

## 1. Situation

Aki and Jun are talking about a report for homework.

## Dialogue

アキ：もう書いた？

Aki: Did you write it already?

- もう already; soon; again; more; strengthens expression of an emotion; filler word: なんか、もう、帰ろうよ: Like, let's go home already?
- 書いた past tense of 書く
- 書く to write

ジュン：まだ。すぐ書けるよね？

Jun: Not yet. It can be written quickly, right?

- まだ yet; still; まだ帰れない。I can't go home yet.
- すぐ immediately; right away; soon
- 書ける potential form of 書く; ~ける expresses possibility; can; can be
- ~よね shares mutual sentiments; confirms some information: 寒いよね。It's cold, right?; よな is sometimes used by male speakers; かわいいよ。 may imply she might not know that she's cute, かわいいよね。 may imply you expect her to notice it too, and かわいいよね。 implies that the speaker is certain about the statement and expect the other person to agree

アキ：ううん、私、かなり時間かかったよ。

Aki: No, it took me quite a long time.

- ううん nuh-uh; no
- かなり very; considerably; rather; 今日はかなり寒い。It's very cold today.
- 時間 time
- かかった past tense of かかる
- かかる to take (time, resource); to cost; to hang

- ～よ introduces new information; emphasises a sentence; 朝<sup>あさ</sup>だよ! It's morning!

ジュン：え、そんなに？

Jun: Huh, that long?

- え、えー expresses surprise or disappointment; えー、本当<sup>ほんとう</sup>? What? Really?
- そんなに so much; so; like that; often そんなに～ない: そんなに食<sup>た</sup>べれない。I can't eat that much.

アキ：結構<sup>けっこう</sup>、大変<sup>たいへん</sup>だったよ。

Aki: It was pretty tough.

- 結構<sup>けっこう</sup> adv. quite, fairly; na-adj. good
- 大変<sup>たいへん</sup> serious; terrible; hard; difficult
- だった past tense of nouns and na-adjectives; 雨<sup>あめ</sup>だった。 It was raining.

ジュン：えー、どうしよう。

Jun: Gee, what should I do?

- どうしよう what should I do?

## 2. Situation

Haru is trying to pass a thread through the eye of a needle.

### Dialogue

ハル：あー、<sup>はい</sup>入らない。

Haru: Ah, it won't go in.

- <sup>はい</sup>入らない negative form of <sup>はい</sup>入る
- <sup>はい</sup>入る to enter; to come in; to go in

アキ：<sup>い</sup>入れるの<sup>たいへん</sup>大変？

Aki: Is it tough to get in?

- <sup>い</sup>入れる to put in; to include
- ~の の can make other words, such as verbs, function like a noun: <sup>た</sup>食べるのはやめる。I will stop eating.

ハル：うん、<sup>め</sup>目が<sup>わる</sup>悪いのかな？よく<sup>み</sup>見えない。

Haru: Yeah, are my eyes bad? I can't see well.

- うん (casual, non-keigo) yes; yeah
- <sup>め</sup>目 eye; ordinal number suffix (-th)
- <sup>わる</sup>悪い bad
- ~の emphasises a sentence or question: <sup>ほんとう</sup>本当にできるの? Can you really do it?; できるの! I can do it!; may sound feminine in some cases; <sup>わたし</sup>私、できるの。 sounds feminine.
- ~かな indicates uncertainty; softens a sentence; ちょっと<sup>さむ</sup>寒いかな。I think it's a bit cold.
- よく good; well; often; <sup>にほん</sup>日本によく<sup>い</sup>行きます。 I go to Japan often.
- <sup>み</sup>見えない negative form of <sup>み</sup>見える
- <sup>み</sup>見える to be seen, to be in sight; to look, to seem, to appear

アキ：<sup>わたし</sup>私、やろうか？

Aki: Should I do it?

- やろう ou form of やる; ~ou expresses suggestion; let's \_\_; 食<sup>た</sup>べよう。 let's eat; 行<sup>い</sup>こう。 let's go; 遊<sup>あそ</sup>ぼう。 let's play; 作<sup>つく</sup>ろう。 let's make.
- やる to do; to give
- ~か? makes a sentence a question; usually used with keigo sentences in spoken Japanese; textbooks often drop the question mark, but it's common to use a question mark in real-life situations

ハル：できる？

Haru: Can you?

- できる to be able to do; to be ready; to be made; to be good at; e.g. 彼女<sup>かのじよ</sup>ができる=to find a girlfriend、友達<sup>ともだち</sup>ができる=to make a friend

アキ：やってみる。

Aki: I'll give it a try.

- やって te-form of やる; te-form is often used to connect to other expressions; te-form may indicate a command; 食<sup>た</sup>べて! Please eat!; it's common to end a sentence with a te-form. Japanese people often don't finish a sentence completely: 昨日<sup>きのう</sup>学校<sup>がっこう</sup>行って、勉強<sup>べんきょう</sup>して。。。 I went to school yesterday, studied, and...
- ~てみる to try and \_\_; to try something; to attempt to do something; 食<sup>た</sup>べてみる。 I'll try eating.

ハル：おー、入<sup>はい</sup>った。すごい。

Haru: Wow, it went it. Amazing.

- 入<sup>はい</sup>った past tense of 入<sup>はい</sup>る
- すごい i-adj. fantastic, wonderful, terrible; adv. awfully, very, immensely

### 3. Situation

A customer is having their bicycle fixed at a bicycle shop.

### Dialogue

じてんしゃや お  
自転車屋：終わりましたよ。

Bicycle Shop: It's done.

- お終わりました past tense of お終わります
- お終わります ます form of お終わる; ~ます makes a keigo (polite) sentence
- お終わる to end; to finish

きやく わる  
客：どこが悪かったんですか？

Customer: Where was the bad part?

- どこ where
- 悪かった past tense of 悪い
- ~んです commonly used when you explain something; 実は日本人なんです。 In fact, I'm Japanese.

じてんしゃや もんだい つか  
自転車屋：ここに問題がありました。もう使えますよ。

Bicycle Shop: The issue was here. You can use it now.

- ここ here
- ~に indicates a destination, place or point of attention: 日本に行く to go to Japan; 友達に話す to talk to a friend; indicates the result or goal of an action: 大人になる to become an adult; indicates an actor in a passive sentence: 先生に見つかった。I was found by a teacher.
- もんだい 問題 problem; question
- ありました past tense of あります
- あります ます form of ある; ~ます makes a keigo (polite) sentence
- ある to be (existence); to have (possession); to happen; use ある for objects and いる for people and animals
- 使えます ます form of 使える; ~ます makes a keigo (polite) sentence

- 使える potential form of 使う; ~える expresses possibility; can; can be
- 使う to use; to handle

客：よかった。乗って帰れます。

Customer: Good. I can ride it on the way back.

- よかった past tense of よい・いい; "what a relief": 元気でよかった。It's good (I'm relieved) that you are fine.
- 乗って te-form of 乗る; te-form is often used to connect to other expressions; te-form may indicate a command; 食べて! Please eat!; it's common to end a sentence with a te-form. Japanese people often don't finish a sentence completely: 昨日学校行って、勉強して。。。I went to school yesterday, studied, and...
- 乗る to ride; to get on; to take (the train, bus etc.)
- 帰れます ます form of 帰れる; ~ます makes a keigo (polite) sentence
- 帰れる potential form of 帰る; ~れる expresses possibility; can; can be
- 帰る to return; to go home; to go back

## 4. Situation

They would like to buy masks, but they are sold out everywhere.

## Dialogue

田中：マスク、買えないんですよ。どうですか？

Tanaka: I can't buy masks. How about you?

- マスク mask
- 買えない negative form of 買える
- 買える potential form of 買う; ~える expresses possibility; can; can be
- 買う to buy
- どう how; what; どう思う? What do you think?; how about: ラーメンどう? How about (eating) ramen?
- ~です polite ending; use this polite form, called "keigo," when you talk to strangers, people who are older than you, and in business situations.

佐藤：私もです。買えませんね。

Sato: It is the same for me. We can't buy them, can we?

- ~も too; also; 私も行く! I'll go too!
- 買えません negative form of 買えます
- 買えます ます form of 買える; ~ます makes a keigo (polite) sentence
- ~ね shares information or experiences; softens a sentence; expects an agreement; isn't it?; don't you?; 雨だね。Oh, it's raining (as you can see).

田中：いろんなところ、見てるんですけど。

Tanaka: That's even though I am looking at all kinds of places.

- いろんな various; different kinds of; いろんなものを買った。I bought many different kinds of things; いろんな is more colloquial than いろいろな
- 所、ところ place: 広い所 a big place; point: わからない所ある? Is there anything you don't understand?; part; aspect: どんなところが好き? What part do you like?; area; explains the

current situation: 食べているところ I'm in the middle of eating; 食べたところ I just finished eating (= at the point where I finished eating.)

- 見て te-form of 見る; te-form is often used to connect to other expressions; te-form may indicate a command; 食べて! Please eat!; it's common to end a sentence with a te-form. Japanese people often don't finish a sentence completely: 昨日学校行って、勉強して。。。 I went to school yesterday, studied, and...
- 見る to see; to look; to watch; to check; we use 観る for things like sports or TV shows
- ~てる verb form to express continuation; 食べる + ている = 食べている eating; てる is a colloquial version of ている; some verbs such as 知る uses this form to express the present situation 知っている (I know) but uses the present native form to say the opposite: 知らない (I don't know); often てん in spoken Japanese: それ、知ってるの? Do you know that?
- ~けど but; however; although; though; a lot of people finish a sentence with (だ)けど because it makes the sentence less direct.

さとう ほんとう  
佐藤: 本当にありませんよね。

Sato: There really aren't any, are there?

- ほんとう truth; right; really
- ありません negative form of あります
- あります ます form of ある; ~ます makes a keigo (polite) sentence

たなか  
田中: どうしましょうね。

Tanaka: What should we do?

- しましょう ましょう form of する; ~ましょう is a keigo form of ~よう which expresses desire; let's \_\_
- どうしましょう What should I do?