

## LESSON NOTES

# Lower Intermediate #42 e-Love Letters

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# 42

## KANJI

1. みずほ: もう、聞いて聞いてよ。2週間も前にコウジに手紙を書いたのに、なかなか返事が来ないのよ。
2. しほ: 今時、手紙を書くなんて古典的ね。今はメールよ。メール。
3. みずほ: メールは確かに早いし便利だけど・・・なんて言うか、気持ちとかがなかなか伝わらないじゃない。
4. しほ: あんた達、もうつきあってかなり長いじゃないの。いまさら、相手の気持ちがどうのこうのなんて・・・あんた、見かけによらずロマンスだねえ。
5. みずほ: 直筆を読むと、メールより気持ちが伝わってくるから嬉しいじゃない。
6. しほ: 確かにそうだけど。やっぱり面倒くさいわ。メールでいいわよ。
7. みずほ: うるさいわねー。私はコウジの直筆じゃないと嫌なの！

## KANA

1. みずほ: もう、きいてきいてよ。にしゅうかんもまえにコウジにてがみをかいたのに、なかなかへんじがこないのよ。
2. しほ: いまどき、てがみをかくなんてこてんてきね。いまはメールよ。メール。
3. みずほ: メールはたしかにはやいしべんりだけど・・・なんていうか、きもちとかがなかなかつたわらないじゃない。

CONT'D OVER

4. しほ: あんたたち、もうつきあってかなりながいじゃないの。いまさら、あいてのきもちがどうのこうのなんて・・・あんた、みかけによらずロマンチストねえ。
5. みずほ: じきひつをよむと、メールよりきもちがつたわってくるからうれしいじゃない。
6. しほ: たしかにそうだけど。やっぱりめんどうくさいわ。メールでいいわよ。
7. みずほ: うるさいわねー。わたしはコウジのじきひつじゃないといやなの！

## ROMANIZATION

1. MIZUHO: Mō, kiite kiite yo. 2 shūkan mo mae ni Kōji ni tegami o kaita noni, nakanaka henji ga konai no yo.
2. SHIHO: Ima doki, tegami o kaku nante kotenteki ne. Ima wa mēru yo. Mēru.
3. MIZUHO: Mēru wa tashika ni hayai shi benri da kedo... Nan te iu ka, kimochi toka ga nakanaka tsutawaranai ja nai.
4. SHIHO: Anta-tachi, mō tsukiatte kanari nagai ja nai no. Ima sara, aite no kimochi ga dō no kō no nante... Anta, mikake ni yorazu romanchisuto nē.
5. MIZUHO: Jikihitsu o yomu to, mēru yori kimochi ga tsutawatte kuru kara ureshii ja nai.
6. SHIHO: Tashika ni sō da kedo. Yappari mendō kusai wa. Mēru de ii wa yo.
7. MIZUHO: Urusai wa nē. Watashi wa Kōji no jikihitsu ja nai to iya na no!

## ENGLISH

CONT'D OVER

1. MIZUHO: Listen, listen. I wrote to Koji two weeks ago and he hasn't written back as much as I expected.
2. SHIHO: Wow. How conservative of you to write letters in this day and age. E-mail is the way to go now. E-mail!
3. MIZUHO: I admit, e-mail is fast and convenient... But you know, you can't really express how you're feeling.
4. SHIHO: Haven't you and Koji been dating for a long time? What do you mean; you can't express your feelings? You're a romantic, aren't you, despite appearances.
5. MIZUHO: I like it because when I read handwritten letters, I feel that more emotion comes through compared with e-mail.
6. SHIHO: You're right. But it's still a pain in the neck. I'll keep using e-mail.
7. MIZUHO: Oh shut up. I won't accept anything but Koji's hand-written letters!

## VOCABULARY

Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English
今時	いまだき	imadoki	present day
直筆	じきひつ	jikihitsu	one's own handwriting
ロマンチスト	ロマンチスト	romanchisuto	romanticist
見かけ	みかけ	mikake	outward appearance
付き合う	つきあう	tsukiau	to keep company with, to go out with; V1
伝わる	つたわる	tsutawaru	to be handed down

便利	べんり	benri	convenient, handy
確か	たしか	tashika	certain, sure
古典的	こてんてき	kotenteki	classical
面倒くさい	めんどくさい	mendokusai	pain, bother

## SAMPLE SENTENCES

ちょっと、買い物に付き合って。

*Chotto, kaimono ni tsukiatte.*

Will you go shopping with me?

## GRAMMAR

### (i) なかなか---ない(*nakanaka ---nai*)

*Nakanaka* is the adverb which expresses the state or degree of something is more than expected. When it is used in the negative sentence as in the case of today's dialog, it means something doesn't happen as expected or easily. *Nakanaka* can be used in the positive sentence (see the last example).

#### Examples:

食べる量を減らしてもなかなか体重は減らない。

*Taberu ryō o herashite mo nakanaka taijū wa heranai.*

Even if I eat less food, I can't lose as much weight as I want.

ねこは、なかなか人にはなつかない。

*Neko wa, nakanaka hito ni wa natsukanai.*

Cats don't get attached to people so easily.

君の挨拶は、なかなか立派だったよ。

*Kimi no aisatsu wa, nakanaka rippa datta yo.*

Your speech was quite good.

### (ii) どうのこうの(*dō no kō no*)

*Dō no kō no* is a set phrase which is used to say things such as complaints or utterances of dissatisfaction. So, it is often used with the verb *iu* as in "*dō no kō no iu.*" But even if it is

used without the verb *iu*, like the sentence in today's dialog, 相手の気持ちがどうのこうのなんて (*aite no kimochi ga dō no kō no nante*), it can imply "say various things."

Some similar expressions: *dō kō*, *tsubekobe* or *toyakaku*. *Dō kō* can be used in the same way as *dō no kō no*, but the other two phrases are always used with verbs like *iu*.

### Examples:

言葉の使い方がどうのこうの(どうこう)より、内容が重要だ。  
*Kotoba no tsukaikata ga dō no kō no (dō kō) yori, naiyō ga jūyō da.*  
The contents are more important than fussing over writing style.

宿題なんだから、どうのこうの言わずにやりなさい。  
*Syukudai na n da kara, dō no kō no iwazu ni yarinasai.*  
You should just do it without complaining, since it is your homework.

つべこべ言っていないで、さっさとやりなさい。  
*Tsubekobe itte nai de, sassa to yarinasai.*  
Quit your complaining, and get to work now.

母は僕のやることにとやかく文句を言う。  
*Haha wa boku no yaru koto ni toyakaku monku o iu.*  
Mother always complains about what I'm doing.

(iii) 確かに (*tashika ni*) and 確か (*tashika*) 確か (*tashika*) have two different usages, which are working as (i) a na-adjective and (ii) an adverb.

確かに (*tashika ni*) is the adverbial form of 確かな (*tashika na*; na-adjective), and it means "surely," "certainly" or "definitely." On the other hand, when you want to say something which you are not 100% sure, you can start a sentence with 確か (*tashika*), which is an adverb, to mean "as I recall" or "if I'm correct."

Examples:

昨日の夜、確かに財布をここに置いたのよ。  
*Kinō no yoru, tashika ni o-saifu o koko ni oita no yo.*  
I definitely put my wallet here last night.

確か、昨日の夜、財布をここにおいたと思うんだけど。。。。  
*Tashika, kinō no yoru, o-saifu o koko ni oita to omou n da kedo.*  
If I'm recall, I think I put my wallet here last night...