

Situation 1

Takashi returns home to find his uncle visiting.

Dialogue

タカシ：あ、^{おじ}伯父さん、こんにちは。

Takashi: Ah, hello uncle.

- ^{おじ} 伯父 uncle

^{おじ} 伯父さん：おー、タカシくん。こんにちは。うわー。ずいぶん^{おお}大きくなったなあ。

Uncle: Oh, Takashi. Hello. Wow, you've grown really big.

- ずいぶん very; pretty; quite

タカシ：えー。そうですか？

Takashi: Oh. You think so?

^{おじ} 伯父さん：うん。^せ背がすごく^の伸びたなあ。

Uncle: Yeah. You've grown a lot taller.

- ^せ 背 stature, height; back
- ^の 伸びる to grow; to stretch; to extend

タカシ：自分では伸びた感じはしないです…。クラスでも背は普通ぐらいですし。

Takashi: I don't feel like I've grown... My height is average for my class, too.

伯父さん：まあ、最後に会ったの、ずいぶん前だしね。

Uncle: Well, the last time I saw you was a long time ago.

タカシ：伯父さん、仕事でアメリカにいたんですよね？もう日本に帰ってきたんですか？

Takashi: Uncle, you were in America for work, right? Have you come back to Japan?

伯父さん：ううん。ちょっとしたら、また行くよ。

Uncle: No. I'll go back again after a bit.

タカシ：いいなあ。僕も将来、なんか世界を意識できる仕事がしたいなあ。

Takashi: Lucky. In the future, I also want a job that makes me conscious of the world.

おじさん：へー、立派な考えじゃん。それなら、まずは英語の勉強を頑張るべきだね。

Uncle: Really? That's a fine idea. You should start by studying English, then.

- 立派 fine; splendid; great
- ~べし、~べき must; should (it could be a mild form of command in spoken Japanese); 日本に行くべし。

You should go to Japan; ~べき: 日本に行くべきだと思う。I think I should go to Japan.

タカシ：そうですね。もしずっと日本にいても、英語は必要ですね。

Takashi: You're right. Even if you stay in Japan forever, you'll need English.

- にしても even if, even though; それにしても anyway, at any rate

おじさん：今はそういう時代だからね。いやー。それにしても、立派になったなあ。タカシくん。

Uncle: That's the age that we live in. Wow. At any rate, you've sure become a fine young man, Takashi.

Situation 2

Takashi has returned home after finishing his club activities.

Dialogue

タカシ：あー、^{はら}腹^へ減った。お母さん、ごはんは？

Takashi: Ah, I'm hungry. Mom, where's dinner?

- ^{はら}腹 belly; stomach
- ^へ減る to decrease; to become less
- ^{はら}腹^が減る to get hungry

お母さん：ちょっと^ま待って。今^{いま}から^{じゅんび}準備するから。私^{わたし}も今^{いま}帰ってきたところ。

Mom: Wait a minute. I'll make it now. I just got back as well.

- ^{じゅんび}準備 preparation; ^{じゅんび}準備する to prepare

タカシ：わかった。それじゃあ、^{すわ}座って^ま待っとくよ。

Takashi: Okay. I'll sit and wait, then.

お母さん：タカシ、先にお風呂入ってきて。もうすぐ沸くから。

Mom: Takashi, take a bath first. The bath will be ready soon.

- 風呂 bath, bathtub, bathroom; bathing
- [お]風呂[に]入る to take a bath
- 沸く to boil; to be in uproar
- [お]風呂[が]沸く a bath becomes ready

タカシ：えー。いやだ。腹減って死にそう。後で入るよ。

Takashi: What? No way. I'm so hungry that I might die. I'll take one later.

お母さん：だめ。お母さん明日、仕事朝早い。私もタカシの後に入って、お風呂洗っちゃうから。

Mom: No. Mom has work early in the morning tomorrow. I take a bath after you and then clean it.

- 洗う to wash

タカシ：そうなんだー。何時ぐらいに家出るの？

Takashi: Oh, really? Around what time will you leave home?

お母さん：たぶんあんたが起きる頃にはもう出てるよ。

Mom: I'll probably be gone by the time you wake up.

- あんた you; あんた is a familiar way of saying you. Using this to a stranger may sound rude.

タカシ：えー。それは大変だね。それじゃあ、お風呂は俺が代わりに洗うよ。

Takashi: Wow, that's rough. I'll clean the bath for you, then.

- 代わり substitute; replacement; alternative
- 代わりに instead of, in place of, as a substitute for; in exchange for, in return for, to make up for

お母さん：ほんとに？ありがとう。嬉しい。明日の仕事の準備もしなきゃいけないし。

Mom: Really? Thank you. That makes me happy. I also have to prepare for tomorrow's work.

タカシ：だって、代わりに仕事するのは無理じゃん？風呂ぐらい俺でも洗えるよ。

Takashi: Because I can't do your work for you, you know? I can clean the bath, though.

お母さん：そうだね。あ、ほら。お風呂沸いた。早く入ってきて。その間にごはん作っとくから。

Mom: That's true. Oh, look. The bath is ready. Hurry up and use it. In the meantime, I'll make dinner.

タカシ：はい。

Takashi: Okay.