

Learn Japanese through  
Dialogues:  
At the Restaurant  
Listen. Repeat. Associate

Clay & Yumi Boutwell

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## INTRODUCTION

Finally, a fun and easy way to learn REAL conversational Japanese!

We are including, at no extra charge, MP3s for all the dialogues found in this book. Create play-lists to study on the go or burn the sound files to a CD to listen at home. **The download link is found on the last page.**

The dialogues found in this book are all about context and how Japanese is actually used among friends and new acquaintances.

Each dialogue will have four tracks associated with it. The Japanese is all recorded by native voice actors and actresses.

First, the dialogue is presented naturally and all in Japanese. This may be too fast for you at first, but try listening to it a few times to attune your ears.

The second track has the dialogue again but the English meaning is spoken right after each line of Japanese.

The third track covers the vocabulary found in the dialogue. Every word is defined with the English meaning spoken after each Japanese phrase.

The fourth track has the dialogue again but leaves space for repetition. Try to mimic the Japanese speakers in sound and presentation.

The book itself contains the dialogue with the English translation, but it also adds cultural or grammatical notes to help you understand the dialogue in context.

While you do not have to know hiragana before using this book (romaji is provided), we highly recommend it. Every kanji here has furigana (small hiragana) over it to aid reading. However, if you do not yet know hiragana, please check out our Hiragana, the Basics of Japanese eBook and paperback.

Let's get started!

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Dialogue One

# Making Reservations

## Dialogue One: in Japanese Making Reservations

First, let's view the dialogue in natural Japanese with translation.

① あの、すみませんが、今夜<sup>こんやはちじ</sup>8時に  
予約<sup>よやく</sup>をしたいのですが。

② はい、かしこまりました。何名様<sup>なんめいさま</sup>  
ですか？

① 四人<sup>よんにん</sup>です。

② 室内<sup>しつない</sup>のテーブル席<sup>せき</sup>になさいます  
か？それとも屋外<sup>おくがい</sup>になさいますか？

① 天気<sup>てんき</sup>がいいので、外<sup>そと</sup>がいいと思<sup>おも</sup>い  
ます。

② はい、かしこまりました。なにか  
ほかにご希望<sup>きぼう</sup>などはございません  
か？

## Dialogue One: in Japanese Making Reservations

Try to read the Japanese on the left page first. Use this page only when necessary.

① *ano, sumimasen ga, konya hachi ji ni yoyaku wo shitai no desu ga.*

Hello. I would like to make a reservation for tonight at eight.

② *hai, kashikomarimashita. nanmei sama desu ka?*  
Sure, how many people will be in your party?

① *yonin desu.*  
Four.

② *shitsunai no te-buru seki ni nasaimasu ka? soretomo okugai ni nasaimasu ka?*  
Would you like a table inside or would you prefer a seat outside?

① *tenki ga ii node, soto ga ii to omoimasu.*  
The weather is nice so outside would be great.

② *hai, kashikomarimashita. nanika hokani gokibou nado wa gozaimasen ka?*  
Sure. Is there anything else I can get for you?

① はい、あります。<sup>わたし</sup>私<sup>つま</sup>の妻<sup>たんじょう</sup>の誕生  
<sup>び</sup>日<sup>も</sup>ですので、ケーキをテーブルに持つ  
てきてほしいのですが。

② それは<sup>すてき</sup>素敵<sup>かんが</sup>なお考<sup>え</sup>えですね。お  
<sup>しょくじ</sup>食事<sup>も</sup>のあと、ケーキをお持ちいたし  
ます。

① いいですね、それと、<sup>しょくご</sup>食後<sup>ねが</sup>に  
ワインもお願いしたいのですが。

② はい、<sup>おくがい</sup>屋外<sup>せき</sup>のお席<sup>はちじ</sup>、8時<sup>よやく</sup>にご予約  
<sup>うけたまわ</sup>承<sup>り</sup>りました。

① ありがとうございます。ワインと  
ケーキは、ウェイトレスが<sup>も</sup>持つてき  
てくれますね？



① *hai, arimasu. watashi no tsuma no tanjoubi desu node, ke-ki wo te-buru ni motte kite hoshii no desu ga.*

Yes, it is my wife's birthday and I would like a cake brought to the table.

② *sore wa suteki na okangae desu ne. o shokuji no ato, ke-ki wo omochi itashimasu.*

How nice! Yes, we can have it brought out at the end of your meal.

① *ii desu ne, soreto, shokugo ni wain mo onegai shitai no desu ga.*

Great! I would also like a bottle of wine after the meal.

② *hai, okugai no oseki, hachi ji ni goyoyaku uketamawarimashita.*

Okay, your table for four outside will be ready for you at eight o'clock.

① *arigatou gozaimasu. wain to ke-ki wa, ueitoresu ga motte kite kuremasu ne?*

Thank you, and our server will bring out the wine and cake?

② はい、お<sup>しょくじ</sup>食事のあとお<sup>も</sup>持ちいたします。そのほかになにかございますか？

① いえ、ありません。<sup>いじょう</sup>以上です。

② ありがとうございます。

② *hai, o shokuji no ato omochi itashimasu. sono hokani nanika gozaimasu ka?*

Yes at the end of your meal. May I help you with anything else?

① *ie, arimasen. ijou desu.*

No, thank you that will be all. Bye.

② *arigatou gozaimashita.*

Thank you.

## Dialogue One: Line-by-Line Making Reservations

Tackle each line individually. Try to understand the sentence structure, grammar, and become familiar with the vocabulary.

あの、すみませんが、今夜 8 時に  
予約をしたいのですが。

*ano, sumimasen ga, konya hachi ji ni yoyaku wo shitai no desu  
ga.*

Hello. I would like to make a reservation for tonight at eight.



"ano" - "um"; "sumimasen ga" would mean "Sorry for the trouble but ~" -- it is something you would say to be polite before making a request.

## VOCABULARY

あの *ano* umm; said as a polite way to get someone's attention

すみません *sumimasen* sorry; excuse me

が *ga* but; however

今夜 *konya* tonight

8 時に *hachi ji ni* at 8 o'clock

予約 *yoyaku* reservation

を *wo* (direct object marker)

したい *shitai* want to

のですが *no desu ga* The "no" + "desu" is a sentence ender which indicates the speaker is explaining something. The "ga," meaning "but" is added to soften the request.

はい、かしこまりました。何名様ですか？

*hai, kashikomarimashita. nanmei sama desu ka?*

Sure, how many people will be in your party?



"*hai, kashikomarimashita*" would mean "Yes, I have respectfully received your request"; this is a standard reply used by servers when they take orders or requests from the customers.

## VOCABULARY

はい *hai* yes

かしこまりました *kashikomarimashita* I understand; yes

何名様 *nanmei sama* how many people [Normally, you can say, "*nan nin*" for "how many people," but in the context of a restaurant, you will hear the very polite, "*nan mei sama*."]

です *desu* copula (a word used to link the subject of a sentence with a predicate; often like the English "to be")

か *ka* question marker (grammatical)

四人です。

*yonin desu.*

Four.



Notice the pronunciation is "*yonin*" not "*yonnin*."

## VOCABULARY

四人 *yonin* four people

です *desu* copula (a word used to link the subject of a sentence with a predicate; often like the English "to be")

室内のテーブル席になさいますか？それ  
とも屋外になさいますか？

*shitsunai no te-buru seki ni nasaimasu ka? soreto mo okugai ni  
nasaimasu ka?*

Would you like a table inside or would you prefer a seat  
outside?



"*seki*" is usually "seat" but in this case it is "table";  
"*soretomo*" - "or"

## VOCABULARY

室内 *shitsunai* inside (the restaurant)

の *no* possession (grammatical)

テーブル *te-buru* table

席 *seki* seat

になさいますか？ *ni nasaimasu ka?* will be?

それとも *soretomo* or

屋外 *okugai* outside (the restaurant)

になさいますか？ *ni nasaimasu ka?* will be?

天気がいいので、外がいいと思います。

*tenki ga ii node, soto ga ii to omoimasu.*

The weather is nice so outside would be great.



"~ *node*" is the same as "because ~" but notice its position in the sentence.

## VOCABULARY

天気 *tenki* weather

が *ga* [grammar: usually marks the subject of the sentence.]

いい *ii* good; nice

ので *node* because; therefore

外 *soto* outside

が *ga* subject marker (grammar)

いい *ii* good; nice

と思います *to omoimasu* I think



はい、かしこまりました。なにかほかにご希望などはございませんか？

*hai, kashikomarimashita. nanika hokani gokibou nado wa gozaimasen ka?*

Sure. Is there anything else I can get for you?



"*gokibou*" ("*go*" + "*kibou* - hope") - something you would want; adding the polite "*go*" shows respect to the customer.

## VOCABULARY

はい *hai* yes

かしこまりました *kashikomarimashita* I understand; yes

なにか *nanika* something

ほか *hokani* in addition

ご希望 *go kibou* your wish; your order (the "*go*" makes it polite when referring to someone else's wish)

など *nado* etc.

は *wa* (particle topic marker - hiragana "*ha*" but pronounced "*wa*")

ございません *gozaimasen* there isn't

か *ka* question marker (grammatical)

はい、あります。私の妻の誕生日ですの  
で、ケーキをテーブルに持ってきてほし  
いのですが。

*hai, arimasu. watashi no tsuma no tanjoubi desu node, ke-ki wo  
te-buru ni motte kite hoshii no desu ga.*

Yes, it is my wife's birthday and I would like a cake brought  
to the table.



A sentence which ends with "- *desu ga*" is a soft way of requesting something instead of sounding too direct when giving an order.

## VOCABULARY

はい *hai* yes

あります *arimasu* have; exist

私 *watashi* I; me (used by males and females)

の *no* possession (grammatical)

妻 *tsuma* wife

の *no* possession (grammatical)

誕生日 *tanjoubi* birthday

です *desu* copula (a word used to link the subject of a sentence with a predicate; often like the English "to be")

ので *node* because; therefore

ケーキ *ke-ki* cake

を *wo* (direct object marker)

テーブル *te-buru* table

に *ni* to (the table)

持ってきて *motte kite* brought; literally, "hold and come"

ほしい *hoshii* want

のですが *no desu ga* The "no" + "desu" is a sentence ender which indicates the speaker is explaining something. The "ga," meaning "but" is added to soften the request.

それは素敵なお考えですね。お食事のあと、ケーキをお持ちいたします。

*sore wa suteki na okangae desu ne. o shokuji no ato, ke-ki wo omochi itashimasu.*

How nice! Yes, we can have it brought out at the end of your meal.



"*suteki*" means "nice," "lovely," or "cool" and is very commonly used.

## VOCABULARY

それは *sore wa* that

素敵な *suteki na* nice; good

お考え *o kangae* thought

です *desu* copula (a word used to link the subject of a sentence with a predicate; often like the English "to be")

ね *ne* isn't it? [a very common and versatile sentence ender]

お食事 *o shokuji* food

の *no* possession (grammatical)

あと *ato* after

ケーキ *ke-ki* cake

を *wo* (direct object marker)

お持ちいたします *o mochi itashimasu* will carry out

いいですね、それと、食後にワインもお  
願いしたいのですが。

*ii desu ne, soreto, shokugo ni wain mo onegai shitai no desu ga.*

Great! I would also like a bottle of wine after the meal.



"soreto" - also; "shokugo 食後" - *shoku* (to eat) + go (after)

## VOCABULARY

いい *ii* good; nice

です *desu* copula (a word used to link the subject of a sentence with a predicate; often like the English "to be")

ね *ne* isn't it? [a very common and versatile sentence ender]

それと *sore to* that and

食後に *shokugo ni* after eating

ワイン *wain* wine

も *mo* also

お願いしたい *onegai shitai* want to ask a favor [The "*shitai*" adds the meaning of "to want to..."]

のですが *no desu ga* The "*no*" + "*desu*" is a sentence ender which indicates the speaker is explaining something. The "*ga*," meaning "but" is added to soften the request.

はい、屋外のお席、８時にご予約承りました。

*hai, okugai no osek, hachi ji ni goyoyaku uketamawarimashita.*

Okay, your table for four outside will be ready for you at eight o'clock.



"uketamawarimashita" is usually used by a restaurant receptionist when confirming an appointment. It means "I have respectfully received (your appointment)"

## VOCABULARY

はい *hai* yes

屋外 *okugai* outside (the restaurant)

の *no* possession (grammatical)

お席 *oseki* seat (polite)

８時に *hachi ji ni* at 8 o'clock

ご予約 *goyoyaku* reservation (polite)

承りました *uketamawarimashita* received

ありがとうございます。ワインとケーキ  
は、ウエイトレスが持ってきてくれます  
ね？

*arigatou gozaimasu. wain to ke-ki wa, ueitoresu ga motte kite  
kuremasu ne?*

Thank you, and our server will bring out the wine and cake?



Adding "ne?" at the end can make the sentence a question by asking for a confirmation.

## VOCABULARY

ありがとうございます *arigatou gozaimasu* thank you

ワイン *wain* wine

と *to* and

ケーキ *ke-ki* cake

は *wa* (particle topic marker - hiragana "*ha*" but pronounced "*wa*")

ウエイトレス *ueitoresu* waitress

が *ga* subject marker (grammar)

持ってきてくれます *motte kite kuremasu* will bring

ね *ne* [sentence ender asking for confirmation]

はい、お食事のあとお持ちいたします。

そのほかになにかございますか？

*hai, o shokuji no ato omochi itashimasu. sono hokani nanika  
gozaimasu ka?*

Yes at the end of your meal. May I help you with anything  
else?



"omochi itashimasu" means "(The server) will bring  
(them)"

## VOCABULARY

はい *hai* yes

お食事 *oshokuji* food; meal (polite)

の *no* possession (grammatical)

あと *ato* after

お持ちいたします *omochi itashimasu* will bring (to you)

そのほか *sono hoka ni* something else

なにか *nanika* something

ございます *gozaimasu* is; exists [polite form of *desu*]

か *ka* question marker (grammatical)



いえ、ありません。以上です。

*ie, arimasen. ijou desu.*

No, thank you that will be all. Bye.



"*ijou desu*" - that will be all; that is all; or that's it

## VOCABULARY

いえ *ie* no

ありません *arimasen* isn't; doesn't exist

以上 *ijou* that is all

です *desu* copula (a word used to link the subject of a sentence with a predicate; often like the English "to be")

ありがとうございました。

*arigatou gozaimashita.*

Thank you.



"*arigatou gozaimashita*" is more polite than "*arigatou*" which would not be appropriate here.

## VOCABULARY

ありがとう *arigatou* thank you

ございました *gozaimashita* past of "*gozaimasu*" [use the past form to thank for what was done already.]

Dialogue Two

# Getting a Table for a Friend

Dialogue Two: in Japanese  
Getting a Table for a Friend

First, let's view the dialogue in natural Japanese with translation.

① いらっしゃいませ。

② なんめい  
何名さまでですか？

① ふたりです。

② こちらどうぞ。

① ありがとうございます。友達<sup>ともだち</sup>は  
すぐこちら<sup>く</sup>に来るはずです。

② お友達<sup>ともだち</sup>がこちらにつきましたら、  
こちらのテーブルにご案内<sup>あんない</sup>します。

① どうも。

Dialogue Two: in Japanese  
**Getting a Table for a Friend**

Try to read the Japanese on the left page first. Use this page only when necessary.

① *irasshaimase.*

Welcome!

② *nanmei sama desu ka?*

How many in your party?

① *futari desu.*

Two.

② *kochira e douzo.*

Right this way please.

① *arigatou gozaimasu. tomodachi wa sugu kochira ni kuru hazu desu.*

Thank you. My friend should be here soon.

② *o tomodachi ga kochira ni tsukimashitara, kochira no te-buru ni goannai shimasu.*

I will show him to your table when he arrives.

① *doumo.*

Thank you.

## Dialogue Two: Line-by-Line

### Getting a Table for a Friend

Tackle each line individually. Try to understand the sentence structure, grammar, and become familiar with the vocabulary.

いらっしゃいませ。

*irasshaimase.*

Welcome!



You hear "*irasshaimase*" quite often when you enter a restaurant or a store in Japan. It is a standard phrase to greet customers.

何名さまですか？

*nanmei sama desu ka?*

How many in your party?



"*sama*" shows respect to the customer.

## VOCABULARY

何名さま *nan mei sama* how many people [The normal way to say "how many people" is "*nan nin*" but in the context of restaurants, this polite form is most common.]

です *desu* copula (a word used to link the subject of a sentence with a predicate; often like the English "to be")

か *ka* question marker (grammatical)

ふたりです。

*futari desu.*

Two.



"*futari*" is two (people); "*hitori*" is one (person); for three or more people, it is easy. Just say the number + *nin*. For example, *san nin* = 3 people; *go nin* = 5 people

## VOCABULARY

ふたり *futari* two people

です *desu* copula (a word used to link the subject of a sentence with a predicate; often like the English "to be")



こちらへどうぞ。

*kochira e douzo.*

Right this way please.



"*douzo*" is a useful word and can be used in slightly different ways in other situations.

## VOCABULARY

こちらへ *kochira e* (please go) to here

どうぞ *douzo* please

ありがとうございます。友達はすぐこちらに来るはずです。

*arigatou gozaimasu. tomodachi wa sugu kochira ni kuru hazu desu.*

Thank you. My friend should be here soon.



"*hazu*" means "supposed to ~"

## VOCABULARY

ありがとうございます *arigatou gozaimasu* thank you

友達 *tomodachi* friends

は *wa* (particle topic marker - hiragana "*ha*" but pronounced "*wa*")

すぐ *sugu* soon

こちらに *kochira ni* at here

来る *kuru* to come

はず *hazu* should be

です *desu* copula (a word used to link the subject of a sentence with a predicate; often like the English "to be")

お友達がこちらにつきましたら、こちらの  
テーブルにご案内します。

*o tomodachi ga kochira ni tsukimashitara, kochira no te-buru ni  
goannai shimasu.*

I will show him to your table when he arrives.



"*o tomodachi*" is showing respect to the customer with  
"*o*" for politeness.

## VOCABULARY

お友達 *otomodachi* friends (polite; used when referring to someone  
else's friend(s))

が *ga* but; however

こちらに *kochira ni* at here

つきましたら *tsukimashitara* if/when arrives

こちら *kochira* here

の *no* possession (grammatical)

テーブルに *te-buru ni* to the table

ご案内します *goannai shimasu* will lead; will show

どうも。

*doumo.*

Thank you.



"*doumo*" is an useful word and can be used as "Hello" in some situations.

Dialogue Three  
**Meeting Sally Late**

## Dialogue Three: in Japanese Meeting Sally Late

First, let's view the dialogue in natural Japanese with translation.

- ① こんにちは、サリー。遅<sup>おそ</sup>くなって  
ごめんね。
- ② こんにちは。いいのよ。それより  
おなかがすいちゃったわ。
- ① 注文<sup>ちゅうもん</sup>しましょう。
- ② ラザニアがおいしそうだわ。
- ① そうだね。メニューの説明<sup>せつめい</sup>だとお  
いしそうだね。
- ② これに決<sup>き</sup>めたわ。

### Dialogue Three: in Japanese

## Meeting Sally Late

Try to read the Japanese on the left page first. Use this page only when necessary.

① *konnichi wa, sari-. osoku natte gomen ne.*

Hi Sally! Sorry I'm late.

② *konnichi wa. ii no yo. sore yori onaka ga suichatta wa.*

Hi, it's okay, but I'm really hungry now!

① *chuumon shimashou.*

Let's order.

② *razia ga oishisou da wa.*

The lasagna sounds delicious!

① *sou da ne. menyū- no setsumei da to oishisou da ne.*

Yes, the description in the menu makes it sound wonderful.

② *kore ni kimeta wa.*

That's what I'll get!

## Dialogue Three: Line-by-Line

### Meeting Sally Late

Tackle each line individually. Try to understand the sentence structure, grammar, and become familiar with the vocabulary.

こんにちは、サリー。遅くなってごめん  
ね。

*konnichi wa, sari-. osoku natte gomen ne.*

Hi Sally! Sorry I'm late.



"ne" is a sentence ender used in casual conversations. This dialogue is between two friends and is therefore much more casual than the previous dialogues.

## VOCABULARY

こんにちは *konnichi wa* hello

サリー *sari-* Sally

遅くなって *osoku natte* became late

ごめん *gomen* sorry; excuse me

ね *ne* isn't it? [a very common and versatile sentence ender]



こんにちは。いいのよ。それよりおなか  
がすいちゃったわ。

*konnichi wa. ii no yo. sore yori onaka ga suichatta wa.*

Hi, it's okay, but I'm really hungry now!



"*ii no yo*" is a feminine way of saying "It's okay". "*ii yo*" would be used by both male and female among friends.

## VOCABULARY

こんにちは *konnichi wa* hello

いいのよ *iino yo* that's okay; that's fine

それより *sore yori* more than that

おなか *onaka* stomach

が *ga* subject marker (grammar)

すいちゃった *suichatta* became empty (casual) [The most common way to say "I'm hungry" is "*onaka ga suita*" (my stomach is empty); the "chatta" ending makes this more casual and childlike]

わ *wa* (sentence ender used by women)

注文しましょう。

*chuumon shimashou.*

Let's order.



*shimasu* - to do; *shimashou* - let's do~

ラザニアがおいしそうだわ。

*razia ga oishisou da wa.*

The lasagna sounds delicious!



"*da wa*" is feminine sentence ender.

## VOCABULARY

ラザニア *razia* lasagna

が *ga* subject marker (grammar)

おいそう *oishisou* looks delicious [the "-sou" adds the meaning of "looks like" or "sounds like"]

だ *da* plain form of the copula (a word used to link the subject of a sentence with a predicate; often like the English "to be")

わ *wa* (sentence ender used by women)

そうだね。メニューの説明だと  
おいしそうですね。

*sou da ne. menyu- no setsumei da to oishisou da ne.*

Yes, the description in the menu makes it sound wonderful.



"*oishisou*" means "looks good (or delicious)" or "sounds good (or delicious)"; they are expecting the food to be tasty by the look or the description. "*oishi*" is "good" or "delicious."

## VOCABULARY

そうだね *souda ne* sure; that's right

メニュー *menyu-* menu

の *no* possession (grammatical)

説明だと *setsumei dato* according to the explanation (of menu)

おいしそう *oishisou* looks delicious

だ *da* simple form of the copula (a word used to link the subject of a sentence with a predicate; often like the English "to be")

ね *ne* doesn't it? [a very common and versatile sentence ender]

これに決めたわ。

*kore ni kimeta wa.*

That's what I'll get!



"*kimeta*" - "(I) decided"

## VOCABULARY

これに *kore ni* to this (decided on this)

決めた *kimeta* decided on

わ *wa* (sentence ender used by women)

Dialogue Four

# Ordering

## Dialogue Four: in Japanese

### Ordering

First, let's view the dialogue in natural Japanese with translation.

- ① いらっしゃいませ。<sup>ぜんさい</sup>前菜はいかが  
ですか？
- ② そうですね。チップスとサルサに  
します。
- ① <sup>の</sup>お<sup>もの</sup>飲み物はなにになさいますか？
- ② <sup>ちゃ</sup>お茶を<sup>ねが</sup>お願いします。
- ① <sup>ちゅうもん</sup>ご注文は<sup>き</sup>お決まりですか？
- ② はい、ケサディアにします。
- ① サワークリームとグウアカモレを  
おつけしますか？
- ② はい、<sup>ねが</sup>お願いします。

## Dialogue Four: in Japanese Ordering

Try to read the Japanese on the left page first. Use this page only when necessary.

① *irasshaimase. zensai wa ikaga desu ka?*

Hello, would you like to start with an appetizer?

② *sou desu ne. chippusu to sarusa ni shimasu.*

Yes, I will have some chips and salsa.

① *onomimono wa nani ni nasaimasu ka?*

And what would you like to drink?

② *ocha wo onegaishimasu.*

I will have tea, please.

① *gochuumon wa okimari desu ka?*

Are you ready to order your meal?

② *hai, kesadeia ni shimasu.*

Sure, I will have quesadillas.

① *sawa-kuri-mu to guuakamore wo otsuke shimasu ka?*

Would you like sour cream and guacamole with that?

② *hai, onegaishimasu.*

Yes, sounds good.

① はい、わかりました。チップス  
とサルサ、お茶は<sup>ちゃ</sup>すぐにきます。

② ありがとう。

① デザートはいかがですか？

② はい。いちごのチーズケーキは  
ありますか？

① はい、ございます。

② じゃ、<sup>ひと</sup>き<sup>ねが</sup>一切れお願いします。



① *hai, wakarimashita. chippusu to sarusa, ocha wa suguni kimasu.*

Okay, your chips and salsa and tea will be right out.

② *arigatou.*

Thank you.

① *deza-to wa ikaga desu ka?*

Can I interest you in dessert?

② *hai. ichigo no chi-zuke-ki wa arimasu ka?*

Oh yes! Do you have strawberry cheesecake?

① *hai, gozaimasu.*

Yes we do.

② *ja, hitokire onegaishimasu.*

I would love a slice of that!

## Dialogue Four: Line-by-Line Ordering

Tackle each line individually. Try to understand the sentence structure, grammar, and become familiar with the vocabulary.

いらっしやいませ。

前菜はいかがですか？

*irasshaimase. zensai wa ikaga desu ka?*

Hello, would you like to start with an appetizer?



"zensai" is also called "*tsukidashi* つき出し" or "*tooshi* 通し" in casual Japanese restaurants where alcohol is served.

## VOCABULARY

いらっしやいませ *irasshaimase* welcome

前菜 *zensai* starters; appetizers

は *wa* (particle topic marker - hiragana "*ha*" but pronounced "*wa*")

いかが *ikaga* how about? (polite--this is the waiter speaking to a customer; the casual option for this would be "*dou desu ka?*" -- "how about this?")

です *desu* copula (a word used to link the subject of a sentence with a predicate; often like the English "to be")

か *ka* question marker (grammatical)

そうですね。チップスとサルサにします。

*sou desu ne. chippusu to sarusa ni shimasu.*

Yes, I will have some chips and salsa.



"*sou desu ne*" is like "well" or "let me see"

## VOCABULARY

そうですね *sou desu ne* yes, that's right; yes; I agree

チップス *chippusu* chips

と *to* and

サルサ *sarusa* salsa

にします *ni shimasu* to decide on ~; will take ~

お飲み物はなにになさいますか？

*onomimono wa nani ni nasaimasu ka?*

And what would you like to drink?



"onomimono" is used here instead of "*nomimono*" to be respectful to the customer.

## VOCABULARY

お飲み物 *onomimono* drink (polite)

は *wa* (particle topic marker - hiragana "*ha*" but pronounced "*wa*")

なに *nani* what

なさいます *nasaimasu* it will be~

か *ka* question marker (grammatical)

お茶をお願いします。

*ocha wo onegaishimasu.*

I will have tea, please.



"~ *wo onegaishimasu*" is useful when making an order at a restaurant.

## VOCABULARY

お茶 *ocha* green tea

を *wo* (direct object marker)

お願いします *onegai shimasu* please

ご注文はお決まりですか？

*gochuumon wa okimari desu ka?*

Are you ready to order your meal?



"*chuumon*" is "order" but "*gochuumon*" needs to be used here to be, again, respectful or polite.

## VOCABULARY

ご注文 *gochuumon* order (polite)

は *wa* (particle topic marker - hiragana "*ha*" but pronounced "*wa*")

お決まり *okimari* decided on (polite)

です *desu* copula (a word used to link the subject of a sentence with a predicate; often like the English "to be")

か *ka* question marker (grammatical)

はい、ケサディアにします。

*hai, kesadeia ni shimasu.*

Sure, I will have quesadillas.



Mexican food is not very common in Japan but it is gaining in popularity.

## VOCABULARY

はい *hai* yes

ケサディア *kesadeia* quesadilla

にします *ni shimasu* decided on

# サワークリームとグアカモレをおつけ しますか？

*sawa-kuri-mu to guuakamore wo otsuke shimasu ka?*

Would you like sour cream and guacamole with that?



"~*wo otsuke shimasu ka?*" would be "Should (we) put~ (on your plate)?" in the direct translation. "*otsuke shimasuka?*" is more polite and respectful to "*tsukemasu ka?*"

## VOCABULARY

サワークリーム *sawa-kuri-mu* sour cream

と *to* and

グアカモレ *guuakamore* guacamole

を *wo* (direct object marker)

おつけします *otsukeshimasu* to add

か *ka* question marker (grammatical)



はい、お願いします。

*hai, onegaishimasu.*

Yes, sounds good.



"*onegaishimasu*" is like saying "Yes, please." You are agreeing with the server's proposition.

## VOCABULARY

はい *hai* yes

おねがいします *onegaishimasu* please

はい、わかりました。チップスとサルサ  
、お茶はすぐにきます。

*hai, wakarimashita. chippusu to sarusa, ocha wa suguni kimasu.*

Okay, your chips and salsa and tea will be right out.



"ocha お茶" is almost always "ocha" instead of just "cha."

## VOCABULARY

はい *hai* yes

わかりました *wakarimashita* I understand; yes

チップス *chippusu* chips

と *to* and

サルサ *sarusa* salsa

お茶 *ocha* tea

は *wa* (particle topic marker - hiragana "*ha*" but pronounced "*wa*")

すぐに *sugu ni* soon

きます *kimasu* to come

ありがとう。

*arigatou.*

Thank you.



"*arigatou gozaimasu*" is more polite to "*arigatou*" and can be used in this situation.

デザートはいかがですか？

*deza-to wa ikaga desu ka?*

Can I interest you in dessert?



You might find Japanese cakes to be less sweet compared to those in the western countries.

## VOCABULARY

デザート *deza-to* desert

は *wa* (particle topic marker - hiragana "*ha*" but pronounced "*wa*")

いかが *ikaga* how about? (polite)

です *desu* copula (a word used to link the subject of a sentence with a predicate; often like the English "to be")

か *ka* question marker (grammatical)

はい。いちごのチーズケーキは  
ありますか？

*hai. ichigo no chi-zuke-ki wa arimasu ka?*

Oh yes! Do you have strawberry cheesecake?



Cheese cake was ranked as the third most loved dessert in Japan by the poll conducted by NHK in 2007.

## VOCABULARY

はい *hai* yes

いちご *ichigo* strawberry

の *no* possession (grammatical)

チーズケーキ *chi-zuke-ki* cheesecake

は *wa* (particle topic marker - hiragana "*ha*" but pronounced "*wa*")

あります *arimasu* have; exist

か *ka* question marker (grammatical)

はい、ございます。

*hai, gozaimasu.*

Yes we do.



"gozaimasu" is a more polite way of saying "arimasu."

## VOCABULARY

はい *hai* yes

ございます *gozaimasu* is; exists (polite form of *desu*)

じゃ、一切れお願いします。

*ja, hitokire onegaishimasu.*

I would love a slice of that!



"ja" - "then" or "well then"

## VOCABULARY

じゃ *ja* well then

一切れ *hitokire* one slice

お願いします *onegaishimasu* please

Dialogue Five

# Waiting for Food

Dialogue Five: in Japanese  
**Waiting for Food**

First, let's view the dialogue in natural Japanese with translation.

① おなかすいたよ。

② <sup>わたし</sup>私 もよ。なにを<sup>たの</sup>頼んだっけ？

① ハンバーガーとオニオンリングだよ。

② あら、いいわね。

① <sup>きみ</sup>君はなにを<sup>たの</sup>頼んだの？

② <sup>わたし</sup>私はグリルした<sup>さけ</sup>鮭とベイクドポテト、それにお<sup>やさ</sup>野菜よ。

① それはいいね。<sup>けんこうてき</sup>健康的だ。



## Dialogue Five: in Japanese Waiting for Food

Try to read the Japanese on the left page first. Use this page only when necessary.

① *onaka suite yo.*

I am so hungry!

② *watashi mo yo. nani wo tanondakke?*

So am I. What was it that you ordered?

① *hanba-ga- to onionringu da yo.*

I am getting a hamburger and onion rings.

② *ara, ii wa ne.*

Oh, that sounds good.

① *kimi wa nani wo tanonda no?*

What are you going to eat?

② *watashi wa guriru shita sake to beikudopoteto, sore ni oyasai yo.*

I ordered grilled salmon with a baked potato and veggies.

① *sore wa ii ne. kenkouteki da.*

That sounds good and healthy.

② どうしてこんなに時間<sup>じかん</sup>がかかるのかしら？

① さあね。でも、ほんとに遅<sup>おそ</sup>いね。

② デザートも頼<sup>たの</sup>みましょうよ。

① いいね。いい考<sup>かんが</sup>えだ。

② バナナスピリットはどう？

① おいしそうだね。

② ああ、よかった。私<sup>わたし</sup>たちのランチ<sup>き</sup>が来たわ。

② *doushite konnani jikan ga kakaru no kashira?*

I wonder what is taking so long to cook our orders.

① *saa ne. demo, honto ni osoi ne.*

I don't know, but it does seem like a long time.

② *deza-to mo tanomimashou yo.*

Let's get dessert too!

① *ii ne. ii kangae da.*

Yes, that's a good idea.

② *bananasupiritto wa dou?*

How about a banana split?

① *oishisou da ne.*

Sounds delicious!

② *aa, yokatta. watashitachi no ranchi ga kita wa.*

Oh, good! Here comes our lunch!

## Dialogue Five: Line-by-Line

### Waiting for Food

Tackle each line individually. Try to understand the sentence structure, grammar, and become familiar with the vocabulary.

おなかすいたよ。

*onaka suita yo.*

I am so hungry!



"*onaka suita*" is the most common (and casual) way to say, "(I'm) hungry." The direct translation would be "My stomach has decreased." This dialogue is very casual between two good friends.

## VOCABULARY

おなか *onaka* stomach

すいた *suita* empty

よ *yo* (emphatic)

私もよ。なにを頼んだっけ？

*watashi mo yo. nani wo tanondakke?*

So am I. What was it that you ordered?



"yo" is a sentence ender to be used for emphasis in casual conversation. "*watashi mo*" (without the "yo") can also be sufficient in this situation. "*kke?*" is another sentence ender in a very casual conversation. It is used to ask for a reminder of something.

## VOCABULARY

私も *watashi mo* me too (used by males and females)

よ *yo* (emphatic)

なに *nani* what

を *wo* (direct object marker)

頼んだっけ *tanondakke* what did you order

ハンバーガーとオニオンリングだよ。

*hanba-ga- to onionringu da yo.*

I am getting a hamburger and onion rings.



"*da yo*" is used here to end a sentence instead of "*desu.*"  
This is a very casual way to end a sentence.

## VOCABULARY

ハンバーガー *hanba-ga-* hamburger

と *to* and

オニオンリング *onionringu* onion ring

だ *da* copula (a word used to link the subject of a sentence with a predicate; often like the English "to be")

よ *yo* (emphatic)

あら、いいわね。

*ara, ii wa ne.*

Oh, that sounds good.



"*ara*" is used to express a certain level of a surprise much like "oh."

## VOCABULARY

あら *ara* Oh?

いい *ii* good; nice

わ *wa* (sentence ender used by women)

ね *ne* isn't it? [a very common and versatile sentence ender]

君はなにを頼んだの？

*kimi wa nani wo tanonda no?*

What are you going to eat?



"*tanonda*" - "ordered"

## VOCABULARY

君 *kimi* you

は *wa* (particle topic marker - hiragana "*ha*" but pronounced "*wa*")

なに *nani* what

を *wo* (direct object marker)

頼んだ *tanonda* ordered

の？ *no?* (casual question mark sentence ender)



私はグリルした鮭とベイクドポテト、それにお野菜よ。

*watashi wa guriru shita sake to beikudopoteto, sore ni oyasai yo.*

I ordered grilled salmon with a baked potato and veggies.



"*sake-salmon*" is sometimes pronounced as "*shake*."

## VOCABULARY

私 *watashi* I; me (used by males and females)

は *wa* (particle topic marker - hiragana "*ha*" but pronounced "*wa*")

グリルした *gurirushita* grilled

鮭 *sake* salmon

と *to* and

ベイクドポテト *beikudopoteto* baked potato

それに *sore ni* in addition; and

お野菜 *oyasai* vegetables

よ *yo* (emphatic)

それはいいね。健康的だ。

*sore wa ii ne. kenkouteki da.*

That sounds good and healthy.



"*kenkouteki*" is healthy and "*kenkou*" is "health."

## VOCABULARY

それは *sore wa* that

いい *ii* good; nice

ね *ne* isn't it? [a very common and versatile sentence ender]

健康的 *kenkouteki* healthy

だ *da* copula (a word used to link the subject of a sentence with a predicate; often like the English "to be")

どうしてこんなに時間がかかる  
のかしら？

*doushite konnani jikan ga kakaru no kashira?*

I wonder what is taking so long to cook our orders.



"*konnani*" is "this long" or "this much." "*jikan ga kakaru*" is "takes time."

## VOCABULARY

どうして *doushite* why

こんなに *konna ni* such; to such an extent

時間 *jikan* time

が *ga* subject marker (grammar)

かかる *kakaru* takes

のかしら *no kashira* I wonder? (feminine)

さあね。でも、ほんとに遅いね。

*saa ne. demo, honto ni osoi ne.*

I don't know, but it does seem like a long time.



"*ne*" is a sentence ender with many functions. It can be used for emphasis, requesting confirmation, showing agreement, or just to soften the sentence.

## VOCABULARY

さあね *saane* I don't know

でも *demo* but; however

ほんとに *honto ni* really; truly [This should be *hontou ni*, but in casual speech, it can be shortened.]

遅い *osoi* slow; takes time

ね *ne* isn't it? [a very common and versatile sentence ender]

デザートも頼みましょうよ。

*deza-to mo tanomimashou yo.*

Let's get dessert too!



"*mo*" - "too" or "also"

## VOCABULARY

デザート *deza-to* dessert

も *mo* also

頼みましょうよ *tanomi mashouyo* let's order

いいね。いい考えだ。

*ii ne. ii kangae da.*

Yes, that's a good idea.



"*ii kangae*" - "good idea"

## VOCABULARY

いいね *ii ne* good; sounds good

いい *ii* good; nice

考え *kangae* thought

だ *da* copula (a word used to link the subject of a sentence with a predicate; often like the English "to be")

バナナスピリットはどう？

*bananasupiritto wa dou?*

How about a banana split?



"~ *wa dou?*" is a very casual way of saying "*dou desu ka?*~  
How about ~?"; this would sound too formal in this situation.

## VOCABULARY

バナナスピリット *bananasupiritto* banana split

は *wa* (particle topic marker - hiragana "*ha*" but pronounced "*wa*")

どう *dou* how

おいしそうだね。

*oishisou da ne.*

Sounds delicious!



"*oishisou*" means "looks good (or delicious)" or "sounds good (or delicious)" expecting the food to be tasty by the look or the description. "*da ne*" is there to show his agreement with his friend's proposition. Sort of like, "indeed!"

## VOCABULARY

おいしそう *oishisou* looks delicious

だ *da* copula (a word used to link the subject of a sentence with a predicate; often like the English "to be")

ね *ne* isn't it? [a very common and versatile sentence ender]

ああ、よかった。私たちのランチが  
来たわ。

*aa, yokatta. watashitachi no ranchi ga kita wa.*

Oh, good! Here comes our lunch!



Say "*yokatta*" when you are relieved with something that you were wondering or worried about. It is similar to "thank goodness!"

## VOCABULARY

ああ *aa* ah

よかった *yokatta* that's great; good

私たち *watashi tachi* us; we

の *no* possession (grammatical)

が *ga* subject marker (grammar)

来た *kita* came

わ *wa* (sentence ender used by women)



## Dialogue Six

# Udon

Dialogue Six: in Japanese  
Udon

First, let's view the dialogue in natural Japanese with translation.

① <sup>こんや</sup>今夜はジャパニーズレストランに  
<sup>い</sup>行こうと<sup>おも</sup>っているんだけど。

② <sup>い</sup>いいわね。行きましょう。

① うどんが<sup>た</sup>食べたかったんだ。

② うどんてなに？

① <sup>めんるい</sup>麺類の<sup>たぐい</sup>類で<sup>こむぎこ</sup>小麦粉でできている  
んだ。<sup>いっしょ</sup>おつゆと一緒にたべるんだ  
よ。

② あたたかいの？それとも<sup>つめ</sup>冷たい  
の？

## Dialogue Six: in Japanese Udon

Try to read the Japanese on the left page first. Use this page only when necessary.

① *konya wa japani-zu resutoran ni ikou to omotteirun da kedo.*

I'm thinking of going to a Japanese restaurant tonight.

② *ii wa ne. ikimashou.*

That sounds great. Let's go.

① *udon ga tabetakattan da.*

I have been wanting to eat udon.

② *udon te nani?*

What is udon?

① *menrui no tagui de komugiko de dekiteirun da. otsuyu to isshoni taberun da yo.*

*Udon* is a type of noodle made of wheat and is served in a soup.

② *atatakai no? soreto tsumetai no?*

Is it hot or is it cold?

① だいたい<sup>だいたい</sup>はあたたかいけど、つめたい<sup>つめたい</sup>もあるよ。

② 私<sup>わたし</sup>はあたたかいの<sup>の</sup>がいいわ。

① いろんな<sup>しゅるい</sup>種類<sup>しゅるい</sup>があるけど、僕<sup>ぼく</sup>が  
いちばん<sup>いちばん</sup>す<sup>す</sup>一番好き<sup>いちばんす</sup>なのはきつねうどん<sup>きつねうどん</sup>だね。

② ほんと？なに<sup>なに</sup>がはいっているの？

① きつねはあげ<sup>あげ</sup>がす<sup>す</sup>好き<sup>す</sup>だというので、  
あげ<sup>あげ</sup>がはい<sup>はい</sup>っているんだ。

② それ<sup>それ</sup>って<sup>から</sup>辛い？

① いいや、でも<sup>から</sup>辛い<sup>から</sup>の<sup>の</sup>がいいなら、  
いちみ<sup>いちみ</sup>しちみ<sup>しちみ</sup>い<sup>い</sup>から<sup>から</sup>一味<sup>いちみ</sup>とか七味<sup>しちみ</sup>を入れて<sup>い</sup>辛く<sup>から</sup>すればいい<sup>から</sup>んだよ。

① *daitai wa atatakai kedo, tsumetai no mo aru yo.*

Usually hot, but you can get it cold too.

② *watashi wa atatakai no ga ii wa.*

I think I would like it hot.

① *ironna shurui ga aru kedo, boku ga ichiban sukina no wa kitsune udon da ne.*

There are different types, but my favorite is called, "kitsune udon."

② *honto? nani ga haitteiru no?*

Really? What's in it?

① *kitsune wa age ga suki da to iu node, age ga haitteirun da.*

They say foxes like fried tofu so it has a bunch of fried tofu in it.

② *sorette karai?*

Is it spicy?

① *iiya, demo karai no ga ii nara, ichimi toka shichimi wo irete karaku sureba iin da yo.*

No, but if you want to, you can add ichimi or shichimi to make it hotter.

① けっこうよ。<sup>わたし から</sup>私は辛いものはす  
きじゃないから。

② <sup>ぼく</sup>僕もだよ。

① *kekko yo. watashi wa karai mono wa suki janai kara.*

No, I don't like spicy foods.

② *boku mo da yo.*

Me too.

## Dialogue Six: Line-by-Line Udon

Tackle each line individually. Try to understand the sentence structure, grammar, and become familiar with the vocabulary.

今夜はジャパニーズレストランに行こう  
と思っているんだけど。

*konya wa japani-zu resutoran ni ikou to omotteirun da kedo.*

I'm thinking of going to a Japanese restaurant tonight.



"*kedo*" at the end here is implying that he is not sure if his friend would agree with his proposition and wants to know what she thinks. There really is an unspoken sentence there that says "What do you think about the idea?"

## VOCABULARY

今夜 *konya* tonight

は *wa* (particle topic marker - hiragana "*ha*" but pronounced "*wa*")

ジャパニーズレストラン *japani-zu resutoran* Japanese restaurant

に行こう *ni ikou* let's go

と思っているん *to omotteirun* I'm thinking

んだけど *dakedo* but; however



いいわね。行きましょう。

*ii wa ne. ikimashou.*

That sounds great. Let's go.



"*ii wa ne* (That sounds great)" is a feminine and casual way of saying "*ii desu ne*." "*ne*" is a sentence ender showing agreement here.

## VOCABULARY

いい *ii* good; nice

わ *wa* (sentence ender used by women)

ね *ne* isn't it? [a very common and versatile sentence ender]

行きましょう *ikimashou* let's go

うどんが食べたかったんだ。

*udon ga tabetakattan da.*

I have been wanting to eat udon.



"*da*" is used here to emphasize the sentence.

"*tabetakattan da*" is a casual way to for "*tabetakattan desu*."

## VOCABULARY

うどん *udon* udon

が *ga* subject marker (grammar)

食べたかったん *tabetakattan* I wanted to eat

だ *da* copula (a word used to link the subject of a sentence with a predicate; often like the English "to be")

うどんてなに？

*udon te nani?*

What is udon?



"*udon*" is a traditional Japanese noodle made with wheat flour. It comes in various thicknesses and flavors depending on the types and the regions where it is made.

## VOCABULARY

うどん *udon* udon

てなに？ *ttenani?* what is ~? [the "te" or "tte" sets off "udon" as the topic of the question, kind of like quotation marks.]

麺類の類で小麦粉でできているんだ。お  
つゆと一緒に食べるんだよ。

*menrui no tagui de komugiko de dekiteirun da. otsuyu to issmoni  
taberun da yo.*

*Udon* is a type of noodle made of wheat and is served in a  
soup.

## VOCABULARY

麺類 *menrui* type of noodle

の *no* possession (grammatical)

類 *tagui* type

で *de* with

小麦粉 *komugiko* flour

で *de* with (made with)

できているん *dekiteirun* made

だ *da* copula (a word used to link the subject of a sentence with a  
predicate; often like the English "to be")

おつゆ *otsuyu* soup; broth (polite)

と *to* and

一緒に *issmoni* together

食べるん *taberun* to eat

だ *da* copula (a word used to link the subject of a sentence with a  
predicate; often like the English "to be")

よ *yo* (emphatic)

あたたかいの？それとも冷たいの？

*atatakai no? soretomo tsumetai no?*

Is it hot or is it cold?



"no" here really means "*mono* - thing or stuff" which, in this case, is udon. "*atatakai* (hot) *mono* (udon) ?" "*tsumetai* (cold) *mono* (udon)"

## VOCABULARY

あたたかいの *atatakaino* a hot one

それとも *sore tomo* or

冷たいの *tsumetaino* cold one

だいたいをあたたかいけど、つめたいの  
もあるよ。

*daitai wa atatakai kedo, tsumetai no mo aru yo.*

Usually hot, but you can get it cold too.



There are some types of udon that are served cold to be eaten during the summer.

## VOCABULARY

だいたい *daitai* about; approximately

は *wa* (particle topic marker - hiragana "*ha*" but pronounced "*wa*")

あたたかい *atatakai* warm

けど *kedo* but; however

つめたいの *tsumetaino* a cold one

も *mo* also

ある *aru* to have; to exist

よ *yo* (emphatic)

私はあたたかいのがいいわ。

*watashi wa atatakai no ga ii wa.*

I think I would like it hot.



*atatakai* is warm (usually a pleasant connotation); *atsui* is hot

## VOCABULARY

私 *watashi* I; me (used by males and females)

は *wa* (particle topic marker - hiragana "*ha*" but pronounced "*wa*")

あたたかいの *atatakaino* a hot one

が *ga* subject marker (grammar)

いい *ii* good; nice

わ *wa* (sentence ender used by women)

いろんな種類があるけど、僕が一番好き  
なのはきつねうどんだね。

*ironna shurui ga aru kedo, boku ga ichiban sukina no wa  
kitsune udon da ne.*

There are different types, but my favorite is called, "kitsune  
udon."



"ne" is there to emphasize the sentence and also to  
confirm it to himself.

## VOCABULARY

いろんな *iron na* various

種類 *shurui* kinds; types

が *ga* subject marker (grammar)

ある *aru* to have; to exist

けど *kedo* but; however

僕 *boku* I; me (used by males)

が *ga* subject marker (grammar)

一番 *ichi ban* most; -est

すきな *suki na* liked ~

の *no* possession (grammatical)

は *wa* (particle topic marker - hiragana "*ha*" but pronounced "*wa*")

きつねうどん *kitsuneudon* kitsune udon (a type of udon)

だ *da* copula (a word used to link the subject of a sentence with a  
predicate; often like the English "to be")

ね *ne* isn't it? [a very common and versatile sentence ender]

ほんと？なにがはいっているの？

*honto? nani ga haitteiru no?*

Really? What's in it?



"*honto?*" would be "*hontou desu ka?*" in a more formal situation. "no?" at the end makes the sentence a question in a very casual way.

## VOCABULARY

ほんと *honto* truly; really

なに *nani* what

が *ga* subject marker (grammar)

はいっている *haitteiru* is inside

の *no* possession (grammatical)

きつねはあげが好きだというので、あげ  
が入っているんだ。

*kitsune wa age ga suki da to iu node, age ga haitteirun da.*

They say foxes like fried tofu so it has a bunch of fried tofu in  
it.



"age" is deep fried tofu. The name "*kitsune* (fox) *udon*" came from an old belief that fried tofu (*age*) is fox's favorite food. "*da*" is a casual sentence ender.

## VOCABULARY

きつね *kitsune* fox

は *wa* (particle topic marker - hiragana "*ha*" but pronounced "*wa*")

あげ *age* fried (tofu)

が *ga* subject marker (grammar)

好き *suki* to like

だ *da* copula (a word used to link the subject of a sentence with a predicate; often like the English "to be")

という *toiu* such as

ので *node* because; therefore

あげ *age* fried (tofu)

が *ga* subject marker (grammar)

入っている *haitte irun* is inside; contains

だ *da* copula (a word used to link the subject of a sentence with a predicate; often like the English "to be")



それって辛い？

*sorette karai?*

Is it spicy?



"sorette ~" is the same as "*sore wa* ~ ? (Is it~?)" but much more casual.

## VOCABULARY

それって *sorette* Is it ~?

辛い *karai* spicy

いいや、でも辛いのがいいなら、一味  
とか七味を入れて辛くすればいいんだよ。

*iiya, demo karai no ga ii nara, ichimi toka shichimi wo irete  
karaku sureba iin da yo.*

No, but if you want to, you can add ichimi or shichimi to  
make it hotter.



"*iiya*" sounds masculine.

## VOCABULARY

いいや *iiya* nope

でも *demo* but; however

辛い *karai* no a hot one

が *ga* subject marker (grammar)

いい *ii* good; nice

なら *nara* if

一味 *ichimi* a type of spicy seasoning

とか *toka* etc.

七味 *shichimi* shichimi; another type of spicy seasoning

を *wo* (direct object marker)

入れて *irete* add

辛くすればいいん *karaku sureba iin* you can make it spicy

だ *da* copula (a word used to link the subject of a sentence with a  
predicate; often like the English "to be")

よ *yo* (emphatic)

けっこうよ。私は辛いものはすき  
じゃないから。

*kekko yo. watashi wa karai mono wa suki janai kara.*

No, I don't like spicy foods.



"*kekko yo*" here means "That's okay"; "*suki janai*" is the same as "*suki dewa nai desu*" but more casual.

## VOCABULARY

けっこう *kekko* no thanks; that's fine

よ *yo* (emphatic)

私 *watashi* I; me (used by males and females)

は *wa* (particle topic marker - hiragana "*ha*" but pronounced "*wa*")

からいもの *karaimono* something spicy

は *wa* (particle topic marker - hiragana "*ha*" but pronounced "*wa*")

すき *suki* to like

じゃない *janai* isn't it?

から *kara* because of that

僕もだよ。

*boku mo da yo.*

Me too.



"*mo*" - "too" or "also" ; "*da yo*" is a casual sentence ender.

## VOCABULARY

僕も *boku mo* me too (used by males)

だ *da* copula (a word used to link the subject of a sentence with a predicate; often like the English "to be")

よ *yo* (emphatic)

Dialogue Seven

# New Year and Soba

## Dialogue Seven: in Japanese New Year and Soba

First, let's view the dialogue in natural Japanese with translation.

- ① もうすぐ<sup>ねん</sup>年があけるね。
- ② はやくおそばをいただきましょう。
- ① そば？ どうして？
- ② 日本<sup>にほん</sup>では、一年<sup>いちねん</sup>の最後<sup>さいご</sup>の日<sup>ひ</sup>に  
おそばを<sup>た</sup>食べるんだよ。
- ① <sup>し</sup>知らなかったわ。
- ② そうなんだよ。長い<sup>なが</sup>麺<sup>めん</sup>は長寿<sup>ちょうじゅ</sup>を  
<sup>い み</sup>意味しているんだよ。
- ① 私<sup>わたし</sup>、そば好<sup>す</sup>きな<sup>い</sup>なのよ。行きまし  
よう。

## Dialogue Seven: in Japanese New Year and Soba

Try to read the Japanese on the left page first. Use this page only when necessary.

① *mou sugu nen ga akeru ne.*

It's almost the New Year.

② *hayaku soba wo itadakimashou.*

Let's hurry up and get some soba noodles.

① *soba? doushite?*

Soba? Why?

② *nihon dewa, ichinen no saigo no hi ni soba wo taberun da yo.*

Well, in Japan, it is traditional to eat soba noodles on New Year's Eve.

① *shiranakatta wa.*

I didn't know that.

② *sou nan da yo. nagai men wa chouju wo imi shiteirun da yo.*

Yes. The long noodles represent a long life.

① *watashi, soba suki nanoyo. ikimashou.*

I like soba. Let's go!

② ちかくにお蕎<sup>そば</sup>麦<sup>や</sup>屋さんがあるよ。

でも駅<sup>えき</sup>のそばのほうがおいしいね。

① 歩<sup>ある</sup>いていく？それともタクシーで  
行<sup>い</sup>く？

② 結<sup>けっ</sup>構<sup>こう</sup>寒<sup>さむ</sup>いから、タクシーで行<sup>い</sup>こう  
よ。

① あ、ち<sup>き</sup>ょうど来たわ。

② タクシー！



② *chikaku ni osobaya san ga aru yo. demo eki no soba no hou ga oishii ne.*

There is a soba restaurant nearby, but the one near the station is tastier.

① *aruite iku? soreto mo takushi- de iku?*

Do you want to walk or take a taxi?

② *kekkou samui kara, takushi- de ikou yo.*

It is kind of cold. Let's take a taxi.

① *a, choudo kita wa.*

Here comes one now.

② *takushi- !*

Taxi!

## Dialogue Seven: Line-by-Line

### New Year and Soba

Tackle each line individually. Try to understand the sentence structure, grammar, and become familiar with the vocabulary.

もうすぐ年があけるね。

*mou sugu nen ga akeru ne.*

It's almost the New Year.



The New Year holiday is the biggest holiday in Japan.

## VOCABULARY

もうすぐ *mou sugu* soon

年 *toshi* year

が *ga* subject marker (grammar)

あける *akeru* opens; begins

ね *ne* isn't it? won't it? [a very common and versatile sentence ender]

はやくおそばをいただきますしょう。

*hayaku osoba wo itadakimashou.*

Let's hurry up and get some soba noodles.



Literally, "Let's hurry up and get soba."

## VOCABULARY

はやく *hayaku* hurry up

おそば *osoba* soba noodles (polite)

を *wo* (direct object marker)

いただきますしょう *itadakimashou* let's eat [the *-mashou* means "let's..."]

そば？ どうして？

*soba? doushite?*

Soba? Why?



Soba is made of buckwheat. A restaurant that specializes in soba is called a "*sobaya*."

## VOCABULARY

そば *soba* soba noodles

どうして *doushite* why

日本では、一年の最後の日におそばを食べるんだよ。

*nihon dewa, ichinen no saigo no hi ni soba wo taberun da yo.*

Well, in Japan, it is traditional to eat soba noodles on New Year's Eve.



Just as he says, going to a soba restaurant is a traditional New Year's Eve event.

## VOCABULARY

日本 *nihon* Japan

では *dewa* well then

一年 *ichinen* the year

の *no* possession (grammatical)

最後 *saigo* last

の *no* possession (grammatical)

日 *hi* day

に *ni* on

おそば *osoba* soba noodles (polite)

を *wo* (direct object marker)

食べる *taberu* eat

だ *da* copula (a word used to link the subject of a sentence with a predicate; often like the English "to be")

よ *yo* (emphatic)

知らなかったわ。

*shiranakatta wa.*

I didn't know that.



"*wa*" is usually a feminine ender.

## VOCABULARY

知らなかった *shiranakatta* I didn't know

わ *wa* (sentence ender used by women)

そうなんだよ。長い麺は長寿を意味して  
いるんだよ。

*sou nan da yo. nagai men wa chouju wo imi shiteirun da yo.*

Yes. The long noodles represent a long life.



"*imi shiteiru*" to have meaning/represent

## VOCABULARY

そうなんだ *sou nan da* is that so?; really?; I see

よ *yo* (emphatic)

長い *nagai* long

麺 *men* noodles

は *wa* (particle topic marker - hiragana "*ha*" but pronounced "*wa*")

長寿 *chouju* long life

を *wo* (direct object marker)

意味しているん *imi shiteirun* has the meaning of

だ *da* copula (a word used to link the subject of a sentence with a predicate; often like the English "to be")

よ *yo* (emphatic)

私、そば好きなのよ。行きましょう。

*watashi, soba suki nanoyo. ikimashou.*

I like soba. Let's go!



The "*na no yo*" is used to emphasize how much she likes soba.

## VOCABULARY

私 *watashi* I; me (used by males and females)

そば *soba* soba noodles

好き *suki* to like

なのよ *na no yo* (ender used to express emotion or explanation)

行きましょう *ikimashou* let's go

ちかくにお蕎麦屋さんがあるよ。でも駅の  
そばのほうがおいしいね。

*chikaku ni osobaya san ga aru yo. demo eki no soba no hou ga  
oishii ne.*

There is a soba restaurant nearby, but the one near the station  
is tastier.



The heart of most Japanese cities is the (train) station.  
There, you can find many restaurants, shops, and lots of  
people.

## VOCABULARY

ちかくに *chikaku ni* someplace nearby

お蕎麦屋さん *osobayasan* soba restaurant

が *ga* subject marker (grammar)

ある *aru* to have; to exist

よ *yo* (emphatic)

でも *demo* but; however

駅 *eki* (train) station

の *no* possession (grammatical)

そば *soba* soba noodles

のほうがおいしい *no hou ga oishii* is more delicious than

ね *ne* isn't it? [a very common and versatile sentence ender]



歩いていく？それともタクシーで行く？

*aruite iku? soretomo takushi- de iku?*

Do you want to walk or take a taxi?



"*aruite iku*" to go by walking. Use "*de iku*" after things like taxis, buses, and cars.

## VOCABULARY

歩いていく *aruite iku* to go by foot

それとも *sore tomo* or

タクシーで行く *takushi- de iku* to go by taxi

結構寒いから、タクシーで行こうよ。

*kekkou samui kara, takushi- de ikou yo.*

It is kind of cold. Let's take a taxi.



Use "*de iku*" after things like taxis, buses, and cars. *iku* - to go > *ikou* - let's go (casual)

## VOCABULARY

結構 *kekkou* fairly; reasonably

寒い *samui* cold

から *kara* because (it is cold)

タクシー *takushi*- taxi

で *de* with

行こう *ikou* let's go

よ *yo* (emphatic)

あ、ちょうど来たわ。

*a, choudo kita wa.*

Here comes one now.



"*choudo*" here means "just at this moment"; "*wa*" is usually a feminine ender.

## VOCABULARY

あ *a* ah!

ちょうど *choudo* just

来た *kita* came

わ *wa* (sentence ender used by women)

タクシー !

*takushi- !*

Taxi!



In Japan, most people just raise their hand (silently) to call a taxi.

Dialogue Eight

**At a Donut Shop**

## Dialogue Eight: in Japanese At a Donut Shop

First, let's view the dialogue in natural Japanese with translation.

- ① いらっしゃいませ。ご注文<sup>ちゅうもん</sup>を  
どうぞ。
- ② チョコレートのドーナツをふたつ  
ください。
- ① こちらでお召<sup>め</sup>し上<sup>あ</sup>がりですか？お  
持<sup>も</sup>ち帰<sup>かえ</sup>りですか？
- ② ここでお願い<sup>ねが</sup>します。
- ① そのほかにはご注文<sup>ちゅうもん</sup>はございま  
せんか？
- ② はい。コーヒーを<sup>ねが</sup>お願いします。

## Dialogue Eight: in Japanese At a Donut Shop

Try to read the Japanese on the left page first. Use this page only when necessary.

① *irasshaimase. go chuumon wo douzo.*

Welcome. What would you like to order?

② *chokore-to no do-natsu wo futatsu kudasai.*

I would like two chocolate donuts, please.

① *kochira de omeshi agari desu ka? omochi kaeri desu ka?*

Is that for here or to go?

② *koko de onegaishimasu.*

For here.

① *sono hoka ni wa gochuumon wa gozaimasen ka?*

Is there anything else?

② *hai. ko-hi- wo onegaishimasu.*

Yes, please give me a coffee.

① ミルクか、お砂糖<sup>さとう</sup>はどうかさいますか？

② いいえ、けっこうです。ブラック<sup>ねが</sup>でお願いします。

① ななひやくにじゅうごえん  
① 7 2 5 円になります。

② はい、どうぞ。

① こちらがご注文<sup>ちゅうもん</sup>の品<sup>しな</sup>でございます。

② すみませんが、コーヒーのおかわ<sup>ねが</sup>り、お願いします。

① はい、かしこまりました。どうぞ。

① *miruku ka, o satou wa dou nasaimasu ka?*

Would you like cream (milk) or sugar?

② *iie, kekkou desu. burakku de onegaishimasu.*

No thank you. Just black.

① *nana hyaku nijuu go en ni narimasu.*

That will be 725 yen please.

② *hai, douzo.*

Here you go.

① *kochira ga gochuumon no shina de gozaimasu.*

And here is your food.

② *sumimasen ga, ko-hi- no okawari, onegaishimasu.*

(10 minutes later) Could I have a refill please?

① *hai, kashikomarimashita. douzo.*

Certainly. Here you go.

## Dialogue Eight: Line-by-Line At a Donut Shop

Tackle each line individually. Try to understand the sentence structure, grammar, and become familiar with the vocabulary.

いらっしやいませ。ご注文をどうぞ。

*irasshaimase. go chuumon wo douzo.*

Welcome. What would you like to order?



"*irasshaimase*" is a standard greeting phrase at restaurants and stores.

## VOCABULARY

いらっしやいませ *irasshaimase* welcome

ご注文 *gochuumon* order

を *wo* (direct object marker)

どうぞ *douzo* please (give me your order)



チョコレートのドーナツをふたつ  
ください。

*chokore-to no do-natsu wo futatsu kudasai.*

I would like two chocolate donuts, please.



*hitotsu* = 1; *futatsu* = 2; *mittsu* = 3 -- use this when counting most objects.

## VOCABULARY

チョコレート *chokore-to* chocolate

の *no* possession (grammatical)

ドーナツ *do-natsu* donuts

を *wo* (direct object marker)

2つ *futatsu* two

ください *kudasai* please give me

こちらでお召し上がりですか？

お持ち帰りですか？

*kochira de omeshi agari desu ka? omochi kaeri desu ka?*

Is that for here or to go?



"*kochira de*" - "here"; "*omeshi agari desu ka?*" - "Would you eat (here)?" ; "*omochikaeri desu ka?*" - "would you take it with you?"

## VOCABULARY

こちら *kochira* here

で *de* at

お召し上がり *omeshiagari* to eat (humble)

です *desu* copula (a word used to link the subject of a sentence with a predicate; often like the English "to be")

か *ka* question marker (grammatical)

お持ち帰り *omochikaeri* to take out

です *desu* copula (a word used to link the subject of a sentence with a predicate; often like the English "to be")

か *ka* question marker (grammatical)

ここでお願いします。

*koko de onegaishimasu.*

For here.



"*onegaishimasu*" is a useful phrase when you order or request something at a restaurant or many other situations.

## VOCABULARY

ここ *koko* here

で *de* at

お願いします *onegaishimasu* please

そのほかにはご注文はございませんか？

*sono hoka ni wa gochuumon wa gozaimasen ka?*

Is there anything else?



"*sono hoka no gochumon wa ~ ?*" would work as well.

This is asked in the negative for politeness: "In addition to this, is there nothing else?"

## VOCABULARY

そのほか *sono hoka ni* in addition to that

は *wa* (particle topic marker - hiragana "*ha*" but pronounced "*wa*")

ご注文 *gochuumon* order (polite)

は *wa* (particle topic marker - hiragana "*ha*" but pronounced "*wa*")

ございません *gozaimasen* isn't

か *ka* question marker (grammatical)

はい。コーヒーをお願いします。

*hai. ko-hi- wo onegaishimasu.*

Yes, please give me a coffee.



" ~ *wo onegaishimasu*" - "Can I have ~, please?" or "I'll have ~, please"

## VOCABULARY

はい *hai* yes

コーヒー *ko-hi-* coffee

を *wo* (direct object marker)

お願いします *onegaishimasu* please

ミルクか、お砂糖はどうなさいますか？

*miruku ka, o satou wa dou nasaimasu ka?*

Would you like cream (milk) or sugar?



"~*wa dou nasaimasuka?*" - "Would you like ~?" or "How would you like ~?"

## VOCABULARY

ミルク *miruku* milk

か *ka* question marker (grammatical)

お砂糖 *osatou* sugar (polite)

は *wa* (particle topic marker - hiragana "*ha*" but pronounced "*wa*")

どうなさいます *dounasaimasu* what will you do

か *ka* question marker (grammatical)

いいえ、けっこうです。ブラックでお願い  
します。

*ie, kekkou desu. burakku de onegaishimasu.*

No thank you. Just black.



"*kekkou desu*" is a polite way to decline an offer.

## VOCABULARY

いいえ *ie no*

けっこう *kekkou* fairly; reasonably

です *desu* copula (a word used to link the subject of a sentence with a predicate; often like the English "to be")

ブラック *burakku* black

で *de* as (black)

お願いします *onegai shimasu* please

7 2 5 円になります。

*nana hyaku nijuu go en ni narimasu.*

That will be 725 yen please.



"~ (*en*) *ni narimasu*" is used to tell the total purchase price. This is literally, "It will become..."

## VOCABULARY

7 2 5 円 *nanahyakunijuugo en* 725 yen

になります *ni narimasu* will be

はい、どうぞ。

*hai, douzo.*

Here you go.



"*dozo*" here is used as "Here you go." when the customer hands out the money to the cashier.

## VOCABULARY

はい *hai* yes

どうぞ *douzo* please; here you are



こちらがご注文の品でございます。

*kochira ga gochuumon no shina de gozaimasu.*

And here is your food.



"*kochira*" is polite and more appropriate than "*kore*";  
"*gochumon no shina*" - "the item you ordered"

## VOCABULARY

こちら *kochira* here

が *ga* subject marker (grammar)

ご注文 *gochuumon* order (polite)

の *no* possession (grammatical)

品 *shina* product

でございます *de gozaimasu* copula (a word used to link the subject of a sentence with a predicate; often like the English "to be")

すみませんが、コーヒーのおかわり、お  
願いします。

*sumimasen ga, ko-hi- no okawari, onegaishimasu.*

(10 minutes later) Could I have a refill please?



"*sumimasen ga*" would be "Excuse me"; "*okawari*" -  
"refill" ; "*onegaishimasu*" comes in handy in this situation.

## VOCABULARY

すみません *sumimasen* sorry; excuse me

が *ga* but; however

コーヒー *ko-hi-* coffee

の *no* possession (grammatical)

おかわり *okawari* refill

お願いします *onegaishimasu* please

はい、かしこまりました。どうぞ。

*hai, kashikomarimashita. douzo.*

Certainly. Here you go.



This is another use for "*douzo*" - Here you go.

## VOCABULARY

はい *hai* yes

かしこまりました *kashikomarimashita* I understand; yes

どうぞ *douzo* please

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