

LESSON TRANSCRIPT

Basic Japanese S1 #22

Basic Japanese #22: Useful Expressions 3: How to Ask When Something Takes Place

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Hiroko: What if you want to know when someone's birthday is or when an important meeting takes place. In this lesson, you are going to learn how to ask when something takes place. My birthday is October 25th. So わたしのたんじょうびは、じゅうがつにじゅうごにちです。(Watashi no tanjōbi wa, jū-gatsu ni-jū go-nichi desu.) this is a basic sentence structure AはBです。(A wa B desu.) わたしのたんじょうび (watashi no tanjōbi) means my birthday じゅうがつにじゅうごにち (jū-gatsu ni-jū go-nichi) means October 25th. What if you don't know when someone's birthday is? You can say たんじょうびは、いつですか。(Tanjōbi wa, itsu desu ka.) when is your birthday? いつ (itsu) means when. So just replace the date with いつ (itsu) and add the question mark in particle ka at the end of the sentence. So it would be たんじょうびは、いつですか。(Tanjōbi wa, itsu desu ka.) . For the review, let's look at the conversation using いつ (itsu)

Ushijima: パーティはいつですか。(Pāti wa itsu desu ka.)

Yuichi: 給料日です。(Kyūryōbi desu.)

Ushijima: 給料日はいつですか。(kyūryōbi wa itsu desu ka.)

Yuichi: 25日です。(25-nichi desu.)

Ushijima: パーティは25日ですね。(Pāti wa 25-nichi desu ne.)

Yuichi: はい。(Hai.)

Hiroko: Now it's time for Hiroko's hint. What if you want to know what time something takes place? You can use なんじですか。(Nan-ji desu ka.) which means what time. If you want to know what time you are meeting with someone, you can say まちあわせは、なんじですか。(Machiawase wa, nan-ji desu ka.) see you next time.