

## 1. Situation

It seems that a meteor shower will be visible tonight, so the sisters Aki and Haru are looking at the night sky.

## Dialogue

アキ：見えた？

Aki: Did you see any?

- 見えた past tense of 見える
- 見える to be seen, to be able to be seen, to be in sight; to look, to seem, to appear

ハル：見えない。アキは？

Haru: No. You?

- 見えない negative form of 見える

アキ：見えない。私、目が悪いのかな？

Aki: No. I wonder if there's something wrong with my vision.

- 目 eye; ordinal number suffix (-th)
- 悪い bad
- ～かな indicates uncertainty; softens a sentence; ちょっと寒いかな。I think it's a bit cold.

ハル：あ、今、見えたかも。

Haru: Oh, I think I might've just seen one.

- 今 now
- ～かも perhaps; maybe; 明日、雨かもしれない。Maybe it will rain tomorrow.

アキ：ほんと？どこ？

Aki: Really? Where?

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- <sup>ほんとう</sup> 本当、ほんと truth; right; really
- どこ where

ハル：結構、上。高いところ。

Haru: Quite high up. Somewhere high up.

- <sup>けっこう</sup> 結構 adv. quite, fairly; na-adj. good
- <sup>うえ</sup> 上 top; above; up; on
- <sup>たか</sup> 高い high; tall; expensive
- <sup>ひろ</sup> <sup>ところ</sup> ところ place: 広い所 a big place; <sup>ところ</sup> point: わからない所ある? Is there anything you don't understand?; <sup>す</sup> part; aspect: どんなところが好き? What part do you like?; area; explains the current situation: <sup>た</sup> 食べているところ I'm in the middle of eating; <sup>た</sup> 食べたところ I just finished eating (= at the point where I finished eating.)

アキ：私も見たいよー。

Aki: I want to see one too.

- ~も too; also; <sup>わたし</sup> <sup>い</sup> 私も行くと! I'll go too!; but: <sup>がんば</sup> <sup>り</sup> 頑張っても <sup>でき</sup> 出来なかった。I tried my best, but I couldn't do it.
- <sup>み</sup> 見たい <sup>たい</sup> form of <sup>み</sup> 見る; ~たい expresses desire; I want to \_\_
- ~よ、~よー introduces new information; emphasises a sentence; <sup>あさ</sup> 朝だよ! It's morning!

## 2. Situation

Sato-san sends Christmas cards to his friends who are living overseas every year.

## Dialogue

田中：いつ頃出すんですか？

Tanaka: When will you post them?

- いつ when
- 頃 time; about; when
- 出す to take out; to pay; to send (a letter)
- ~のです、~んです commonly used when you explain something; 実は日本人なんです。 In fact, I'm Japanese.
- ~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

佐藤：あ、ちょっと前に出しましたよ。

Sato: Oh, I posted them a little while ago.

- ちょっと (just) a little; a bit; (conversation filler)
- 前 forward; front; before
- ~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.
- 出しました past tense of 出します
- 出します ます form of 出す; ~ます makes a keigo (polite) sentence

田中：え、もう出したんですか？

Tanaka: Huh? You already posted them?

- え expresses surprise or disappointment; えー、本当? What? Really?

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- 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?

さとう 佐藤: はい。時間かかりますから。

Sato: Yes. Because it'll take some time.

- はい yes
- 時間 time
- かかります ます form of かかる; ~ます makes a keigo (polite) sentence
- かかる to take (time, resource); to cost; to hang
- ~から because; since: 雨だから行きません。I won't go because it's raining.; use だから with nouns and na-adjectives.

たなか 田中: エアメールではないんですか？

Tanaka: Didn't you post them by air?

- エアメール air mail
- ではない、じゃない it is not the case that ...; isn't it?

さとう 佐藤: はい。だから時間がかかります。

Sato: No. That's why it'll take some time.

### 3. Situation

A rickshaw man called out to Aki, who is walking around Kyoto with a friend.

### Dialogue

お兄さん：乗ってみませんか？

Man: Would you like to try riding on this rickshaw?

- 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.)
- ~てみません negative form of ~てみます
- ~てみます ます form of ~てみる; ~ます makes a keigo (polite) sentence
- ~てみる to try and \_\_\_; to try something; to attempt to do something; 食べてみる。I'll try eating.

アキ：二人一緒に乗れますか？

Aki: Can we both ride on it?

- 二人 two people
- 一緒に together; with
- 乗れます ます form of 乗れる; ~ます makes a keigo (polite) sentence
- 乗れる potential form of 乗る; ~れる expresses possibility; can; can be

お兄さん：はい、乗れますよ。

Man: Yes, you can.

アキ：お金、すごくかかりますか？

Aki: Is it very expensive?

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- お金<sup>かね</sup> money
- すごい i-adj. fantastic, wonderful, terrible; adv. awfully, very, immensely

お兄さん<sup>にい</sup>：乗る時間<sup>のじかん</sup>で変わります<sup>か</sup>。そんなに高くない<sup>たか</sup>ですよ。

Man: It varies depending on the time of the ride. It isn't that expensive.

- ～で in; at; from; by: indicates means (methods) or places; フォークで食<sup>た</sup>べる to eat with a fork; 家で食<sup>い</sup>べる to eat at home; may make a noun adverbial: 短<sup>みじか</sup>い時間<sup>じかん</sup>で食<sup>た</sup>べる eating fast; indicates a choice: じゃあビールで。Then, I choose beer.
- 変わります<sup>か</sup> ます form of 変わる<sup>か</sup>; ～ます makes a keigo (polite) sentence
- 変わる<sup>か</sup> to change
- そんな that; such; そんな事<sup>こと</sup>はできない。I can't do such a thing; 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.
- 高くない<sup>たか</sup> negative form of 高い<sup>たか</sup>
- 高い<sup>たか</sup> high; tall; expensive
- ～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.

## 4. Situation

Aki is telling Haru that she rode on a rickshaw in Kyoto.

## Dialogue

ハル：ほんとにの乗ったの？

Haru: Did you really ride on it?

- ~の emphasises a sentence or question: 本当ほんとうにできるの? Can you really do it?; できるの! I can do it!; may sound feminine in some cases; 私わたし、できるの。 sounds feminine.

アキ：乗ったよ。

Aki: I did.

ハル：感かんじ、どう？

Haru: How was it?

- 感かんじ feeling; impression; atmosphere; often used to express your impression: この部へ屋やいかんじ  
This room looks good.
- どう how; what; どう思おもう? What do you think?; how about: ラーメンどう? How about (eating) ramen?

アキ：みんながみ見るんだよね。

Aki: Everyone looked at us.

- みんな everyone; everything; often みなさん
- ~んだ often used in spoken Japanese as a colloquial ending; 食たべるんだ (I'll eat) is more colloquial than 食たべる (I'll eat); also can be used to express realisation: えっ、それ食たべるんだ! What? You eat that?
- ~よね shares mutual sentiments; confirms some information: 寒さむいよね。 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

ハル：<sup>わたし</sup>私<sup>み</sup>も見<sup>み</sup>ちやう。

Haru: I would have looked too.

- ちやう to end up doing; to do accidentally; to do without meaning to; to happen to do, to connect a verb to ちやう, simply remove た from the paste tense: 食(た)べちやう to end up eating.

アキ：だから、ちよつと<sup>きもち</sup>いい<sup>きもち</sup>気<sup>きもち</sup>持<sup>もち</sup>ち。

Aki: That's why it felt a little nice.

- ちよつと (just) a little; a bit; (conversation filler)
- いい good; <sup>えいが</sup>映画よ<sup>えいが</sup>かつた！ The film was great!; you may use this to indicate your preference or choice; <sup>わたし</sup>私、ラーメンが<sup>わたし</sup>いい。 I'd like to choose ramen; いいね is the Japanese version of "like" on social media.
- <sup>きもち</sup>気<sup>きもち</sup>持<sup>もち</sup>ち feeling; sensation; mood

ハル：<sup>わ</sup>分<sup>わ</sup>かる。

Haru: I get it.

- <sup>わ</sup>分<sup>わ</sup>かる to understand; to see