

LESSON NOTES

Lower Intermediate S2 #15

Party in the 'Burbs! 2

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KANJI

1. ヤスミ: すみません、この電車は小川町に行きますか？
2. 乗客: はい、ですが各駅停車ですよ。小川町に行くなら、急行電車の方が速いですよ。
3. ヤスミ: 急行は川越に止まりますか？
4. 乗客: そう思いますけど。あ、急行はあれですよ！
5. ヤスミ: どうもありがとうございます！
6. 乗客: どういたしまして。
7. ヤスミ: あ、もしもし？
8. ハジメ: おお、ヤスミ。いまどこ？
9. ヤスミ: いま、池袋駅。東武東上線に乗るところ。
10. ハジメ: 早く来なよ！彼女がピザを焼いたところなんだ。超うまそうだよ。

KANA

1. ヤスミ: すみません、このでんしゃはおがわまちにいけますか？
2. じょうきゃく: はい、ですがかくえきていしゃですよ。おがわまちにいくなら、きゅうこうでんしゃのほうがいちやくですよ。
3. ヤスミ: きゅうこうはかわごえにとまりますか？

CONT'D OVER

4. じょうきやく: そうおもいますけど。あ、きゅうこうはあれですよ！
5. ヤスミ: どうもありがとうございます！
6. じょうきやく: どういたしまして。
7. ヤスミ: あ、もしもし？
8. ハジメ: おお、ヤスミ。いまどこ？
9. ヤスミ: いま、いけぶくろえき。とうぶとうじょうせんのにのるところ。
10. ハジメ: はやくきなよ！かのじょがピザをやいたところなんだ。ちょううまそうだよ。

ROMANIZATION

1. YASUMI: Sumimasen, kono densha wa Ogawamachi ni ikimasu ka?
2. JŌKYAKU: Hai, desu ga kakuekiteisha desu yo. Ogawamachi ni iku nara, kyūkō densha no hō ga hayai desu yo.
3. YASUMI: Kyūkō wa Kawagoe ni tomarimasu ka?
4. JŌKYAKU: Sō omoimasu kedo. A, Kyūkō wa are desu yo!
5. YASUMI: Dōmo arigatō gozaimasu!
6. JŌKYAKU: Dō itashimashite.
7. YASUMI: A, moshi moshi?

CONT'D OVER

8. HAJIME: Ō, Yasumi. Ima doko?
9. YASUMI: Ima, Ikebukuro-eki. Tōbu-Tōjō-sen ni noru tokoro.
10. HAJIME: Hayaku kina yo! Kanojo ga piza o yaita tokoro na n da. Chō umasō da yo.

ENGLISH

1. YASUMI: Excuse me. Does this train go to Ogawa-machi?
2. PASSENGER: Yes it does, but this is a local train. If you want to go to Ogawa-machi, an express train will be faster.
3. YASUMI: Does the express train stop at Kawagoe?
4. PASSENGER: I guess so. Oh, that's the express train!
5. YASUMI: Thank you very much.
6. PASSENGER: You're welcome.
7. YASUMI: Hello?
8. HAJIME: Hey, Yasumi. Where are you now?
9. YASUMI: I'm at Ikebukuro Station. I'm about to get on Tobu Tojo Line.
10. HAJIME: Hurry up! My girlfriend just made pizza. It looks so good, dude.

VOCABULARY

Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English
各駅停車	かくえきていしゃ	kakuekiteisha	local (train that stops at every station)
急行	きゅうこう	kyūkō	express (train that bypasses many stations)
焼く	やく	yaku	to bake, to grill
超	ちょう	chō	mighty, super-, hyper
うまい	うまい	umai	delicious
乗客	じょうきゃく	jōkyaku	passenger

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>このイチゴはうまい。 <i>Kono ichigo wa umai.</i></p> <p>These strawberries are delicious.</p>	<p>乗客が飛行機で飛んでいった。 <i>Jōkyaku ga hikōki de tonde itta.</i></p> <p>The passengers flew on the airplane.</p>
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GRAMMAR

Today's grammar point is *なら* (*nara*), which is the hypothetical form of the *da* copula and works as a subordinate conjunction which forms conditional clauses. The clause preceding *なら* (*nara*) expresses the speaker's supposition about the truth of a present or past fact or the actualization of something in the future. So, in English, this roughly corresponds to "if it is true that" or "if that's the case."

As for today's example below, *Yasumi* explained to the passenger that he would go to *Ogawamachi* and then she gave her advice based on that case. The typical usage of *なら* is that it is used to express the speaker's supposition based on what the speaker heard from the listener, as in today's example below.

Today's Example:

小川町に行くなら、急行電車の方が速いですよ。

Ogawa-machi ni iku nara, kyūkō densha no hō ga hayai desu yo.

If you go to *Ogawamachi* (if it's the case that you're going to *Ogawamachi*), it's faster by a express train.

Unlike other conditionals in Japanese (*to*, *tara* and *-ba*), the *nara* conditional does not have a strict "if CONDITION is true, then RESULT takes place" ordering. As you can see in the example below, 遊園地に行く stated in the conditional clause is the event which will take place tomorrow and what is stated in the main clause is about today. So, this is NOT the order of "if CONDITION is true, then RESULT takes place." In this case, *たら*, *ば* or *と* can not be used.

明日遊園地に行くなら、今日のうちに宿題をしなさい。

Ashita yūenchi ni iku nara, kyō no uchi ni shukudai o shinasai.

If you are going to an amusement park, you need to finish your homework by today.

×明日遊園地に行ったら、今日のうちに宿題をしなさい。

×明日遊園地に行くと、今日のうちに宿題をしなさい。

×明日遊園地に行けば、今日のうちに宿題をしなさい。

Formation:

* Verb (informal form) + *nara*

ハワイに行くなら *Hawai ni iku nara*; if one goes to Hawaii

酒を飲むなら *Sake o nomu nara*; if one drinks alcohol

Examples:

北海道に行くなら、カニを買ってきてね。

Hokkaidō ni iku nara, kani o katte kite ne.

If (it's true that) you go to Hokkaido, please buy me some crab.

酒を飲むなら、車で行くな。

Sake o nomu nara, kuruma de iku na.

If (it's the case that) you drink alcohol, you cannot go by car.

明日早く起きてジョギングするなら、もう寝なさい。

Ashita hayaku okite joggingu suru nara, mou nenasai.

If (it's your intention that) you get up early tomorrow morning to go jogging, go to sleep now.