

1. Situation

Miki is talking to a teacher at school.

Dialogue

みき：この前まえ見みましたよ。

先生せんせい：なになにを？

みき：彼女かのじょと歩あるいてるの。

先生せんせい：その人ひと、彼女かのじょじゃないよ。

みき：ほんとですか？

先生せんせい：うん。大学だいがくからの友達ともだち。

Breakdown

みき：この前まえ見みましたよ。

Miki: I saw the other day.

- 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.
- 見みました past form of 見みます
- 見みます ます form of 見みる; ~ます makes a keigo (polite) sentence
- 見みる to see; to look; to watch; to check; we use 観みる for things like sports or TV shows
- ~よ introduces new information; emphasises a sentence: 朝あさだよ! It's morning!

先生せんせい：なになにを？

Teacher: (Saw) what?

- 何なに/なん what

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みき：^{かのじよ}彼女と^{ある}歩いているの。

Miki: (You) walking with your girlfriend.

- ^{かのじよ}彼女 she; girlfriend
- ^{ある}歩いて(い)る progressive form of ^{ある}歩く: まだ、^た食べてる。I'm still eating.
- ^{ある}歩く to walk
- ~の の can make other words, such as verbs or adjectives, function like a noun: ^た食べるのはやめる。I will stop eating; ^ほ欲しいのはどれ? Which is the one you want?

せんせい ^{ひと} ^{かのじよ}
先生: その人、彼女じゃないよ。

Teacher: That person isn't my girlfriend.

- その that
- ^{ひと}人 person; people; human being
- ^{かのじよ}彼女じゃない negative form of ^{かのじよ}彼女(だ)

みき: ほんとですか？

Miki: Really?

- ^{ほんとう}本当、ほんと truth; right; really

せんせい ^{だいがく} ^{ともだち}
先生: うん。大学からの友達。

Teacher: Yeah. It's my friend from university.

- うん (casual, non-keigo) yes; yeah
- ^{だいがく}大学 university; college
- ~から from; after: ^{にほん}日本から^き来ました。I'm from Japan.
- ^{ともだち}友達 friend

2. Situation

Shinji is making plans to call his junior, Keiko.

Dialogue

しんじ：今日の夜、電話できる？

けいこ：何時ぐらいですか？

しんじ：10時ぐらいかな。

けいこ：わかりました。

しんじ：まだ寝てないよね？その時間。

けいこ：はい、たぶん。

Breakdown

しんじ：今日の夜、電話できる？

Shinji: Can we talk on the phone tonight?

- 今日 today
- 夜 night; evening
- 電話 telephone, call; 電話する to call (on the phone)
- できる to be able to do, to be good at; to be ready; to be made: 彼女ができる=to find a girlfriend; 友達ができる=to make a friend

けいこ：何時ぐらいですか？

Keiko: About what time?

- 時 time, when: 子供の時 when I was a child; 時 o'clock
- ~ぐらい、くらい about; around; as ... as ...; like; to there point where: 時間を忘れるくらい楽しかった。It was so fun that I almost forgot time.

しんじ：10時ぐらいかな。

Shinji: Maybe around 10 o'clock.

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- ～かな indicates uncertainty; softens a sentence: ちょっと寒いかな。 I think it's a bit cold.

けいこ：わかりました。

Keiko: Alright.

- わかりました past form of わかります
- わかります ます form of わかる; ～ます makes a keigo (polite) sentence
- わかる to understand; to see; to know

しんじ：まだ寝てないよね？その時間。

Shinji: You won't be asleep yet, right? At that time.

- まだ yet; still: まだ帰れない。 I can't go home yet.
- 寝て(い)ない negative form of 寝て(い)る
- 寝て(い)る progressive form of 寝る: まだ、食べてる。 I'm still eating.
- 寝る to sleep; to lie down; to go to bed
- ～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.
- 時間 time; hour: 一時間 one hour, 二時間 two hours

けいこ：はい、たぶん。

Keiko: Right, probably.

- たぶん probably; perhaps; maybe

3. Situation

Saki and Yui are talking about a photograph.

Dialogue

さき：この^{しゃしん}写真見て！

ゆい：きれいな^{うみ}海の^{しゃしん}写真だね。

さき：きれいだよね。

ゆい：どこの^{うみ}海？

さき：日本の^{にほん}海の^{うみ}だよ。

ゆい：ほんと？日本の^{にほん}じゃないみたい！

Breakdown

さき：この^{しゃしん}写真見て！

Saki: Look at this photograph!

- これ this, these; この this, these (possessive): この^{くるま}車 this car
- ^{しゃしん}写真 picture; photo
- 見て te-form of 見る; 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...

ゆい：きれいな^{うみ}海の^{しゃしん}写真だね。

Yui: That's a pretty photo of the sea.

- きれい beautiful; pretty; clean
- ^{うみ}海 sea; ocean
- ～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).

さき：きれいだよね。

Saki: It's pretty, isn't it?

ゆい：どこの^{うみ}海？

Yui: Where is this sea from?

- どこ where

さき：日本の^{にほん うみ}海だよ。

Saki: It's Japan's sea.

- ^{にほん}日本 Japan

ゆい：ほんと？^{にほん}日本じゃないみたい！

Yui: Really? It's like it's not Japan!

- ^{にほん}日本じゃない negative form of ^{にほん}日本(だ)
- ～みたい like; it seems that...; as if...: ^{あしたあめ}明日雨みたい。It seems like it's raining tomorrow.

4. Situation

Yoko is talking about Sunday's plans with Yuji.

Dialogue

ようこ：^{にちようび}日曜日何かする？

ゆうじ：^{なに}何もしない。^{いえ}家にいるよ。

ようこ：じゃあ家に行ってもいい？

ゆうじ：いいよ。

ようこ：^{なに}何か^か買^たって^{もの}くね。食^たべる物。

Breakdown

ようこ：^{にちようび}日曜日何かする？

Yoko: Will you be doing something on Sunday?

- ^{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
- ^{なに}何か、^{なにか}なんか something; things like ..., or something like that ...; conversation filler: ^{なん}んか、^{さむ}寒い。Well, it's cold; emphasises noun, often in a deprecating way: ^{さかな}魚 ^{きら}なんか嫌い。I don't like something like fish.
- ^{する}する to do; to make; to decide on; to choose

ゆうじ：^{なに}何もしない。^{いえ}家にいるよ。

Yuji: I won't be doing anything. I'll be at home.

- ^{なに}何も anything; nothing: ^{なに}何もない。There's nothing; ^{なに}何も ^た食^たべれない。I can't eat anything.
- ^{しない}しない negative form of ^{する}する
- ^{いえ}家 house; home
- ^{いる}いる to be; to exist; to stay; use ^{ある}ある for objects and ^{いる}いる for people and animals

ようこ：じゃあ家に行ってもいい？

Yoko: Then can I go to your house?

- ^{じゃ}じゃ、^{じゃあ}じゃあ well, so, then; if: ^{あめ}雨 ^{そと}じゃ外 ^{あそ}で遊^{あそ}べないね。If it's raining, we can't play outside.

- 行って te-form of 行く^い; 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^{きのうがっこうい べんきょう}して。。。 I went to school yesterday, studied, and...
- 行く to go
- ~ていい、てもいい expression to give or ask for permission: 食べていい^た? Can I eat?; 食べていいよ。 You can eat (it's OK to eat); 食べなくていいよ^た。 You don't have to eat (It's OK not to eat); てもいい is softer: (I) don't mind if: 夕食^{ゆうしょくつく}作ってもいいよ。 I don't mind cooking dinner; can I...?: ペン^か借りてもいい? Can I borrow your pen?

ゆうじ: いいよ。

Yuji: Sure.

- よい、いい good: 映画^{えいが}よかった! The film was great!; you may use this to indicate your preference or choice: 私^{わたし}、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.

ようこ: 何か^{なに か}買^たって^{もの}くね。 食べる物。

Yoko: I'll buy something and bring it there. Something to eat.

- 買^かって te-form of 買^かう; 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^{きのうがっこうい べんきょう}して。。。 I went to school yesterday, studied, and...
- 買^かう to buy
- ~ていく、てく _ and go; describes an additional action along with the other action; may imply that you are leaving where you are; may imply continuity of action: ご飯^{はんた}食べていく。 I'll eat (and go somewhere else.); indicates what you are going to do in the future: これから^{ひとり}一人で仕事^{しごと}していきます。 From now on, I'm going to work alone.
- 食べる^た to eat
- 物^{もの} thing; object; stuff