or bus"

The first part of this phrase, *kakekomi*, is the *masu* stem of the verb *kakekomu*, meaning "to run in" or "to stampede." *Jōsha* means "taking a train or a bus." Because *kakekomi jōsha* may cause a serious accident, you'll always hear announcements similar to the one in this lesson's dialogue at stations.

ぎりぎりセーフ (*girigiri sēfu*) "just safe," "barely OK"

This highly colloquial expression is made up of the Japanese word *girigiri*, meaning "barely," and the English word "safe" or *sēfu*. We use this expression when someone barely makes something (as in a deadline, etc.).

女性専用車両 (*josei senyō sharyō*) "women-only passenger car"

This compound word consists of three words: *josei*, meaning "women," *senyō*, meaning "exclusive use," and *sharyō*, meaning "car." You can find more information about *jōsei senyō sharyō*, or "women-only passenger cars," in the Cultural Insight section.

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is Listening to an Announcement at a Station and on a Train.

ドアが閉まります。

Doa ga shimarimasu.

"The doors are closing."

When announcing that something will open or close (as in a door), intransitive verbs are usually preferred. In this lesson, you'll review how to use intransitive verbs.

Transitive Verbs and Intransitive Verbs

Generally speaking, we use transitive verbs to describe intentional actions, and they focus on activities, whereas we use intransitive verbs to describe natural occurrences, and they focus on results and changes.

For Example:

1. わたしはドアをしめる。
Watashi wa doa o shimeru.
"I will close the door."
2. ドアがしまる。
Doa ga shimaru.
"The door will close."

The verb in sentence 1, *shimeru* ("to close"), is a transitive verb. The subject (in this case, "I") will intentionally close the door. Please notice that the subject, *watashi*, is marked by the particle *wa* and the object, *doa*, "door," is marked by the particle *o*.

The verb in sentence 2, *shimaru* ("to close"), is an intransitive verb. In this sentence, the one who opens the door is not mentioned, and it sounds like the action happened naturally and was beyond one's control. Please notice that the subject, *doa*, or "door," was marked by the particle *ga*.

Vocabulary List

Transitive Verbs (を + verb)		Intransitive Verbs (が + verb)	
あける <i>akeru</i>	"to open something"	あく <i>aku</i>	"something opens"
しめる <i>shimeru</i>	"to close something"	しまる <i>shimaru</i>	"something closes"

In an announcement, we usually use an intransitive verb to inform a customer that something is going to open or close. If we use a transitive verb, it may sound like the speaker, company, or organization will do the action intentionally, which would inconvenience the customer and therefore may sound arrogant. To avoid sounding arrogant, the speaker tends to use intransitive verbs as if the action takes place naturally.

Sample Sentences

(Transitive verb)

- 朝、起きて、窓をあけます。
Asa, okite, mado o akemasu.
"I wake up in the morning and open the window."
- 夜、寝る前に、窓をしめます。
Yoru, neru mae ni, mado o shimemasu.
"I close the window before I go to bed in the evening."

(Intransitive verb)

1. **右側のドアがあ**きます。
*Migi-gawa no doa **ga akimasu.***
"The door on the right side will open."
2. **間もなく、ドアがしま**ります。
*Ma mo naku, doa **ga shimarimasu.***
"The door will close shortly."

Hiraku and Tojiru

There is another set of verbs meaning "to open" and "to close," which are *hiraku* and *tojiru*, respectively. Please note that both *hiraku* and *tojiru* become both transitive and intransitive verbs.

(Transitive verb)

1. **私はドアをひら**きます。
*Watashi wa doa **o hirakimasu.***
"I'll open the door."
2. **私はドアをとじ**ます。
*Watashi wa doa **o tojimasu.***
"I'll close the door."

(Intransitive verb)

1. **ドアがひら**きます。
*Doa **ga hirakimasu.***
"The door will open."
2. **ドアがとじ**ます。
*Doa **ga tojimasu.***
"The door will close."

Reference

Please also review the following Grammar Points.

- Transitive verbs and intransitive verbs ⇒ Beginner Season 5 Lesson 18

- *O/go---kudasai* ⇒ Lessons 3, 6
- *---Ni natte orimasu* ⇒ Lesson 10

CULTURAL INSIGHT

What Is a *Jōsei Senyō Sharyō*?

Jōsei senyō sharyō, or a "passenger car for women only," is a service provided by some railway companies in Japan. *Chikan*, or "groping," on the train is a serious social problem in Japan, and the problem is not helped by the fact that trains running in metropolitan areas get extremely crowded during the morning rush hour. The *jōsei senyō sharyō*, or "women-only passenger car," was originally introduced to help protect women and combat this problem.