

LESSON NOTES

Learn Japanese Grammar Video - Absolute Beginner S1 #13 Using Verbs in Japanese

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KANJI

1. わたしは肉を食べます。

KANA

1. わたしはにくをたべます。

ROMANIZATION

1. Watashi wa niku wo tabemasu.

ENGLISH

1. I eat meat.

VOCABULARY

Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English
いもうと	いもうと	imōto	younger sister
使う	つかう	tsukau	to use; V1
飲む	のむ	nomu	to drink; V1
見る	みる	miru	to see, to watch, to look ; V2
話す	はなす	hanasu	to speak, to talk; V1
寿司	すし	sushi	sushi
肉	にく	niku	meat

弟	おとうと	otōto	younger brother
食べる	たべる	taberu	to eat; V2

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>いもうとがいます。 <i>Imōto ga imasu.</i></p> <p>I have a younger sister.</p>	<p>パソコンを使う。 <i>Pasokon o tsukau.</i></p> <p>I'll use a PC.</p>
<p>私は、朝、オレンジジュースを飲む。 <i>Watashi wa, asa, orenji jūsu o nomu.</i></p> <p>I drink orange juice in the morning.</p>	<p>電車の中から富士山を見ました。 <i>Densha no naka kara fujisan o mimashita.</i></p> <p>I saw Mt. Fuji from the train.</p>
<p>彼は英語と日本語を話します。 <i>Kare wa Ei-go to Nihon-go o hanashimasu.</i></p> <p>He speaks English and Japanese.</p>	<p>寿司は、日本の代表的な食べ物だ。 <i>Sushi wa, Nihon no daihyō-teki na tabemono da.</i></p> <p>Sushi is a typical Japanese food.</p>
<p>これは肉です。 <i>Kore wa niku desu.</i></p> <p>This is meat.</p>	<p>私の弟はジャーナリストです。 <i>Watashi no otōto wa jānarisuto desu.</i></p> <p>My younger brother is a journalist.</p>
<p>おやつを毎日食べる。 <i>Oyatsu o mainichi taberu.</i></p> <p>I eat snacks every day.</p>	

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is Using Verbs in Japanese

Making Present Tense Verbs in Japanese

Just as with *imasu* and *arimasu*, the polite/formal form of present tense verbs in Japanese ends with *-masu*. Compared to European languages such as English, French, and German, Japanese verbs are very easy because they don't change form depending on who the verb

is talking about. For example, in English, we say "he eats" but "they eat" (no "-s"). In Japanese, "he eats" is *tabemasu* (食べます), while "they eat" is also *tabemasu* (食べます). The verb ending stays the same!

Plain form	Masu Form	"English"
<i>taberu</i> (たべる)	<i>tabemasu</i> (食べます)	"eat"
<i>nomu</i> (のむ)	<i>nomimasu</i> (のみます)	"drink"
<i>hanasu</i> (はなす)	<i>hanashimasu</i> (はなします)	"speak"
<i>miru</i> (みる)	<i>mimasu</i> (みます)	"see"/"watch"
<i>tsukau</i> (つかう)	<i>tsukaimasu</i> (つかいます)	"use"

Sample Sentences

1. *Watashi wa tabemasu.*
2. わたしは食べます。
"I eat."
3. *Kare wa tabemasu.*
かれは食べます。
"He eats."
4. *Watashitachi wa tabemasu.*
わたしたちは食べます。
"We eat."

Talking about Doing an Action Using Present Tense Verbs

Now we're going to look at how to make a sentence in Japanese describing an action

involving an object or a thing.

Sentence Pattern

[subject/person] *wa* [object/thing] *o* [verb]

おみず (o-mizu) + を (o) + のみます (nomimasu) = "[someone] drinks water"

Subject/ Person	<i>wa</i>	Object/ Thing	<i>o</i>	Verb	"English"
<i>Teirā</i> (テイラー)	<i>wa</i> (は)	<i>sushi</i> (すし)	<i>o</i> (を)	<i>tabemasu</i> <i>u.</i> (たべます。)	"Taylor eats sushi."
<i>Kaori</i> (かおり)	<i>wa</i> (は)	<i>mizu</i> (みず)	<i>o</i> (を)	<i>nomimasu</i> <i>u.</i> (のみます。)	"Kaori drinks water."
<i>watashi</i> (わたし)	<i>wa</i> (は)	<i>nihon-go</i> (日本語)	<i>o</i> (を)	<i>hanashimasu</i> (はなします。)	"I speak Japanese."
<i>Imōto</i> (いもうと)	<i>wa</i> (は)	<i>terebi</i> (テレビ)	<i>o</i> (を)	<i>mimasu</i> (みます。)	"My younger sister watches TV."
<i>Otōto</i> (おとうと)	<i>wa</i> (は)	<i>konpyūta</i> (コンピュータ)	<i>o</i> (を)	<i>tsukaimasu</i> <i>u.</i> (つかいます。)	"My younger brother uses the computer."

You already learned that *wa* (は) marks the subject of a sentence in Japanese, but let's have a quick reminder of what *wa* does. は literally means "as for [subject/person]." When you see は right after a word, you know that the sentence is going to be about that word.

For Example:

1. *sara wa banana o tabemasu*
サラはバナナをたべます
literally, "As for Sarah, she eats bananas." = "Sarah eats bananas."

You may not have seen *wo* (を) before. Sometimes we write *wo* (を) as *wo* but we pronounce it as ["o"]. It comes between the noun and the verb in a sentence and tells you what is done to the object.

Sample Sentences

1. *Watashi wa niku o tabemasu.*
わたしはにくをたべます。
"I eat meat."
2. *(Anata wa) niku o tabemasu ka.*
(あなたは)にくをたべますか。
"Do you eat meat?" **Anata* = "you"
3. *Otōto wa eigo o hanashimasu.*
おとうとはえいごをはなします。
"My younger brother speaks English." * *Eigo* = "English language"