

はい、わかります

Hai, wakarimasu

Track 12



基本会話 Kihon Kaiwa

Basic Conversation

1

J : わかりますか。
Wakarimasu ka?

F : はい、わかります。
Hai, wakarimasu.



J : Do you understand it?

F: Yes, I do.

2

F : 英語できますか。
Eigo dekimasu ka?

J : ええ、ちょっとできます。
Ee, chotto dekimasu.



F : Can you handle English?

J: Yeah, I can a little.

3

J : スキーしますか。
Sukii shimasu ka?

F : いいえ、しません。
Iie, shimaseh.



J : Do you ski?

F: No, I don't.

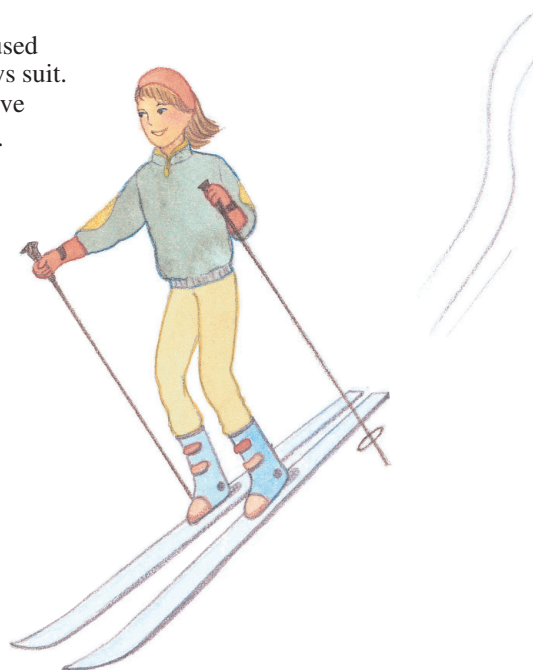
語彙 Goi

Vocabulary

1. わかります か	wakarimasu (V)*¹ ka * ²	understand, is comprehensible [sentence-particle, question marker]
2. 英語	eego	the English language
+日本語	nihoingo	the Japanese language
+中国語	chuugokugo	the Chinese language
+韓国語	kañkokugo	the Korean language
+ロシア語	roshiago	the Russian language
+フランス語	hurañsugo	the French language
+スペイン語	supeingo	the Spanish language
+ドイツ語	doitsugo	the German language
+インドネシア語	iñdoneshiago	the Indonesian language
+タイ語	taigo	the Thai language
できます	dekimasu (V)	is able, can do/handle
ええ	ee	yeah [a sign of acknowledgment]
ちょっと	chotto	a little, a bit
3. スキー	sukii	ski
+スケート	sukeeto	skating
+テニス	tenisu	tennis
+ゴルフ	goruhu	golf
+サッカー	sakkaa	soccer
+柔道	juudoo	judo
します	shimasu (V)	do, play (sports)

*¹ Note : (V) indicates that the word is a Verbal.
Words marked with a + are additional related vocabulary to be learned.
[] contains an additional explanation or remark.

*² Note : Because か (ka) itself is a question-marker, ? is not used in Japanese writing in principle. This textbook follows suit.
? is not used in Japanese writing except in interrogative sentences without か (ka), which you will learn later.
In romanized Japanese writing, however, ? is used.



1. わかります **wakarimasu**

Wakarimasu has a much wider meaning than "understand". It covers such English expressions as:

"It's comprehensible"

"I can tell"

"I see"

"I'm with you"

"It's clear"

"I know", etc.

Here, because it is contextually obvious, the verbal **wakarimasu** itself constitutes a perfect, complete sentence.

2. 英語 **eego**

In **eego**, **ee** stands for England and **go** stands for language; hence, **eego** means "English language". This is one of the few exceptions to the following rule, however. Most languages, including Japanese, are <country name + **go**>, as you see in the Vocabulary section.

3. ビール **biiru**、コーヒー **koohii**

As already seen in **biiru** for beer and **koohii** for coffee, many English words are used as they are, although their original sounds have been Japanized and distorted, of course. In the additional vocabulary some of sports are also given. When you pronounce a loanword, try to detach yourself from the original English pronunciation and accept the Japanized version as it is. Otherwise, you will not be understood by Japanese people.



文法 Bumpoo

Grammatical Notes

1. Verbals — 1st Predicate

In this Lesson and the next two Lessons, we introduce "Verbals", which are similar to English "verbs" but not quite the same. In English a verb is just a word, and to form a sentence you need at least a subject together with the verb. However, a Verbal is a complete sentence by itself, and there is no such thing as a subject in Japanese in the English sense of the word. A Verbal is by itself a sentence, which we will call a "predicate" from now on.

The Japanese language has three types of predicates: the Verbal predicate, the Adjectival predicate and the Nominal predicate. The Adjectival and Nominal predicates will be introduced later.

Here are three basic Verbals to learn:

わかります。	Wakarimasu.	Understanding occurs. I/You/He/She/They understand(s). It's comprehensible. It's clear. I'm with you. Etc.
できます。	Dekimasu.	I/You/He/She/They can do it. It's possible. Etc.
します。	Shimasu.	I/You/He/She/They (will) do(es)/play(s) it. Etc.

Their negative forms are:

わかりません。	Wakarimaseñ.	I don't understand. It's not clear. Etc.
できません。	Dekimaseñ.	I can't do it. It's not possible. Etc.
しません。	Shimaseñ.	I don't do it. I will not do it. Etc.

If you need to add additional information associated with the Verbal, simply put it in front of the Verbal. See KK2 and KK3. Thus:

英語できます。	Eego dekimasu.	I can speak English.
ちょっとできます。	Chotto dekimasu.	I can speak/do it a little.
スキーします。	Sukii shimasu.	{I do skiing} I ski.

A Verbal (i.e. a predicate) always comes at the end of the sentence. This is a golden rule.

While many Verbals represent an action like **shimasu** (do, play sports), some of them describe a condition or state, such as **wakarimasu** and **dekimasu**, as well.

All Verbals have a **-masu** ending and take the **-maseñ** form in negation. In fact, this is the definition of a Verbal.

2. Sentence-particle: か ka

In Japanese, making an interrogative sentence is easy. Just add the sentence-particle, **ka**, to the end of the predicate. Thus:

わかります。 Wakarimasu.	→	わかりますか。 Wakarimasu ka?
{Understanding occurs}		{Does understanding occur?}
{It is comprehensible}		{Is it comprehensible?}
I understand.		Do you understand?
できません。 Dekimaseñ.	→	できませんか。 Dekimaseñ ka?
It is not possible.		Is it not possible?
I am not able.		Aren't you able?
I can't do it.		Can't you do it?

As you listen to the recording and your instructor, notice that interrogative sentences always end with rising intonation.



Close your eyes and listen to the recording. Repeat until you become comfortable responding without referring to the book.

The purpose of drills is for you to become used to the patterns, so practice them whether or not the contents actually agree with your real life.

A

Track 13

- | | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. できますか？
はい、できます。 | Dekimasu ka?
Hai, dekimasu. | Can you do it?
Yes, I can. |
| 2. しますか？
はい、します。 | Shimasu ka?
Hai, shimasu. | Do you play it?
Yes, I do. |
| 3. わかりますか？
はい、わかります。 | Wakarimasu ka?
Hai, wakarimasu. | Do you see?
Yes, I see. |

B

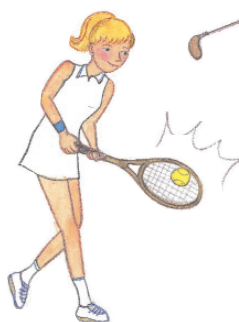
Track 14

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|--------------------------------|--|---|
| 1. 中国語できますか？
ええ、ちょっとできます。 | Chuugokugo dekimasu ka?
Ee, chotto dekimasu. | Can you speak Chinese?
Yes, I can, a little. |
| 2. テニスしますか？
ええ、ちょっとします。 | Tenisu shimasu ka?
Ee, chotto shimasu. | Do you play tennis?
Yes, I do, a little. |
| 3. 日本語わかりますか？
ええ、ちょっとわかります。 | Nihongo wakarimasu ka?
Ee, chotto wakarimasu. | Do you understand Japanese?
Yes, I do, a little. |
| 4. ゴルフできますか？
ええ、ちょっとできます。 | Goruhu dekimasu ka?
Ee, chotto dekimasu. | Can you play golf?
Yes, I can, a little. |
| 5. 英語わかりますか？
ええ、ちょっとわかります。 | Eego wakarimasu ka?
Ee, chotto wakarimasu. | Do you understand English?
Yes, I understand a little. |
| 6. 柔道しますか？
ええ、ちょっとします。 | Juudoo simasu ka?
Ee, chotto shimasu. | Do you do/practice judo?
Yes, I do, a little. |

C

Track 15

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|---|--|
| 1. フランス語わかりますか？
いいえ、わかりません。 | Hurañsugo wakarimasu ka?
Iie, wakarimaseñ. | Do you understand French?
No, I don't. |
| 2. サッカーしますか？
いいえ、しません。 | Sakkaa shimasu ka?
Iie, shimaseñ. | Do you play soccer?
No, I don't. |
| 3. インドネシア語できますか？
いいえ、できません。 | Indoneshiago dekimasu ka?
Iie, dekimaseñ. | Can you speak Indonesian?
No, I can't. |
| 4. ロシア語わかりますか？
いいえ、わかりません。 | Roshiago wakarimasu ka?
Iie, wakarimaseñ. | Do you understand Russian?
No, I don't. |



エクササイズ Ekusasaizu

Exercises

While doing drills you must be a slave to the pattern you are trying to acquire. Here in "Exercises", however, you are emancipated. You can now speak freely and truthfully.

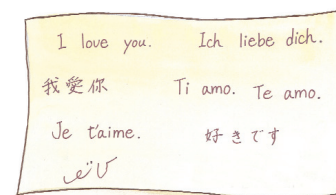
A As your instructor shows you a collection of:

- (i) descriptions written in various languages,
- (ii) pictures of various sports, and
- (iii) pictures of various musical instruments, use them to find out:
 - (i) which language your counterpart (instructor or classmate) can speak or understand,
 - (ii) which sports your counterpart plays or can play, and
 - (iii) which musical instruments your counterpart can play.

B This time, try to get similar information (i.e. language proficiency, and sport or musical instrument capability) from your counterpart without using the visual aids.

Through this exercise, enjoy knowing more about the people around you. After all, this is what language is all about, i.e. a means of communication!

E Return to the **Kihon Kaiwa**. Reduce the volume and practice the conversation by playing the part of F.



Track 16



聴解テスト Chookai Tesuto

Listening Comprehension

1-1 What language is under discussion?

1. German 2. Indonesian 3. Russian

-2 Why does **F** apologize?

- Because : 1. **F** has been scolded.
 2. **F** does not know the language.
 3. **F** does not understand **M**.

2-1 What language is under discussion?

1. Indonesian 2. Chinese 3. Thai

-2 Can **F** speak it?

1. Yes 2. No 3. unknown

3-1 Who is Yamakawa?

1. **F** 2. **M**

-2 Who is King?

1. **F** 2. **M**

-3 Who can play golf?

1. Yamakawa 2. King

4-1 Can Nancy skate?

1. Yes 2. No 3. unknown

-2 Does Nancy ski?

1. Yes 2. No 3. unknown

-3 Can Nancy play golf?

1. Yes 2. No 3. unknown

運用練習 Un'yoo Reishuu

Utilization

1. You are trying to form a group to play golf. Ask your colleague, Mr Yamakawa, if he plays.
2. Your friend is looking at a book written in a language completely unfamiliar to you. Ask if he understands it.
3. Your teacher has said something which you did not catch. Stop him apologetically and tell him that you do not understand.
4. Your friend is looking at a catalog of fishing rods. Ask him if he fishes.
5. You have just received a letter written in French. Ask Ms Yamakawa if she can read French.
6. You have been asked if you understand Spanish. Say that you understand it a little.