

## 1. Situation

Aki and Sachi are at a dessert buffet. They are looking at the cakes arranged on the table.

## Dialogue

アキ：いろいろあるね。

Aki: There are many different ones.

- いろいろ various, different kinds; いろいろ<sup>た</sup>食べた。 I ate many different kinds of food.
- ある to be (existence); to have (possession); to happen; use ある for objects and いる for people and animals
- ～ね shares information or experiences; softens a sentence; expects an agreement; isn't it?; don't you?; 雨<sup>あめ</sup>だね。 Oh, it's raining (as you can see).

サチ：ほんと、すごいたくさん。

Sachi: True, there are so many.

- ほんと、<sup>ほんとう</sup>本当 truth; right; really
- すごい i-adj. fantastic, wonderful, terrible; adv. awfully, very, immensely
- たくさん many; much; a lot

アキ：みんな<sup>た</sup>食べたいよね。

Aki: I want to eat it all, don't you?

- みんな everyone (often みなさん); everything
- <sup>た</sup>食べたい たい form of <sup>た</sup>食べる; ～たい expresses desire; I want to \_\_
- <sup>た</sup>食べる to eat
- ～よね shares mutual sentiments; confirms some information: 寒<sup>さむ</sup>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

サチ：うん、おんなじ<sup>きもち</sup>気持ち。

Sachi: Yeah, I feel the same.

- うん (casual, non-keigo) yes; yeah
- おなじ、おんなじ same
- きもち feeling; sensation; mood

アキ: 何から<sup>なに</sup>食<sup>た</sup>べる?

Aki: What are you eating first?

- なに what
- ～から from; にほんから<sup>にほん</sup>来<sup>き</sup>ました。I'm from Japan.

サチ: 何から<sup>なに</sup>食<sup>た</sup>べようか?

Sachi: What should we eat first?

- たべよう ou form of 食<sup>た</sup>べる; ～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.
- ～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

## 2. Situation

Aki and Sachi ate a lot of desserts at a dessert buffet.

## Dialogue

アキ：まだ食べられる？

Aki: Can you still eat?

- まだ yet; still; まだ帰れない。I can't go home yet.
- 食べられる potential form of 食べる; ~(ら)れる expresses possibility; can; can be; some people consider ~られる is a correct form, however, many people use ~れる in spoken Japanese

サチ：うん、もうちょっと食べる。

Sachi: Yeah, I can still eat a little more.

- 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?
- ちょっと (just) a little; a bit; (conversation filler)

アキ：すごいね。

Aki: Amazing.

サチ：もう、食べないの？

Sachi: Are you not eating anymore?

- 食べない negative form of 食べる
- ~の emphasises a sentence or question: 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; 私、できるの。 sounds feminine.

アキ：うん、私はもう食べられないよ。

Aki: No, I can't eat anymore.

- 食べられない negative form of 食べられる

- ～よ introduces new information; emphasises a sentence; 朝あさだよ! It's morning!

### 3. Situation

This is a conversation in a taxi. The passenger is showing the driver where he wants to go.

### Dialogue

客きやく：ここにい行きたいんですけど。

Passenger: I would like to go here.

- ここ here
- ～に indicates a destination, place or point of attention: 日本にほんに行くい to go to Japan; 友達ともだちに話はなす to talk to a friend; indicates the result or goal of an action: 大人おとなになる to become an adult; indicates an actor in a passive sentence: 先生せんせいに見みつかった。I was found by a teacher.
- 行いきたい たい form of 行いく; ～たい expresses desire; I want to \_\_
- 行いく to go
- ～んです commonly used when you explain something; 実じつは日本にほん人じんなんです。 In fact, I'm Japanese.
- けれど、けど but; however; although; though; a lot of people finish a sentence with (だ)けど because it makes the sentence less direct.

運転手うんでんしゆ：わかりました。

Driver: Got it.

- 分わかりました past tense of 分わかる
- 分わかる to understand; to see

客きやく：時間じかんかかりますか？

Passenger: Does it take a long time?

- 時間じかん time
- かかります ます form of かかかる; ～ます makes a keigo (polite) sentence
- かかかる to take (time, resource); to cost; to hang

運転手うんでんしゆ：そんなにかかりませんよ。

Driver: It doesn't take that long.

- そんな that; such; そんな<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<sup>た</sup>食べれない。I can't eat that much.
- かかりません negative form of がかかります

きやく  
客: よかった。あんまり<sup>じかん</sup>時間ないんで。

Passenger: That's great, because I don't have much time.

- よかった past tense of よい・いい; "what a relief": <sup>げんき</sup>元気でよかった。It's good (I'm relieved) that you are fine.
- あんまり n. the rest; adv. (not) much; often; あまり～ない: <sup>しごと</sup>仕事があまりない。I don't have a lot of work.
- ない There is no . . . ; no . . .
- ～んで、～ので as; because; since; <sup>つか</sup>疲れたんで<sup>かえ</sup>帰ります。I'll go home because I'm tired.

## 4. Situation

Sato-san is drinking coffee after being invited to the house of Yamamoto-san.

## Dialogue

やまもと  
山本：このカップ、<sup>わたし</sup>私<sup>つく</sup>が作ったんですよ。

Yamamoto: I made this cup.

- この this
- カップ cup
- <sup>つく</sup>作った past tense of <sup>つく</sup>作る
- <sup>つく</sup>作る to make; to create; to cook

さとう  
佐藤：え、<sup>ほんとう</sup>本当ですか？すごいですね。

Sato: Oh, really? That's amazing.

- え expresses surprise or disappointment; えー、<sup>ほんとう</sup>本当？ What? Really?
- ～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.

やまもと  
山本：ありがとうございます。

Yamamoto: Thank you.

- ありがとうございます thank you; ありがと is colloquial

さとう  
佐藤：<sup>かたち</sup>形がとってもいいですね。

Sato: Its shape is very nice.

- <sup>かたち</sup>形 form; shape; figure
- とっても very; とっても is often stronger than とても
- いい good; <sup>えいが</sup>映画よかった！ The film was great!; you may use this to indicate your preference or choice; <sup>わたし</sup>私、ラーメンがいい。I'd like to choose ramen; いいね is the Japanese version of "like" on social media.

やまもと  
山本：そうですか？

Yamamoto: Is that so?

- そう so (as in "I think so"); そう<sup>おも</sup>思う。 I think so. ; そうなんだ。 I see.