

LESSON NOTES

Lower Intermediate #41 Happily Married?

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KANJI

1. 妻: そろそろ結婚式のシーズンね。
2. 夫: そうだな。もう久しく結婚式なんて行ってないな。
3. 妻: あなたのお友達に独身はいっぱいいるのにねえ。全然その兆候すらないわね。
4. 夫: 独身時代が長すぎて、今さら、結婚に踏み切れないんじゃないかな。
5. 妻: 結婚に踏み切るって、そんなに勇気がいることなの？
6. 夫: うーん、周りの既婚者たちの悲哀を見過ぎたんじゃないか。何事も知りすぎるとよくない面が目に付くからね。
7. 妻: それって、どういうこと？周りの既婚者って、あなたのことじゃない！！

KANA

1. つま: そろそろけっこんしきのシーズンね。
2. おっと: そうだな。もうひさしくけっこんしきなんて行ってないな。
3. つま: あなたのおともだちにどくしんはいっぱいいるのにねえ。ぜんぜんそのちょうこうすらないわね。
4. おっと: どくしんじだいがながすぎて、いまさら、けっこんにふみきれないんじゃないかな。

CONT'D OVER

5. つま: けっこんにふみきるって、そんなにゆうきがあることなの？
6. おっと: うーん、まわりのきこんしゃたちのひあいをみすぎたんじゃないか。なにごともしりすぎるとよくないめんがめにつくからね。
7. つま: それって、どういうこと？まわりのきこんしゃって、あなたのことじゃない！！

ROMANIZATION

1. TSUMA: Sorosoro kekkonshiki no shizun ne.
2. OTTO: Sō da na. Mō hisashiku kekkonshiki nante itte nai na.
3. TSUMA: Anata no o-tomodachi ni dokushin wa ippai iru noni nē. Zenzen sono chōkō sura nai wa ne.
4. OTTO: Dokushin jidai ga nagasugite, ima sara, kekkon ni fumi kirenai n ja nai ka na.
5. TSUMA: Kekkō ni fumi kiru tte, sonnani yūki ga iru koto na no?
6. OTTO: Ūn, mawari no kikonsha-tachi no hiai o mi sugita n ja nai ka. Nani goto mo shiri sugiru to yokunai men ga me ni tsuku kara ne.
7. TSUMA: Sore tte, dō iu koto? Mawari no kikonsha tte, anata no koto ja nai!

ENGLISH

1. WIFE: It's almost wedding season, isn't it?

CONT'D OVER

2. HUSBAND: I guess so. We haven't been to a wedding in a while, have we?
3. WIFE: Yes, despite the fact that you have many single friends. They show no signs of getting married.
4. HUSBAND: They've been bachelors for so long, that they probably can't make the jump into marriage anymore.
5. WIFE: Do you need that much courage to make the jump into marriage?
6. HUSBAND: Well, they've probably seen too much grieving by the married people around them. Whenever you learn too much about something, you start to focus on the negatives.
7. WIFE: What's that supposed to mean? The term "married people around your friends" refers to you!

VOCABULARY

Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English
久しく	ひさしく	hisashiku	for a long time
面	めん	men	aspect
何事	なにごと	nanigoto	what, something, everything
悲哀	ひあい	hiai	sorrow, grief
既婚者	きこんしゃ	kikonsha	married person
周り	まわり	mawari	surroundings
勇氣	ゆうき	yūki	courage
踏み切る	ふみきる	fumikiru	to make a bold start
兆候	ちょうこう	chōkō	sign, indication
独身	どくしん	dokushin	single, unmarried

GRAMMAR

(i) --す ら (--sura)

Sura is an emphatic particle which expresses the idea of "even" in non-conditional clauses (or sentences). Usually *sura* follows noun or "noun + particles such as *de*, or *ni*."

Formation:

* Noun + *sura*

先生すら *sensei sura*; even a teacher

* Noun + *de sura*

こんなちいさな町ですら; *konna chiisana machi de sura*; even in such a small town

* Noun + *ni sura*

親にすら *oya ni sura*; even to parents

Examples:

彼は私の誕生日に電話すらくれない。

Kare wa watashi no tanjōbi ni denwa sura kurenai.

He doesn't give me even a call on my birthday.

公園ですらキャッチボールができない。

Kōen de sura kyacchibōru ga dekinai.

Playing catch is not allowed even in the park.

It is very similar to *sae*, but *sura* can not be used in replace of *sae* which is used in conditional clauses. It's because *sae* expresses the idea of "only" in conditional clauses.

あんな失敗さえしなければ、優勝していたのに。。。。

Anna shippai sae shinakereba, yūshō shite ita noni...

I could have won the tournament if we hadn't made such a fault.

×あんな失敗すらしなければ優勝していたのに。。。。

×*Anna shippai sura shinakereba, yūshō shite ita noni...*

(ii) --すぎ る (--sugiru)

Sugiru is a verb that means "to exceed/surpass". When it is used as an auxiliary verb,

suffixing to the *-masu* stems of verbs and the stems of adjectives, it implies that something has been done to excess, or that something has the quality of being greater than is desired.

The resulting "*-sugiru*" compound is conjugated as a class 1 verb. The *-masu* stem of the "*-sugiru*" compound is itself a noun. "*--sugiru*" and "*~--sugi desu*" express the same idea.

Formation:

*Verb *.masu*-stem + *sugiru/sugi desu*

食べる→食べすぎる; *tabe-sugiru*; to eat too much

食べる→食べすぎです; *tabe-sugi desu*; to eat too much

*Adjective-stem + *sugiru/sugi desu*

多い *ōi*→多すぎる *ō-sugiru*; too many

多い *ōi*→多すぎです *ō-sugi desu*; too many

Examples:

昨日飲みすぎて頭がいたい。

Kinō nomisugite atama ga itai.

I have a headache because I drank too much last night.

あのボールは速過ぎて打てない。

Ano bōru wa hayasugite utenai.

I can't hit that fast ball.