

1. Situation

Tanaka-san is having a barbecue with his son Hiroki.

Dialogue

ヒロキ：これ、もう食べれる？

Hiroki: Can this be eaten already?

- これ this
- 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?
- 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
- 食べる to eat

田中：まだ。

Tanaka: Not yet.

- まだ yet; still; まだ帰れない。I can't go home yet.

ヒロキ：えー、まだなの？

Hiroki: Oh, not yet?

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

田中：うん、もう少し。

Tanaka: Nope, it's almost ready.

- うん (casual, non-keigo) yes; yeah
- 少し a little; a few

ヒロキ：^た食べたいよー。

Hiroki: I want to eat it.

- ^た食べたい たい form of ^た食べる; ~たい expresses desire; I want to __
- ~よ、よー introduces new information; emphasises a sentence; ^{あさ}朝だよ! It's morning!

^{たなか}田中：もうちょっと。

Tanaka: Wait a little more.

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

ヒロキ：できたとき、^い言ってね。

Hiroki: Tell me when it's ready.

- できた past tense of できる
- できる to be able to do; to be ready; to be made; to be good at; e.g. ^{かのじよ}彼女ができる=to find a girlfriend、^{ともだち}友達ができる=to make a friend
- ^{とき}時 time; when; o'clock
- ^い言って te-form of ^い言う; te-form is often used to connect to other expressions; te-form may indicate a command; ^た食べて! Please eat!; it's common to end a sentence with a te-form. Japanese people often don't finish a sentence completely: ^{きのうがっこうい}昨日学校行って、^{べんきょう}勉強して。。。 I went to school yesterday, studied, and...
- ^い言う to say; to speak; to talk; to mean: どういう^{いみ}意味? What does it mean? ^{あつ}暑いつていう^{いみ}意味。 It means "hot".
- ~ね shares information or experiences; softens a sentence; expects an agreement; isn't it?; don't you?; ^{あめ}雨だね。 Oh, it's raining (as you can see).

^{たなか}田中：わかったよ。

Tanaka: Sure.

- わかった past tense of わかる
- わかる to understand; to see

2. Situation

They are talking about whether they add sugar to their coffee.

Dialogue

たなか い
田中：入れないんですか？

Tanaka: You don't add sugar?

- 入れない negative form of 入れる
- 入れる to put in; to include
- ～んです commonly used when you explain something; 実際は日本人なんです。 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

さとう い
佐藤：はい、入れません。

Sato: No, I don't.

- はい yes
- 入れません negative form of 入れます
- 入れます ます form of 入れる; ～ます makes a keigo (polite) sentence

たなか
田中：いつからですか？

Tanaka: When did that start?

- いつ when
- ～から from; after: 日本から来ました。 I'm from Japan.
- ～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.

さとう さいきん たなか
佐藤：最近ですね。田中さんは？

Sato: Recently. What about you?

- 最近 recently; lately

たなか い 田中：入れますよ。すこ 少しかけですが。ひつよう 必要なんです。

Tanaka: I add sugar to mine, but just a little. I need some.

- ~だけ only; alone; merely
- ~が but; あめ 雨ですが行きます。It's raining but I'll go; used for introductory phrases: イベントがあ
りますが行きますか? There's an event. Do you want to go?
- ひつよう 必要 necessary

3. Situation

A tourist is asking a tour guide to take a group picture at a sightseeing spot.

Dialogue

ガイド：みんな、もう少し^{すこ}前^{まえ}へ。

Tour guide: Everyone, move forward a little.

- みんな everyone (often みなさん); everything
- 前^{まえ} forward; front; before
- ～へ indicates a destination; 学校^{がっこう}へ行く^い to go to school

客^{きやく}：これくらいですか？

Tourist: Something like this?

- ～くらい about; around; as ... as ...; like

ガイド：はい、そうです。

Tour guide: Yes, that's right.

- そう so; such; that is so; that's right

客^{きやく}：みんな、フレームの中^{なか}に入^{はい}ってますか？

Tourist: Is everyone in the frame?

- フレーム frame
- ～の indicates possession: 私^{わたし}の子供^{こども} my child; その車^{くるま}、私^{わたし}の。That car is mine; 私^{わたし}の食べる^た? Do you want to eat mine?
- 中^{なか} inside; in; into
- ～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}に話す^{はな} 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.

- 入^{はい}って te-form of 入^{はい}る; te-form is often used to connect to other expressions; te-form may indicate a command; 食^たべて! Please eat!; it's common to end a sentence with a te-form. Japanese people often don't finish a sentence completely: 昨^{きのう}日^{がっこう}学^い校^い行^いっ^て、勉^{べん}強^{きょう}し^て。。。 I went to school yesterday, studied, and...
- 入^{はい}る to enter; to come in; to go in
- ~います ます form of ~ている; ~ます makes a keigo (polite) sentence
- ~ている、てる verb form to express continuation; 食^たべる + ている = 食^たべている eating; てる is a colloquial version of ている; some verbs such as 知^しる uses this form to express the present situation 知^しっている (I know) but uses the present native form to say the opposite: 知^しらない (I don't know); often てん in spoken Japanese: それ、知^しってんの? Do you know that?

ガイド: 入^{はい}ってますよ。はい、いい感^{かん}じです。

Tour guide: Everyone is in the frame. Yes, this is great.

- いい good; 映^{えい}画^がよ^かっ^た! The film was great!; you may use this to indicate your preference or choice; 私^{わたし}、ラ^らー^らメ^めン^んが^がい^いい。 I'd like to choose ramen; いいね is the Japanese version of "like" on social media.
- 感^{かん}じ feeling; impression; atmosphere; often used to express your impression: この部^へ屋^やい^い感^{かん}じ
This room looks good.

4. Situation

Aki and Jun were chatting while walking when they passed someone.

Dialogue

アキ：あの^{ひと}人、なんか^{わたし}私^{かおみ}の顔見た。

Aki: That person looked at my face for some reason.

- あの that; those
- ^{ひと}人 person; people; human being
- なんか something; things like ..., or something like that ...; conversation filler; なんか、^{さむ}寒い。Well, it's cold.
- ~の indicates possession: ^{わたし}私^{こども}の子供 my child; ^{くるま}その車、^{わたし}私の。That car is mine; ^{わたし}私^たの食べる? Do you want to eat mine?
- ^{かお}顔 face
- ^み見た past tense of ^み見る
- ^み見る to see; to look; to watch; to check; we use ^み観る for things like sports or TV shows

ジュン：知^しってる人^{ひと}？

Jun: Is he someone you know?

- 知^しって te-form of 知^しる; te-form is often used to connect to other expressions; te-form may indicate a command; ^た食べて! Please eat!; it's common to end a sentence with a te-form. Japanese people often don't finish a sentence completely: ^{きのうがっこうい}昨日学校行って、^{べんきょう}勉強して。。。I went to school yesterday, studied, and...
- 知^しる to know; use the te-form to say "I know": そのアニメ^し知ってるよ。I know that anime.

アキ：知^しらない。

Aki: I don't know him.

- 知^しらない negative form of 知^しる

ジュン：アキは知らないけど、あの人はアキを知ってるかも。

Jun: You may not know him, but that person may know you.

- ~けど but; however; although; though; a lot of people finish a sentence with (だ)けど because it makes the sentence less direct.
- ~かも perhaps; maybe; 明日、雨かもしれない。Maybe it will rain tomorrow.

アキ：えー、そんなことないよ。

Aki: Hmm, I doubt that's possible.

- そんな that; such; そんな事はできない。I can't do such a thing; そんなに so much; so; like that; often そんなに~ない: そんなに食べれない。I can't eat that much.
- こと thing; こと converts a sentence into a massive noun: 明日、日本に行くことは難しい。It's difficult to go to Japan tomorrow. (“明日、日本に行くこと” works like a big chunk of noun.)
- ない There is no . . . ; no . . .