

1. Situation

A conversation about breakfast between elder sister Haru and her younger sister Aki.

Dialogue

アキ:おはよう。

Aki: Good morning.

- おはよう good morning

ハル:おはよう。

Haru: Good morning.

アキ:もう、^た食べた？

Aki: Have you eaten?

- もう already; soon; again; strengthens expression of an emotion; filler word: なんか、もう、^{かえ}帰ろうよ: Like, let's go home already?
- ^た食べた past tense of ^た食べる
- ^た食べる to eat

ハル:まだだよ。

Haru: Not yet.

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

アキ:^{いっしょ}一緒に^た食べよう。

Aki: Let's eat together.

- ^{いっしょ}一緒に together; with

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- ～に indicates a destination, place or point of attention: 日本にほんに行くい to go to Japan; 友達ともだちに話すはな to talk to a friend; indicates the result or goal of an action: 大人おとなになる to become an adult; indicates an actor in a passive sentence: 先生せんせいに見つかったみ. I was found by a teacher.
- 食べよう ou form of 食べる; ～ou expresses suggestion; let's __; 食べよう。 let's eat; 行こう。 let's go; 遊ぼうあそ。 let's play; 作ろうつく。 let's make.

ハル: 食べれない。

Haru: I can't.

- 食べ(ら)れない negative form of 食べ(ら)れる
- 食べ(ら)れる potential form of 食べる; ～(ら)れる expresses possibility; can; can be; some people consider ～られる is a correct form, however, many people use ～れる in spoken Japanese

アキ: 時間じかんがないの？

Aki: Are you running late?

- 時間じかん time
- ない negative form of ある (to exist); 明日あした行かない I won't go tomorrow; not; nonexistent; not being (there)

ハル: うん。もう、会社かいしゃに行くよ。

Haru: Uhuh. I'm going to work now.

- うん (casual, non-keigo) yes; yeah
- 会社かいしゃ company; firm
- 行くい to go

2. Situation

Ken and Anne are talking about where they would like to live at.

Dialogue

アン: ねえ、^す住みたい^{くに}国ってある？

Anne: So, is there a country you would like to live at?

- ねえ hey
- ^す住みたい ^{たい} form of ^す住む; ^{～たい} expresses desire; I want to __
- ^す住む to live
- ^{くに}国 country
- ^{って} about; as for: ^{なまえ}名前^{って}何^{なん}ですか? What's your name?; in spoken Japanese, people use ^{って} very often instead of ^は; ラーメン^{って}好き^すですか? Do you like ramen? (instead of ラーメン^は好き^すですか?)
- ある to be (existence); to have (possession); to happen; use ある for objects and いる for people and animals

ケン: うん、^{にほん}日本。

Ken: Yes, Japan.

- ^{にほん}日本 Japan

アン: ^{にほん}日本、^す好き？

Anne: Oh, you like Japan?

- ^す好き favorite; to like; to love

ケン: うん、^す好きだよ。

Ken: Yeah, I like it.

アン: へえ、そうなんだ。^す住みたい^{いえ}家は？

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Anne: Hmm, I see. What kind of house would you like to live in?

- へえ oh, yes?; really?
- そう so (as in "I think so"); そう^{おも}思う。 I think so. ; そうなんだ。 I see.
- 家^{いえ} house; home
- ～は？ how about?: 学校^{がっこう}は？ How about school?

ケン: やっぱり、大きい家^{おお いえ}がいいかな。

Ken: A big house, of course.

- やっぱり as (one) expected; still; either way; after all; nonetheless
- 大きい^{おお} big; large; great
- 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.
- ～かな indicates uncertainty; softens a sentence; ちょっと^{さむ}寒いかな。 I think it's a bit cold.

アン: そうだよ。でも、大きい家^{おお いえ}って高く^{たか}くない？

Anne: Well, of course. Aren't big houses expensive, though?

- ～よね shares mutual sentiments; confirms some information: 寒い^{さむ}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 certain about the statement.
- でも but; however; or something; でも、日本^{にほん}に行きたい。 But, I want to go to Japan; even: プロでも出来ない。 Even professionals can't do it.
- 高く^{たか}くない negative form of 高い^{たか}
- 高い^{たか} high; tall; expensive

ケン: うん。お金^{かね}がたくさん^{ひつよう}必要だよ。

Ken: Uhuh. I'll need a lot of money, I guess.

- [お]金^{かね} money
- たくさん many; much; a lot

- ひつよう
必要 necessary

3. Situation

During class at school, the teacher asks Takeshi.

Dialogue

せんせい 先生：この^{もんだい}問題、^わ分かる？

Teacher: Do you know the solution to this problem?

- この this
- ^{もんだい}問題 problem; question
- ^わ分かる to understand; to see

タケシ：えーと、^わ分かりません。

Takeshi: Erm, no.

- ^わ分かりません negative form of ^わわかります
- ^わわかります ます form of ^わ分かる; ~ます makes a keigo (polite) sentence

せんせい 先生：^{はなし}話、よく^き聞いてた？

Teacher: Were you listening attentively?

- ^{はなし}話 story; talk
- 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(い)た past tense of ~て(い)る
- ~ている verb form to express continuation; ^た食べる + ている = ^た食べている eating; てる is a colloquial version of ている; some verbs such as ^し知る 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、知ってんの? Do you know that?

タケシ: ううん。ごめんなさい。

Takeshi: No. I'm sorry.

- ううん nuh-uh; no
- ごめんなさい I'm sorry

せんせい 先生: よく聞いてね。

Teacher: Please listen carefully.

- ~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).

タケシ: はい、分かりました。

Takeshi: Yes, understood.

- はい yes
- 分かりました past tense of 分かります

4. Situation

Sato-san is showing a colleague at work, Tanaka-san a picture of his child's baseball team.

Dialogue

さとう 佐藤：ねえ、ちょっと見て。うちの^{こども}子供。

Sato: Hey, look at this. It's my son.

- ちょっと (just) a little; a bit; (conversation filler)
- 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^{いえ}家 my home
- ~の indicate possession: 私の^{こども}子供 my child; その^{くるま}車、私の^{わたし}の。 That car is mine; 私の^{わたし}食べる? Do you want to eat mine?
- ^{こども}子供 child

たなか 田中：どこ？

Tanaka: Which one?

- どこ where

さとう 佐藤：ここ。一番^{いちばん}前^{まえ}。

Sato: This one. In front.

- ここ here
- ^{いちばん}一番 number one; first; most
- ^{まえ}前 forward; front; before

たなか 田中：あ、^わ分かりました。

Tanaka: Oh, I see.

- あ er; uh; um; hmm; ah; oh

さとう
佐藤: もう、私わたしよりおお大きいんですよ。

Sato: He's already bigger than me.

- ~より than; from; カナダにほんは日本おおより大きい。 Canada is bigger than Japan.
- んです commonly used when you explain something; 実際じつは日本人にほんじんなんです。 In fact, I'm Japanese.

たなか
田中: へえ、本当ほんとう？

Tanaka: Wow, really?

- 本当ほんとう truth; right; really