

LESSON NOTES

Learn Japanese Grammar Video - Absolute Beginner S1 #16 Suggestions and Invitations in Japanese

CONTENTS

- 2 Kanji
- 2 Kana
- 2 Romanization
- 2 English
- 2 Vocabulary
- 3 Sample Sentences
- 3 Grammar

16

KANJI

1. 紅茶を飲みませんか。
2. 食べましょうか。

KANA

1. こうちやをのみませんか。
2. たべましょうか。

ROMANIZATION

1. Kōcha o nomimasen ka.
2. Tabemashō ka.

ENGLISH

1. Why don't we have tea?
2. Shall we eat?

VOCABULARY

Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English
乗る	のる	noru	to ride, to take, to get on; V1

映画	えいが	eiga	movie, film
ランチ	らんち	ranchi	lunch
どこ	どこ	doko	where
駅	えき	eki	station (train, subway, etc.)
遊ぶ	あそぶ	asobu	to play, to hang out; V1
読む	よむ	yomu	to read
勉強	べんきょう	benkyō	study

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>私は、バスに乗りました。 <i>Watashi wa, basu ni norimashita.</i></p> <p>I took a bus.</p>	<p>私は映画が好きです。 <i>Watashi wa eiga ga suki desu.</i></p> <p>I like movies.</p>
<p>ランチに行こう。 <i>Ranchi ni ikō.</i></p> <p>Let's go out for lunch!</p>	<p>タクシー乗り場はどこにありますか。 <i>Takushinoriba wa doko ni arimasu ka.</i></p> <p>Where is the taxi stand?</p>
<p>東京駅までの切符を一枚ください。 <i>Tōkyō eki made no kippu wo ichi-mai kudasai.</i></p> <p>One ticket to Tokyo Station please.</p>	<p>今週の日曜日、遊ばない？ <i>Konshū no nichiyōbi, asobanai?</i></p> <p>Do you want to hang out this Sunday?</p>
<p>これはどう読みますか。 <i>Kore wa dō yomimasu ka.</i></p> <p>How do you read this?</p>	<p>私は一年間日本語を勉強しました。 <i>Watashi wa ichi-nen-kan Nihon-go o benkyō shimashita.</i></p> <p>I studied Japanese for a year.</p>

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is Making Suggestions and Invitations in Japanese

"Won't you~?"/"Why don't we~?"/"Will you~?" —ませんか

ビールを飲みませんか。

Bīru o nomimasen ka?
Why don't we have a beer?

Today's grammar point is the usage of [verb] + *masen ka?* (ませんか). This phrase is used to extend an invitation. *bīru* (ビール) = beer *o* (を) = object marking particle *nomimasen* (飲みません) = polite negative form of verb *nomu* (飲む), to drink *ka* (か) = question marker

Formation

[*masu* stem of a verb] + *masen ka?*

English	Dictionary form	Polite Form (-masu)	Polite Negative	Invitation
to meet	au (会う)	aimasu	aimasen	aimasen ka?
to go	iku (行く)	ikimasu	ikimasen	ikimasen ka?
to speak	hanasu (話す)	hanashimasu	hanashimasen	hanashimasen ka?
to wait	matsu (待つ)	machimasu	machimasen	machimasen ka?
to play	asobu (遊ぶ)	asobimasu	asobimasen	asobimasen ka?
to read	yomu (読む)	yomimasu	yomimasen	yomimasen ka?
to ride	noru (乗る)	norimasu	norimasen	norimasen ka?
to eat	taberu (食べる)	tabemasu	tabemasen	tabemasen ka?

to see	miru (みる)	mimasu	mimasen	mimasen ka?
to do	suru (する)	shimasu	shimasen	shimasen ka?
to come	kuru (来る)	kimasu	kimasen	kimasen ka?

Sample Sentences:

明日、一緒に映画に行きませんか。
Ashita, issho ni eiga ni ikimasen ka?
 Will you go to the movie with me tomorrow?

1時に駅の前で会いませんか。
Ichi-ji ni eki no mae de aimasen ka?
 Why don't we meet in front of the station at 1:00?

"Shall we~?"/"Why don't we~?" — ましょうか

The second point of this lesson is *-mashō ka*, which is used to politely suggest, propose or invite. This form is called the present polite volitional. *Mashō ka* is composed of the polite, volitional form of the masu auxiliary verb *mashō*, in addition to the sentence-ending interrogative particle "*ka*". This creates a very polite expression that can be used to make a suggestion, proposition or an invitation to someone of higher status. You can think of it as "why don't (we)~" or "shall (we)~" in English.

Formation

Let's look at how to make this formation.

First we take a verb in its masu form, take away *-masu*, and attach *-mashō ka*.

Verb in masu form	Take away <i>-masu</i>	Attach <i>-mashō ka</i>
<i>tabemasu</i>	<i>tabe-</i>	<i>tabemashō ka</i>
<i>mimasu</i>	<i>mi-</i>	<i>mimashō ka</i>
<i>ikimasu</i>	<i>iki-</i>	<i>ikimashō ka</i>

<i>norimasu</i>	<i>nori-</i>	<i>norimashō ka</i>
<i>shimasu</i>	<i>shi-</i>	<i>shimashō ka</i>

1. どこに行きましょうか。
Doko ni ikimashō ka.
Where shall we go?
2. ランチを食べましょうか。
Ranchi o tabemashō ka.
Why don't we eat lunch?
3. 勉強しましょうか。
Benkyō shimashō ka.
Shall we study?

Note: *Mashō ka* is similar to *-masen ka*, but the expression *-masen ka* is more polite than the *mashō ka* pattern, as *masen ka* is asking whether or not the listener will do/would like to do something.

Sample Sentences:

1. パスタを作りましょうか。
Pasuta o tsukurimashō ka?
"Shall I fix some pasta?"
2. タクシーに乗りましょうか。
Takushī ni norimashō ka?
"Shall we take a taxi?"