

LESSON NOTES

Upper Intermediate S4 #17 Tell Me How Good You Are in Japanese!

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KANJI

1. 亮（りょう）： 今日、調理実習で、先生にほめられちゃった！
2. 母： ヘー、なんてほめられたの？
3. 亮： キャベツの千切りしてたら、「亮くん、なかなか腕がいいね」って言われた。
4. 母： 最近、日曜日にお昼ご飯を作ってくれるようになってから、料理の腕がメキメキ上がっているものね。
5. 亮： 今晚のご飯は、僕に作らせてよ。腕をふるって作るからさ。
6. 母： 嬉しいわ！何作ってくれるの。
7. 亮： そうだなあ。ポークソテーにしようかな。
8. 母： いいじゃない。だけど、意外と難しいのよ。やわらかくて、味のしみこんだポークソテーにするのは。。。ま、そこが腕の見せ所ね。じゃ、よろしく！その間に、お母さんはお風呂に入ってくるから。
9. 父： ただいま。あれ、亮がご飯作ってるのか。何作ってるんだ？
10. 亮： えっと、ポークソテーとスペシャルお味噌汁。ちょっと、この味噌汁、味見してみて。
11. 父： お！うまい。いつの間にか、腕を上げたな。
12. 亮： まあね。僕、料理人になろうかなあって考えてるんだ。

CONT'D OVER

13. 父: 料理人かあ。カッコいいなあ。でも、そう簡単じゃないぞ。
料理なら腕に覚えがあるという人ばかりが目指す職業だからなあ。
何年も修行して、腕を磨いて・・・。
それでも、自分のお店を出して成功する人なんてほんの一握りなんだぞ。

KANA

1. りょう: きょう、ちょうりじっしゅうで、せんせいにほめられちゃった！
2. はは: へー、なんてほめられたの？
3. りょう: キャベツのせんぎりしてたら、「りょうくん、なかなかうでがいいね」っていわれた。
4. はは: さいきん、にちようびにおひるごはんをつくってくれるようになってから、りょうりのうでがメキメキあがっているものね。
5. りょう: こんばんのごはんは、ぼくにつくらせてよ。うでをふるってつくるからさ。
6. はは: うれしいわ！なにつくってくれるの。
7. りょう: そうだなあ。ポークソテーにしようかな。
8. はは: いいじゃない。だけど、いがいとむずかしいのよ。やわらかくて、あじのしみこんだポークソテーにするのは。。。
ま、そこがうでのみせどころね。
じゃ、よろしく！そのあいだに、おかあさんはおふろにはいってくるから。

CONT'D OVER

9. ちち: ただいま。あれ、りょうがごはんつくってるのか。なにつくってるんだ？
10. りょう: えっと、ポークソテーとスペシャルおみそしる。ちょっと、このみそしる、あじみしてみて。
11. ちち: お！うまい。いつのまにか、うでをあげたな。
12. りょう: まあね。ぼく、りょうりにんになろうかなあってかんがえてるんだ。
13. ちち: りょうりにんかあ。かっこいいなあ。
でも、そうかんたんじゃないぞ。りょうりならうでにおぼえがあるというひとばかりがめざすしょくぎょうだからなあ。
なんねんもしゅぎょうして、うでをみがいて・・・。
それでも、じぶんのおみせをだしてせいこうするひとなんてほんのひとにぎりなんだぞ。

ROMANIZATION

1. RYŌ: Kyō, chōri jissū de, sensei ni homerarechatta!
2. HAHA: Hē, nante homerareta no?
3. RYŌ: Kyabetsu no sengiri shitetara, (Ryō-kun, nakanaka ude ga ii ne) tte iwareta.
4. HAHA: Saikin, nichiyōbi ni o-hiru go-han o tsukutte kureru yō ni natte kara, ryōri no ude ga mekimeki agatte iru mono ne.
5. RYŌ: Konban no go-han wa, boku ni tsukurasete yo. Ude o furutte tsukuru kara sa.

CONT'D OVER

6. HAHA: Ureshii wa! Nani tsukutte kureru no.
7. RYŌ: Sō da nā. Pōkusotē ni shiyō ka na.
8. HAHA: li janai. Dakedo, igai to muzukashii no yo. Yawarakakute, aji no shimikonda pōkusotē ni suru no wa...
Ma, soko ga ude no mise dokoro ne.
Ja, yoroshiku! Sono aida ni, o-kā-san wa o-furo ni haitte kuru kara.
9. CHICHI: Tadaima. Are, Ryō ga go-han tsukutte ru no ka. Nani tsukutte ru n da?
10. RYŌ: Etto, pōkusotē to supesharu o-misoshiru. Chotto, kono misoshiru, ajimi shite mite.
11. CHICHI: O! umai. Itsu no ma ni ka, ude o ageta na.
12. RYŌ: Mā ne. Boku, ryōri-nin ni narō ka nā tte kangaete ru n da.
13. CHICHI: Ryōri-nin kā. Kakkoi nā.
Demo, sō kantan janai zo. Ryōri nara ude ni oboe ga aru to iu hito bakari ga mezasu shokugyō da kara nā.
Nan-nen mo shugyō shite, ude o migaite....
sore demo, jibun no o-mise o dashite seikō suru hito nante honno hito-nigiri na n da zo.

ENGLISH

1. RYO: Today the teacher complimented me at cooking practice!
2. MOTHER: Really? What did she say?
3. RYO: I was slicing cabbage, and she told me, "Ryo, your cooking skills are pretty good."

CONT'D OVER

4. MOTHER: These days, ever since you started making lunch for us on Sundays, your cooking skills have been quickly improving.
5. RYO: Let me make dinner tonight. I'll put my skills to work.
6. MOTHER: That's great! What are you going to make?
7. RYO: Well...I think I'll make sautéed pork.
8. MOTHER: Sounds good. But it's more difficult than you may think to make sautéed pork that's soft and soaked with flavor.
Well, I guess that's where you can show off your skills.
Okay, I'll leave it to you! In the meantime, I'm going to go take a bath.
9. FATHER: I'm home. Hey, Ryo, you're the one making dinner. What are you making?
10. RYO: Umm, sautéed pork and a special miso soup. Taste the soup.
11. FATHER: Hey, it's good! You've improved your skill before I even realized it.
12. RYO: Yeah. I am thinking of becoming a chef.
13. FATHER: A chef, huh. That's cool. But it's not that easy, you know.
It's the kind of job that people with real cooking skills aim for.
They train for years and refine their skills...
and even then people who succeed in opening their own shops are only a handful.

VOCABULARY

Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English
調理実習	ちょうりじっしゅう	chōri jissū	cooking practice
一握り	ひとにぎり	hitonigiri	small handful

修行	しゅぎょう	shugyō	pursuit of knowledge, training
職業	しょくぎょう	shokugyō	occupation
味見	あじみ	ajimi	tasting
しみこむ	しみこむ	shimikomu	to soak through
ポークソテー	ポークソテー	pōku sotē	sauteed pork
振るう	ふるう	furū	exert, excercise
千切り	せんぎり	sengiri	strips of vegetables
目指す	めざす	mezasu	to aim for

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>明日は、初めての調理実習で、目玉焼きを作る。</p> <p><i>Ashita wa, hajimete no chōri jisshū de, medamayaki o tsukuru.</i></p> <p>Tomorrow we're making fried eggs in our first cooking practice.</p>	<p>プロの歌手になっても、有名になれるのは、一握りだ。</p> <p><i>Puro no kashu ni natte mo, yūmei ni nareru no wa, hito-nigiri da.</i></p> <p>Even if you become a professional singer, only a handful can become famous.</p>
<p>一人前の大工になるには、何年も修行しなければならない。</p> <p><i>Ichininmae no daiku ni naru niwa, nan-nen mo shugyō shinakereba naranai.</i></p> <p>In order to become a full-fledged carpenter, you have to train for many years.</p>	<p>客室乗務員は人気の職業だ。</p> <p><i>Kyakushitsujōmuin wa ninki no shokugyō da.</i></p> <p>Being a flight attendant is a popular job.</p>
<p>スープの味見をしたら、味が薄かったので、塩を足した。</p> <p><i>Sūpu no ajimi o shitara, aji ga usukatta node, shio o tashita.</i></p> <p>When I tried the soup, it was bland, so I added some salt.</p>	<p>この大根は、味がしみこんでいて、おいしい。</p> <p><i>Kono daikon wa, aji ga shimikonde ite, oishii.</i></p> <p>This daikon radish is soaked with flavor and delicious.</p>

<p>僕の好物は、しょうがたっぷりのポークソテーだ。 <i>Boku no kōbutsu wa, shōga tappuri no pōkusotē da.</i></p> <p>My favorite dish is sauteed pork with plenty of ginger.</p>	<p>今日は、僕が腕を振るって料理を作るよ。 <i>Kyō wa, boku ga ude o furutte ryōri o tsukuru yo.</i></p> <p>Today I'm going to show off my cooking skills!</p>
<p>僕は、豚カツを、キャベツの千切りと一緒に食べるのが好きだ。 <i>Boku wa, tonkatsu o, kyabetsu no sengiri to issho ni taberu no ga suki da.</i></p> <p>I like to eat fried pork cutlets together with shredded cabbage.</p>	<p>優勝目指して、がんばろう！ <i>Yūshō mezashite, ganbarō!</i></p> <p>Let's aim for the championship and do our best!</p>

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

千切り(せんぎり)

This is one of the ways of cutting vegetables and it refers to "strips of vegetables." 千 means "thousand" and 切り is a noun that comes from the verb 切る, meaning "to cut." So, this word literally means "cutting into thousands." The strips should be thin enough so that you could say that there are thousands of them. Speaking of "strips of vegetables," the most familiar is strips of cabbage, キャベツの千切り.

There are other expressions that indicate different ways of cutting vegetables, such as みじん切り, which means "chopped" or "minced," and 輪切り, which means "round slices." We often use みじん切り for onions, as in たまねぎのみじん切り, which means "minced onions," and we often use 輪切り for radishes, as in 大根の輪切り, which means "round sliced radish," or cucumbers, as in きゅうりの輪切り, which is "round sliced cucumber."

一握り(ひとにぎり)

This means "small handful." 握り(にぎり) is a noun that comes from the verb 握る, meaning "to grasp." So, this literally means "one grasp" or "something you can grasp with one hand," and we use it to indicate "a small amount of something." We often use this word with ほんの, which is an adverb meaning "mere" to emphasize how small the amount is, as in ほんの一握り.

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is Expressions Using the Word (腕) *Ude*, Meaning "Arm."

亮くん、なかなか腕がいいね

"Ryo, your skill is pretty good."

In this lesson, we'll look at some set expressions that use the word *ude* (腕). The basic meaning of *ude* (腕) is of course "arm," but we can use it in a metaphorical sense to mean "skill" when we use it in an idiom.

Ude ga ii (腕がいい)

Ude ga ii (腕がいい) literally means "one's arm is good." However, this phrase means "to be skilled" or "be good at." When we use this idiom to modify a noun to mean "a good cook," it will be *ude no ii kokku* (腕のいいコック) with *ga* (が) changed to *no* (の).

Example From This Dialogue

1. 亮くん、なかなか腕がいいね。
りょうくん、なかなかうでがいいね。
"Ryo, your skill is pretty good."

Sample Sentences

1. このレストランのシェフは、本当に腕がいい。
このレストランのシェフは、ほんとうにうでがいい。
"The chef at this restaurant is really skilled."
2. 私の父は、腕のいい大工だ。
わたしのちちは、うでのいいだいくだ。
"My father is a skilled carpenter."

Ude ga agaru/Ude o ageru (腕が上がる / 腕を 上げる)

Ude ga agaru (腕が上がる) or *Ude o ageru* (腕を上げる) literally means "one's arm rises" or "raise one's arm." However, this phrase means "improve one's skill" or "get better at something." To mention what skill is improved, you can say *~no ude ga agaru* or *~no ude o ageru*, as in 料理の腕を上げる or 料理の腕が上がる.

Please note that *agaru* is an intransitive verb and *ageru* is a transitive verb. So when you say *Ude ga agaru* (腕が上がる), *ude* (腕) is the subject of a verb and *agaru* means "to rise" and marked by the subject-marking particle *ga*. On the other hand, when you say *Ude o ageru* (腕を上げる), *ude* (腕) is the object of the verb *ageru*, meaning "to raise," and marked by the object-marking particle *o*.

Examples From This Dialogue

1. 料理の腕がメキメキ上がっているものね。
りょうりのうでがめきめきあがっているものね。
"Your cooking skills have been improving rapidly."
2. いつの間にか、腕を上げたな。
いつのまにか、うでをあげたな。
"You've improved your skill before I even realized it."

Sample Sentences

1. 君は、この夏休みの間に、ずいぶん、バッティングの腕が上がったね。
きみは、このなつやすみのあいだに、ずいぶん、バッティングのうでがあがったね。
"Your batting skills have really improved over summer vacation, haven't they?"
2. 君が、ずいぶんゴルフの腕を上げたから、びっくりしたよ。
きみが、ずいぶんゴルフのうでをあげたから、びっくりしたよ。
"Your golf skills have really gone up, so I was surprised."

Ude o furuu (腕をふるう)

Ude o furuu (腕をふるう) literally means "swing around one's arm." However, this phrase means "show one's skill." The verb *furuu* (振るう) basically indicates an action of swinging around something, and we use it to mean "wield and show one's ability or talent." We often use this idiom in a context where someone who is good at cooking cooks a delicious meal for someone else. We can also use it for things other than cooking to indicate that someone does something by using their skills or ability.

In addition to *ude* (腕), we often use this verb with words such as *bōryoku* (暴力), meaning "violence," as in 暴力をふるう, which means "behave violently."

Example From This Dialogue

1. 今晚のご飯は、僕に作らせてよ。腕をふるって作るからさ。
こんばんのごはんは、ぼくにつくらせてよ。うでをふるってつくるからさ。
"Let me make dinner tonight. I'll exercise my skills."

Sample Sentences

1. 私は、息子の誕生日に、腕を振ってケーキを作った。
わたしは、むすこのたんじょうびに、うでをふるってケーキをつくった。
"I showed off my talent and made a cake for my son's birthday."
2. 君に、この会社の建て直しのために、腕をふるってほしい。
きみに、このかいしゃのたてなおしのために、うでをふるってほしい。
"I want you to display your abilities for the sake of rebuilding this company."

Ude no mise dokoro (腕の見せ所)

Ude no mise dokoro (腕の見せ所) literally means "the time to show one's arm." However, this phrase means "a chance to show what one can do." We can interpret this phrase as *ude o miseru tokoro*

(腕を見せるところ). To break it down, *ude* (腕) means "one's skills," *miseru* (見せる) means "to show," and *tokoro* (ところ) by itself means "a place," but here we use it to indicate the exact time or circumstances under which an action occurs. So, in this case, *tokoro* (ところ) means "time" or "chance." All together, it means "time to show your skill" or "chance to show what you can do."

When you do something you are good at but is kind of challenging or difficult, that could be a chance for you to show off your skill or ability rather than doing things the easy way. In that case, you can use this expression and say *ここが腕の見せ所だ*, which means "this is where I can show my skill."

Example From This Dialogue

1. *ここが腕の見せ所ね。*
そこがうでのみせどころね。
"I guess that's where you can show off your skill."

Sample Sentences

1. *次は、お前を代打に使う。腕の見せ所だぞ。がんばれ。*
つぎは、おまえをだいだにつかう。うでのみせどころだぞ。がんばれ。
"We're going to use you as our pinch hitter next. This is where you show what you can do. Go for it!"
2. *バーベキューは、お父さんの腕の見せ所ね。*
バーベキューは、おとうさんのうでのみせどころね。
"Barbecues are where my dad can show off his skills."

Ude o migaku (腕を磨く)

Ude o migaku (腕を磨く) literally means "to polish one's arm." However, this phrase means to "train oneself" or "improve one's skill."

Example From This Dialogue

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1. 何年も修行して、腕を磨いて・・・。
なんねんもしゅぎょうして、うでをみがいて・・・。
"They train for years and refine their skills..."

Sample Sentences

1. 私は、フランスで料理の腕を磨いた。
わたしは、ふらんすでりょうりのうでをみがいた。
"I refined my cooking skills in France."
2. 僕は、有名なデザイン事務所にはいって、デザインの腕を磨きたい。
ぼくは、ゆうめいなデザインじむしょにはいって、デザインのうでをみがきたい。
"I want to get into a famous design company and polish my designing skills."

Ude ni oboe ga aru (腕に覚えがある)

Ude ni oboe ga aru (腕に覚えがある) literally means "to have memory with one's arm." However, this phrase means "be good at something" or "be proud of your skills of something." *Oboe* (覚え) basically means "memory" or "experience one remembers well." This phrase means "something one is confident of doing because one has had much experience in it."

When you want to say that you are good at something using this phrase, the common sentence structure would be 「～は、腕に覚えがある」。For example, if you are good at cooking, you would say 料理は、腕に覚えがある。Or, depending on the context, you could say ～なら、腕に覚えがある using another topic-marking particle, *なら*, to emphasize the topic instead of the topic-marking particle *は*.

Example From This Dialogue

1. 料理なら腕に覚えがあるという人ばかりが目指す職業だからなあ。
りょうりならうでにおぼえがあるというひとばかりがめざすしょくぎょうだからなあ。
"It's the type of job that people with skill aim for."

Sample Sentences

1. 剣道なら、腕に覚えがある。大学まで剣道部だったからね。
けんどうは、うでにおぼえがある。だいがくまでけんどうぶだったからね。
"I'm good at kendo since I belonged to the kendo club up until college."
2. 僕は、釣りなら、腕に覚えがある。大きい魚を釣ってみせるぞ。
ぼくは、つりなら、うでにおぼえがある。おおきいさかなをつってみせるぞ。
"I'm confident when it comes to fishing. You just watch: I'll catch a big fish!"