

1. Situation

Hiroshi is inviting Emiko to a meal.

Dialogue

ヒロシ：ねえ、^{いま}今からごはんに行かない？

Hiroshi: Hey, shall we go for dinner now?

- ねえ hey
- ^{いま}今 now
- ～から from; after: ^{にほん}日本から^き来ました。I'm from Japan.
- ごはん rice; meal
- ^た食べるに the same inflection as the masu form ^た食べ[ます]
- ^た食べる to eat
- 行かない negative form of ^い行く
- ^い行く to go

エミコ：^い行きたいけど、どうしようかな。

Emiko: I want to go, but I'm not sure what I should do.

- ^い行きたい ^{たい}たい form of ^い行く; ～たい expresses desire; I want to __
- けど but; however; although; though; a lot of people finish a sentence with (だ)けど because it makes the sentence less direct.
- どうしよう what should I do?
- ～かな indicates uncertainty; softens a sentence: ちよつと^{さむ}寒いかな。I think it's a bit cold.

ヒロシ：お^{かね}金^なが無いの？

Hiroshi: You have no money?

- お^{かね}金 money
- ^な無い There is no . . . ; no . . .

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- ~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.

エミコ: うん、^{さいきん}最近^かいろいろ買ったから。

Emiko: Yeah, because I bought various things recently.

- うん (casual, non-keigo) yes; yeah
- ^{さいきん}最近 recently; lately
- いろいろ various, different kinds; ^たいろいろ食べた。 I ate many different kinds of food.
- ^か買った past tense of ^か買う
- ^か買う to buy
- ~から because; since: ^{あめ}雨^いだから行きません。 I won't go because it's raining.; use ^{だから}だから with nouns and na-adjectives.

ヒロシ: そっか。

Hiroshi: I see.

- そっか a colloquial form of そうか; is that so?; I see; you're right

エミコ: この^{まえ}前^いみたいに、^{いえ}家で^{なに}何か^た食べよう。

Emiko: Let's eat something at home like last time.

- この^{まえ}前 some time ago; recently; lately; the other day; この^{まえ}前^ま車^か買ったよ。 I bought a car the other day.
- ~みたい like; it seems that...; as if...
- ^{いえ}家 house; home
- ~で in; at; from; by: indicates means (methods) or places; フォークで^た食べる to eat with a fork; ^{いえ}家で^た食べる to eat at home; may make a noun adverbial: ^{みじか}短^{じかん}い時間^たで^た食べる eating fast; indicates a choice: じゃあビールで。 Then, I choose beer.
- ^{なに}何か something; things like ..., or something like that ...; conversation filler: ^{なん}んか、^{さむ}寒い。 Well, it's cold.
- ^た食べよう ou form of ^た食べる; ~ou expresses suggestion; let's __; ^た食べよう。 let's eat; ^い行こう。 let's go; ^{あそ}遊ぼう。 let's play; ^{つく}作ろう。 let's make.

2. Situation

Hiroshi and Emiko are talking on the phone.

Dialogue

エミコ：もう会社^{かいしゃ}出た？

Emiko: Have you left your company yet?

- 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?
- 会社^{かいしゃ} company; firm
- 出た past tense of 出る
- 出る to go out; to come out; to attend

ヒロシ：まだだよ。

Hiroshi: Not yet.

- まだ yet; still; まだ帰れない。I can't go home yet.
- ～よ introduces new information; emphasises a sentence; 朝だよ! It's morning!

エミコ：そっか、仕事^{しごと}終わってないんだね。

Emiko: I see. I guess you haven't finished work?

- 仕事 work, job; 仕事する to work
- 終わって te-form of 終わる; 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...
- 終わる to end; to finish
- ～てない negative form of ～てる
- ～ている、てる verb form to express continuation; 食べる + ている = 食べている eating; てる is a colloquial version of ている; some verbs such as 知る uses this form to express the present

situation 知っている (I know) but uses the present native form to say the opposite: 知らない (I don't know); often てん in spoken Japanese: それ、知ってるの? Do you know that?

- ~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?
- ~ね shares information or experiences; softens a sentence; expects an agreement; isn't it?; don't you?: 雨だね。Oh, it's raining (as you can see).

ヒロシ: そう、まだ帰れないよ。

Hiroshi: Nope, I still can't go home.

- そう so; such; that is so; that's right
- 帰れない negative form of 帰れる
- 帰れる potential form of 帰る; ~れる expresses possibility; can; can be
- 帰る to return; to go home; to go back

エミコ: ねえ、あとで食べたいものある?

Emiko: Hey, is there anything you want to eat later?

- 後 after; later; the rest; also; in addition; from now: あと三分あります。We have 3 minutes left (from now).
- 食べたい たい form of 食べる; ~たい expresses desire; I want to __
- もの thing; object; stuff; ~の can replace 物 if it's after na-adjective: いろんなものがある = いろんな物がある。
- ある to be (existence); to have (possession); to happen; use ある for objects and いる for people and animals

ヒロシ: 特にないな。

Hiroshi: Not in particular.

- 特に especially; particularly

エミコ：わかった、^{なに}何か^か買ってくるね。

Emiko: Got it. I'll go buy something.

- ^わ分かった past tense of ^わ分かる
- ^わ分かる to understand; to see
- ^か買って te-form of ^か買う; 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}昨日^{がっこう}学校行って、^{べんきょう}勉強して。。。 I went to school yesterday, studied, and...
- ~てくる [1] go and ___; indicates that you will do something and come back to the original place; indicates you are doing something in addition to coming to a place; ^{がっこう}学校^いに行ってくる。
I'll go to school (and come back.) [2] indicates a gradual process; ^{そら}空^{あか}が赤くなってくる。 The sky is becoming red.

3. Situation

Kenta is introducing his girlfriend to Hiroshi.

Dialogue

ケンタ：この人が僕の彼女だよ。

Kenta: This person is my girlfriend.

- この this; these
- 人 ひと person; people; human being
- 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?
- 彼女 かのじょ she; girlfriend

ヒロシ：そうなんだ。もう一緒に住んでるの？

Hiroshi: I see. Are you living together already?

- 一緒 いっしょ together; with
- 住んで す te-form of 住む す; te-form is often used to connect to other expressions; te-form may indicate a command; 食べて た! 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 べんきょうして。。。 I went to school yesterday, studied, and...
- 住む す to live

ケンタ：うん、ちょっと前からね。

Kenta: Yeah, since a while ago.

- ちょっと (just) a little; a bit; (conversation filler)
- 前 まえ forward; front; before

ヒロシ：へー、家^{いえ}でずっと一緒^{いっしょ}なんだね。

Hiroshi: Oh, that means you're together at home all the time?

- へー oh, yes?; really?
- ずっと all the time; for a long time; forever; far as in "far better"

ケンタ：そうだね。

Kenta: That's right.

4. Situation

Yuji and Masashi are talking about their children.

Dialogue

ユウジ：うちの^{こども}子供は^{はな}話すのが好きなんだよね。

Yuji: My child enjoys talking.

- うち inside; of; before; home; my place; family; うちの my: うちの^{いえ}家 my home
- ^{こども}子供 child
- ^{はな}話す to talk; to tell; to speak
- ~の の can make other words, such as verbs, function like a noun: ^た食べるのはやめる。I will stop eating.
- ^す好き favorite; to like; to love
- ~よね shares mutual sentiments; confirms some information: ^{さむ}寒いよね。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 fairly certain about the statement and expect the other person to agree

マサシ：うちの^{こども}子供もそうだよ。

Masashi: So does my child.

- ~も too; also; ^{わたし}私も行く! I'll go too!; but: ^{がんば}頑張っても^{でき}出来なかった。I tried my best, but I couldn't do it.

ユウジ：だから^{せんせい}先生にもいろいろ^{はな}話すみたい。

Yuji: That's why he seems to talk to his teacher about various things.

- ^{せんせい}先生 teacher; professor; doctor

マサシ：そうなんだ。

Masashi: Ah, I see.

ユウジ：^{せんせい}先生もよく^き聞いてくれるしね。

Yuji: His teacher also listens to him patiently.

- よく good; well; often: ^{にほん}日本によく^い行きます。 I go to Japan often.
- ^き聞いて te-form of ^き聞く; 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...
- ^き聞く to hear; to listen; to ask; to obey
- ~てくれる to do something as a favor: ^{がっこう}学校に^き来てくれる? Can you come to the school?; ~てくれな^い indicates that someone is not doing something even if you want them to: ^{すずき}鈴木くんが^{がっこう}学校に^き来てくれない。 Suzuki-kun is not coming to school (even though I want him to.)
- ~し and; besides; because, since; ^{あめ}雨だし^い行かない。 / ^い行かない、^{あめ}雨だし。 I won't go. Besides, it's raining.

マサシ：^{せんせい}それはいい先生だね。

Masashi: That's a good teacher.

- それ that
- いい good: ^{えいが}映画よ^いかった! The film was great!; you may use this to indicate your preference or choice: ^{わたし}私、ラーメンが^いいい。 I'd like to choose ramen; いいね is the Japanese version of "like" on social media.