

1. Situation

Natsu and her brother are talking about supper.

Dialogue

ナツ:なんか^た食べたいな。

Natsu: I want to eat something.

- なんか something; things like ..., or something like that ...; conversation filler; なんか、^{さむ}寒い。Well, it's cold.
- ^た食べたい たい form of ^た食べる; ~たい expresses desire; I want to __
- ^た食べる to eat
- ~な expresses emotions; emphasises the emotion; softens the sentence; often なー; ^{にほん}日本へ^い行きたいな。I want to go to Japan; ^{かわい}かわいいなー。It's so cute.

あに ^{なに}なに ^た食べたい?
兄:何が食べたい?

Brother: What do you want to eat?

- ^{なに}何 what

ナツ:ラーメンがいいかな。

Natsu: I'll probably have ramen.

- ラーメン ramen: Japanese noodle soup
- いい good; ^{えいが}映画よかった! The film was great!; you may use this to indicate your preference or choice; ^{わたし}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.
- ~かな indicates uncertainty; softens a sentence; ちょっと^{さむ}寒いかな。I think it's a bit cold.

あに ^{ぼく}ぼく ^{つく}つく
兄:いいね。僕のも作って。

Brother: Nice. Make it for me too.

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- ~ね shares information or experiences; softens a sentence; expects an agreement; isn't it?; don't you?; 雨^{あめ}だね。Oh, it's raining (as you can see).
- 僕^{ぼく} I (used by male speakers)
- ~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?
- ~も too; also; 私^{わたし}も行く^い! I'll go too!; but: 頑張^{がんば}っても出来^{でき}なかった。I tried my best, but I couldn't do it.
- 作^{つく}って te-form of 作^{つく}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: 昨日^{きのう}学校^{がっこう}行^いって、勉強^{べんきょう}して。。。I went to school yesterday, studied, and...
- 作^{つく}る to make; to create; to cook

ナツ: えー、この前^{まえ}も私^{わたし}が作^{つく}ったじゃん。

Natsu: What? Didn't I make it the last time too?

- えー expresses surprise or disappointment; えー、本当^{ほんとう}? What? Really?
- この前^{まえ} some time ago; recently; lately; the other day; この前^{まえ}車^{くるま}買^かったよ。I bought a car the other day.
- 作^{つく}った past tense of 作^{つく}る
- ~じゃん common way of ending a sentence mainly in Kanto region; a colloquial form of じゃない; isn't it

兄^{あに}: そうだった?

Brother: Did you?

- そう so; such; that is so; that's right
- だった past tense of nouns and na-adjectives; 雨^{あめ}だった。It was raining.

ナツ: そうだよ。

Natsu: I did.

- ~よ introduces new information; emphasises a sentence; 朝^{あさ}だよ! It's morning!

兄：^{あに}わかった、わかった。^{ぼく} ^{つく}僕が作るよ。

Brother: Okay, okay. I'll make it then.

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

2. Situation

Natsu ran into her friend Yukari and is talking to her.

Dialogue

ナツ:こんばんは!ユカリ。

Natsu: Good evening, Yukari!

- こんばんは good evening

ユカリ:あ、ナツ!こんばんは。

Yukari: Oh, Natsu! Good evening.

ナツ:^{いま}今^{しごと}まで仕事?

Natsu: Were you working until now?

- ^{いま}今 now
- ~まで to, as far as: ^{にほん}日本まで行^いった。I went to (as far as) Japan; till, until: ^{あさ}朝まで仕事^{しごと}した。I worked until morning.
- ^{しごと}仕事 work, job; ^{しごと}仕事する to work

ユカリ:うん。^{いまお}今終わ^{かえ}って、帰るとこ。

Yukari: Yeah. I just finished work and I'm going home.

- うん (casual, non-keigo) yes; yeah
- ^お終わ^おって te-form of ^お終わる; 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^{べんきょう}って、勉強して。。。I went to school yesterday, studied, and...
- ^お終わる to end; to finish
- ^{かえ}帰る to return; to go home; to go back
- ^{ひろ}とこ place: ^{ひろ}広い^{ところ}所 a big place; point: ^{とこ}わからない^{ところ}所ある? Is there anything you don't understand?; part; aspect: ^すどんなところが好き? What part do you like?; area; explains the

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

ナツ:^{しごと}仕事、^{たいへん}大変だったの？

Natsu: Did you have a hard time at work?

- ^{たいへん} 大変 serious; terrible; hard; difficult
- ~の emphasises a sentence or question: ^{ほんとう}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; ^{わたし}私、できるの。 sounds feminine.

ユカリ: ううん。^{じかん}時間はかかったけど、ほとんど^{もんだい}問題なく^お終わった。

Yukari: Nope. My work took a while but I finished it with almost no problems.

- ううん nuh-uh; no
- ^{じかん}時間 time
- かかった past tense of かかる
- かかる to take (time, resource); to cost; to hang
- けど but; however; although; though; a lot of people finish a sentence with (だ)けど because it makes the sentence less direct.
- ほとんど almost; nearly; mostly; usually used with a negative form: ^{ひと}ほとんど人がいない。 There are almost nobody.
- ^{もんだい}問題 problem; question
- なく adverbial form of ない
- ない negative form of ある (to exist); ^{あす}明日行かない I won't go tomorrow; not; nonexistent; not being (there)
- ^お終わった past tense of ^お終わる

ナツ: そっか。よかったね。

Natsu: I see. That's great.

- そっか a colloquial form of そうか; is that so?; I see; you're right
- よかった past tense of よい・いい; "what a relief": ^{げんき}元気でよかった。 It's good (I'm relieved) that you are fine.

3. Situation

Natsu and her brother are talking. Her brother is going out.

Dialogue

あに
兄:おはよう、ナツ。

Brother: Good morning, Natsu.

- おはよう good morning

ナツ:おはよう。仕事に行くの？

Natsu: Good morning. Are you going to work?

- 行く to go

あに
兄:ううん、仕事じゃない。街に行く。買いたい物があるから。

Brother: Nope, not work. I'm going to the city because there's something I want to buy.

- 街 town; city
- 買いたい たい form of 買う; ~たい expresses desire; I want to __
- 買う to buy
- 物 thing; object; stuff: ~の can replace 物 if it's after na-adjective: いろんなものがある=いろんなものがある。
- ある to be (existence); to have (possession); to happen; use ある for objects and いる for people and animals
- 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.

ナツ:私も買いたい物があるんだ。一緒に行っていい？

Natsu: There's also something I want to buy. Can we go together?

- ~んだ often used in spoken Japanese as a colloquial ending; 食べるんだ (I'll eat) is more colloquial than 食べる (I'll eat); also can be used to express realisation: えっ、それ食べるんだ! What? You eat that?
- 一緒 together; with
- 行って te-form of 行く; 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...

兄: うん、いいよ。一緒に行こう。

Brother: Yeah, sure. Let's go together.

- いいよ sure; ok
- 行こう ou form of 行く; ~ou expresses suggestion; let's __; 食べよう。 let's eat; 行こう。 let's go; 遊ぼう。 let's play; 作ろう。 let's make.

4. Situation

A staff member at the clinic and an old (male) patient are talking.

Dialogue

スタッフ: ^{つぎ}次はこの^ひ日でいいですか?

Staff: Will this day be fine for your next visit?

- ^{つぎ}次 next; following; coming
- この this; these
- ^ひ日 day; the sun
- ～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.
- ～か? makes a sentence a question: ^{にほんじん}日本人ですか? Are you Japanese?; 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; making a remark to yourself: ^{あめ}雨か。。。 It's raining...

ろうじん ^{なんようび}老人: 何曜日?

Old patient: What day of the week is it?

- ^{ようび}曜日 days of the week; ^{げつようび}月曜日 Monday ^{かようび}火曜日 Tuesday ^{すいようび}水曜日 Wednesday ^{もくようび}木曜日 Thursday ^{きんようび}金曜日 Friday
^{どようび}土曜日 Saturday ^{にちようび}日曜日 Sunday

スタッフ: ^{かようび}火曜日です。

Staff: It is a Tuesday.

ろうじん ^{かようび}老人: 火曜日だね。ここに^か書いてくれる?

Old patient: Oh, Tuesday. Can you write it here?

- ～だね 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).
- ここ here

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- 書いて te-form of 書く; 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...
- 書く to write
- ~てくれる to do something as a favor: 学校に来てくれる? Can you come to the school?; ~てくれな indicates that someone is not doing something even if you want them to: 鈴木くんが学校に来てくれない。 Suzuki-kun is not coming to school (even though I want him to.)

スタッフ: はい。書きましたよ。

Staff: Sure. I have written it.

- はい yes
- 書きました past tense of 書きます
- 書きます ます form of 書く; ~ます makes a keigo (polite) sentence

老人: 目が悪くて、よく見えないんだよ。悪いけど、もう少し大きく書いてくれる?

Old patient: I have bad eyesight and I can't see very well. I'm sorry, but can you write it a little bigger?

- 目 eye; ordinal number suffix (-th)
- 悪くて te-form of 悪い
- 悪い bad
- よく good; well; often; 日本によく行きます。 I go to Japan often.
- 見えない negative form 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
- 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?
- 少し a little; a few
- 大きく adverbial form of 大きい
- 大きい big; large; great

スタッフ:このくらいでいいですか?

Staff: Is this big enough?

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

ろうじん
老人:あー、よく見える。ありがとう。

Old patient: Ah, I can see it properly now. Thanks.

- ありがとう thank you; ありがと is colloquial