

1. Situation

Two coworkers, Sato-san and Shimada-san, are talking in the office.

Dialogue

さとう しまだ はん た はや
佐藤：島田さん、ご飯食べるの、早いですよね。

しまだ はや ふつう
島田：早い？普通じゃない？

さとう むかし はや
佐藤：昔から早いですか？

しまだ むかし
島田：そうだね。昔からだね。

Breakdown

さとう しまだ はん た はや
佐藤：島田さん、ご飯食べるの、早いですよね。

Sato: Shimada-san, you are fast at eating food, aren't you?

- ご飯 rice; meal: 朝ご飯(朝食・朝飯) breakfast, 昼ご飯(昼食・昼飯) lunch, 夜ご飯(夕飯・夕食) dinner; supper
- 食べる to eat
- ~の の can make other words, such as verbs or adjectives, function like a noun: 食べるのはやめる。I will stop eating. 欲しいのはどれ? Which is the one you want?
- 早い early; soon; 速い fast
- ~よね shares mutual sentiments; confirms some information: 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.

しまだ はや ふつう
島田：早い？普通じゃない？

Shimada: Am I fast? Isn't this normal?

- 普通 normal; regular; ordinary; common

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さとう むかし はや
佐藤：昔から早いんですか？

Sato: Have you been eating fast since a long time ago?

- ^{むかし} 昔 the past; in the past; once (in the past)
- ～から from; after: ^{にほん} 日本から ^き 来ました。I'm from Japan.
- ～のです、んです、のだ、んだ、の actually, as a matter of fact: ^{あした} 明日、^{えいがみ} 映画見たいんですよ/だよ
ね。I actually want to watch a movie tomorrow; often used with ^い けど: すいません、トイレに行きたい
んですけど/だけど。。。Excuse me, I'd like to go to the bathroom; used to ask for a reason: なん
で ^{あした} 明日、^{かいしゃ} 会社 ^こ 来ないんですか/ ^こ 来ないの? Why are you not coming to work tomorrow?; used to confirm
or react to your observation: もう ^{かえ} 帰るんですか/ ^{かえ} 帰るの? Are you going home already?; emphasizes
discontentment or anger: ^{なに} 何言ってるんだよ/ ^{なに} なんです。 what the heck are you talking about?; ～なんだ
with nouns, na-adjectives, and adverbs: ^{あしたあめ} 明日雨なんだ。It will rain tomorrow.

しまだ むかし
島田：そうだね。昔からだね。

Shimada: That's right. I have been (eating like this) since a long time ago.

- そう so (as in "I think so"): ^{おも} そう思う。I think so. ; そうなんだ。I see.; that is so, that's
right
- ～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).

2. Situation

Tanaka-san is talking to a store clerk while showing something on the smartphone.

Dialogue

たなか ほん
田中：この本はありますか？

てんいん いま
店員：ああ、これ、今なくなっちゃったんですよ。

たなか
田中：そうなんですか…。

てんいん はい
店員：でも、また入りますよ。

たなか き
田中：じゃあ、また、来ます。

Breakdown

たなか ほん
田中：この本はありますか？

Tanaka: Do you have this book?

- これ this, these; この this, these (possessive): この車 this car
- 本 book
- あります ます form of ある; ~ます makes a keigo (polite) sentence
- ある to be (existence); to have (possession); to happen; use ある for objects and いる for people and animals

てんいん いま
店員：ああ、これ、今なくなっちゃったんですよ。

Clerk: Ah, we now ran out of stock (this one is just gone).

- 今 now
- なくなる to disappear; to be gone
- ちゃった past form of ちゃう
- ~てしまう、ちゃう to end up doing; to do accidentally; to do without meaning to; to happen to do; to connect a verb to ちゃう, simply remove た from the paste form: 食べちゃう to end up eating

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

田中たなか: そうなんですか…。

Tanaka: Is that right...?

店員てんいん: でも、また入はいりますよ。

Clerk: But we will stock it again (it will come in again).

- でも but; however: でも、日本にほんに行いきたい。But, I want to go to Japan; even: プロでも出で出来ない。Even professionals can't do it.; or something; things like; how about; often used to soften a word and doesn't have a lot of meanings: お茶ちやでもどう? How about tea?; ラーメンでも食たべる? Do you want to eat (things like) ramen?
- また adv additionally; moreover; conj. again; too; and: また来きます。I'll come here again.
- 入はいります ます form of 入はいる; ~ます makes a keigo (polite) sentence
- 入はいる to enter; to come in; to go in

田中たなか: じゃあ、また、来きます。

Tanaka: In that case, I will come again.

- じゃ、じゃあ well, so, then; if: 雨あめじゃ外そとで遊あそべないね。If it's raining, we can't play outside.
- 来きます ます form of 来くる; ~ます makes a keigo (polite) sentence
- 来くる to come

3. Situation

A father is calling out to his daughter Saori.

Dialogue

ちち い
父：どこ行くの？

サオリ ともだち うみ い まえ い
サオリ：友達と海に行くの。この前言ったじゃん。

ちち き
父：聞いてないよ。

サオリ い わたし はなし き
サオリ：言ったよ！私の話、聞いてないんだよね。

ちち
父：ごめん、ごめん。

Breakdown

ちち い
父：どこ行くの？

Father: Where are you going?

- どこ where
- 行く to go
- ~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!; わたし 聞いてないよ。 sounds feminine.

サオリ ともだち うみ い まえ い
サオリ：友達と海に行くの。この前言ったじゃん。

Saori: I'm going to the sea with my friend. I told you the other day, didn't I?

- ともだち 友達 friend
- うみ 海 sea; ocean
- この前 some time ago; recently; lately; the other day: まえ 前車買ったよ。 I bought a car the other day.
- 言った past form of 言う
- 言う to say; to speak; to talk; to mean: どういう意味? What does it mean? あつ 暑いって意味。 It means "hot".

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- ~じゃん、~じゃない、~じゃないですか じゃん: common way of ending a sentence mainly in Kanto region, a colloquial form of じゃない; isn't it; 今日寒いじゃん。だから出かけない。It's cold today, right? So I won't go out; You know I don't have money, right?; 鈴木さん、会社来たじゃないですか? 何ですか? Suzuki-san came to work, right? Why?; expresses a slight surprise or emphasizes a remark: へえ、歌、うまいじゃん。Wow, you are a good singer.

ちち き
父: 聞いてないよ。

Father: I didn't hear about that.

- 聞いて te-form of 聞く; 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...
- 聞く to hear; to listen; to ask; to obey
- ~て(い)ない negative form of ~て(いる)
- ~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?

サオリ: 言ったよ! 私の話、聞いてないんだよね。

Saori: I told you! You don't listen to what I say, do you?

- 話 story; talk

ちち
父: ごめん、ごめん。

Father: Sorry, sorry.

4. Situation

Manami is showing her friend, Lisa, a photograph.

Dialogue

マナミ：見て。うちの子供たち。

リサ：マナミの子供たち？

マナミ：そう！

リサ：まだ小さいんだね。かわいい！

マナミ：もう、毎日、大変。でも楽しいよ。

Breakdown

マナミ：見て。うちの子供たち。

Manami: Look. My children.

- 見て te-form of 見る; 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...
- 見る to see; to look; to watch; to check; we use 観る for things like sports or TV shows
- うち inside; of; before; home; my place; family; うちの my: うちの家 my home
- 子供 child
- ~たち makes a noun (mostly people, animals) plural: 私たち we, 子どもたち children, クマたち bears

リサ：マナミの子供たち？

Lisa: Your children, Manami?

マナミ：そう！

Manami: That's right!

リサ：まだちい小さいんだね。かわいい！

Lisa: They're still small, aren't they? They're cute!

- まだ yet; still: まだかえ帰れない。I can't go home yet.
- ちい小さい small; little; tiny
- かわいい cute; nice; lovely

マナミ：もう、まいにち毎日、たいへん大変。でもたの楽しいよ。

Manami: It's just so busy every day. But it's fun.

- もう already; soon; again; more; strengthens expression of an emotion; filler word: なんか、もう、かえ帰ろうよ。 Like, let's go home already?
- まいにち毎日 every day
- たいへん大変 serious; terrible; hard; difficult
- たの楽しい pleasant; happy; enjoyable; fun