

LESSON TRANSCRIPT

Japanese for Everyday Life Lower Intermediate S1 #2 Changing Seats in a Japanese Restaurant

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INTRODUCTION

Becky: Hi everyone! Welcome back to JapanesePod101.com. This is Japanese for Everyday Life Lower Intermediate Series, Lesson 2 - Changing Seats in a Japanese Restaurant.

Kaori: こんにちは！古橋香織です！Hi everyone, Kaori Furuhashi here!

Becky: I'm Becky. In this lesson, you'll learn a useful skill for the restaurant: How to request to a seating change.

Kaori: Beckyさん、レストランで、席に案内されたとき、他の席に変えてもらったことはありますか。

Becky: Yes, I often request to change my seat. Usually, I want to sit by the window.

Kaori: そうですね。窓側の席が空いていたら、窓側の席に座りたいですね。

Becky: So, if you see a seat by the window available, and want to sit there, what would you say?

Kaori: そういう時は、「あの窓側の席でもいいですか。」と聞いてみましょう。

Becky: "Would that seat over there by the window be OK?" Furuhashi-sensei, can you repeat it?

Kaori: はい。「あの窓側の席でもいいですか。」

MODEL DIALOG

Becky: Listen to the dialogue and participate when prompted by speaking aloud in Japanese. Use the patterns of Japanese you studied in the Beginner-level lessons. After you speak, you'll hear a model line of dialogue. Your answer does not need to be exactly the same, but do compare your response to the model line.

In this lesson, you will play the role of a customer at a restaurant. Your goal is to request a different seat in the restaurant.

Becky: (You enter a restaurant.)

Restaurant staff: いらっしゃいませ。何名様ですか。

Becky: (The maitre d' asked you how many people are in your group. Answer with "4 people.")

(pause)

Customer: 4人です。

Restaurant staff: 禁煙席と喫煙席、どちらがよろしいですか。

Becky: (The maitre d' asked whether you would like a non-smoking or a smoking seat. Say, "a non-smoking seat, please.")

(pause)

Person A: 禁煙席をお願いします。

Restaurant

staff: はい、では、こちらへどうぞ。

Becky:(You aren't happy with the seat he has shown you. You see another open table by the window. Ask if that seat over there by the window would be okay.

(pause)

Person A:あの窓側の席でもいいですか。

Restaurant staff: はい、大丈夫です。どうぞ。

VOCABULARY AND PHRASES RELATED TO THIS TASK

Becky:Here are some useful words and phrases for this task. The first word is,

Kaori:禁煙席、

Becky:non-smoking seats

Kaori:禁煙席 (slow), 禁煙席

喫煙席

Becky:smoking seats

Kaori:喫煙席(slow), 喫煙席

Kaori:多くのレストランでは、禁煙席と喫煙席が分かれています。ですから、レストランに入るとき、禁煙席と喫煙席、どちらがよいか聞かれますよ。

Becky:Right. Many restaurants separate smoking from non-smoking seats, so, when you first enter, you will be asked whether you would like a non-smoking seat (J:禁煙席) or a smoking seat (J:喫煙席)

Becky:The next one is,

Kaori:窓側の席

Becky:a seat by the window

Kaori:窓

Becky>window

Kaori:側

Becky:beside

Kaori:窓側

Becky:beside the window

Kaori:窓側 (slow), 窓側

Kaori:窓側の席

Becky:a seat by the window

Kaori:レストランでは、窓側の席は、人気がありますよね。

Becky:That's right, seats by the window really are popular at restaurants. Also, especially in Japan, people often like to get a seat in the back of a restaurant.

Kaori:奥の席

Becky:a seat in the

back

Kaori:奥

Becky:back

Kaori:奥 (slow), 奥

Kaori:奥の席

Becky:a seat in the back

Becky:Okay, what are some other kinds of restaurant seats?

Kaori:カウンター席

Becky:a seat at the counter

Kaori:カウンター席(slow)、カウンター席

Kaori:テーブル席

Becky:a seat at a table

Kaori:テーブル席, テーブル席

Kaori:「カウンターの席」ではなくて、「テーブルの席」という意味でつかわれます。

Becky:Right, this expression for table seat is used in cases when you want to clearly specify a seat that is not at the counter.

Kaori:ソファ席

Becky:a sofa seat.

Kaori:ソファ席、ソファ席

Becky:These are not so common at restaurants, but bars often have sofa seats.

Kaori:そうですね。バーには、よく、ソファ席がありますよね。

Becky:Some Japanese restaurants have tatami rooms. The word for a seat in a tatami room is,

Kaori:座敷席

Kaori:座敷

Becky:tatami mat room

Kaori:座敷席

Becky:a seat in a tatami mat room

Kaori:座敷席 (slow), 座敷席

Kaori:居酒屋(Becky: Japanese style pub) には、よく、この座敷席がありますよ。

Becky:Right, tatami room seats are common in izakaya. Lastly, if you don't know what to call a seat in Japanese, you can use the word meaning "that place" you see over there.

Kaori:あそこ、あそこ (slow)、あそこ

Becky:You can use this handy word while pointing at a particular place. Kaori:そうですね、指でさしながら、「あそこ」と言いましょう。

LESSON FOCUS

Becky:Now, this task requires a key question, "Would that seat over there by the window be OK?"

Kaori:あの窓側の席でもいいですか。

Becky:The first part of this sentence is the phrase "That seat over there by the window."

Kaori:あの窓側の席

Becky:It may be helpful to make some gesture when saying this.

Kaori:「窓側の席」を指で指しながら、「あの窓側の席」と言いましょう。

Becky:While you point with a finger at a seat by the window, say (J: あの窓側の席) .

Becky:Next is a phrase meaning "would [something] be okay?"

Kaori:でもいいですか。

Becky:Together, they make the question, "Would that seat over there by the window be okay?"

Kaori:あの窓側の席でもいいですか。

Becky:The structure to ask whether something is okay, then, is

Kaori:「名詞 または名詞句(Becky: noun or noun phrase) + でも いいですか」これは、許可をもらうときによく使います。

Becky:Yes, you can often use this to get permission.

Becky: Imagine that, instead of a window seat, you see an available sofa seat. Ask if that sofa seat (J: ソファ席) over there would be OK.

Kaori:あのソファ席でもいいですか。

Becky:Next, ask if a counter seat (J: カウンター席) over there would be OK.
(pause)

Kaori:あのカウンター席でもいいですか。

Becky:Now, you are pointing at a seat. Ask if that place over there would be OK?

Kaori:あそこでもいいですか。

Becky:Would that place be OK?

TIP

Becky:Now, another way of asking the question, (J:あの窓側の席でもいいですか。) is

Kaori:あの窓側の席に座ってもいいですか。

Becky:Would it be OK to sit at that seat over there by the window?

Kaori:あの窓側の席に座ってもいいですか。

Becky:This sentence uses the verb for "to sit" and so places more emphasis on the action of sitting. The structure for asking if it would be OK to do something is,

Kaori:動詞のte-form (Becky: te-form of a verb) + も いいですか。

Becky:When you use a verb in this structure, you need to use the "te-form", like (J: 座って) which is the te-form of a verb meaning "to sit" (J: 座る).

Kaori:あの窓側の席に座ってもいいですか。

Becky:This structure (J: てもいいですか) can be used in any number of situations where you need to ask if it's alright to do something. For example, when you're not sure where to pay at a restaurant, but want to see if you can pay at the table, you can ask "Would it be OK to pay here?"

Kaori:ここで支払ってもいいですか。

PRACTICE OF DIALOG

Becky:Now try to participate in the dialogue using some alternative words you learned in this lesson. This time you will play the role of a person who wants a seat in the back (J: 奥の席) of a restaurant. Use as many of the expressions you learned in this lesson as possible. Let's get started!

Becky:(You enter a restaurant.)

Restaurant staff: いらっしゃいませ。何名様ですか。

Becky:(The maitre d' asked you how many people are in your group. Answer with "4 people.")

(Person A: pause)

Model : 4人です。v

Restaurant staff: 禁煙席と喫煙席、どちらがよろしいですか。

Becky:(The maitre d' asked whether you would like a non-smoking or a smoking seats. Say, "a smoking seat, please.")

(Person A: pause)

Model : 喫煙席をお願いします。

Restaurant staff: はい、では、こちらへどうぞ。

Becky:(You're not happy with the table you were shown to. Ask if you can sit at another seat over there in the back.)

(Person A: pause)

Model: あの奥の席でもいいですか。

Restaurant staff: はい、大丈夫です。どうぞ。

Becky:How did you do? There are actually a large number of variations you can use in this situation. Make sure to look for them in the lesson notes.

OUTRO

Becky:Okay, That's all for this lesson.

Kaori: レストランで、席を変えてもらったことはありますか。コメント欄で教えてくださいね。

Becky: In the next lesson, you'll learn how to order a pizza delivery over the phone.

Kaori: それではまた！

Becky: See you all next time!