



Absolute Beginner S1

Introducing Yourself in Japanese

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Kanji

- A はじめまして。テイラーです。
B はじめまして。かおりです。
A よろしくおねがいします。
B よろしくおねがいします。

Kana

- A はじめまして。テイラーです。
B はじめまして。かおりです。
A よろしくおねがいします。
B よろしくおねがいします。

Romanization

- A Hajimemashite. Teir desu.
B Hajimemashite. Kaori desu.
A Yoroshiku onegai shimasu.
B Yoroshiku onegai shimasu.

English

- A Nice to meet you! I'm Taylor.
B Nice to meet you. I'm Kaori.
A It's a pleasure to meet you. (Literally, Please look favorably upon me.)
B It's a pleasure to meet you too. (Literally, Please look favorably upon me too.)

Vocabulary

Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English
はじめまして	はじめまして	hajimemashite	Nice to meet you.

です	です	desu	roughly meaning 'to be'
よろしくお願いします	よろしくおねがいします	yoroshiku onegai shimasu	Nice to meet you.

Vocabulary Sample Sentences

こんにちは。はじめまして。

Kon'nichiwa. Hajimemashite.

Hello. Nice to meet you.

私はジョン・スミスです。

Watashi wa Jon Sumisu desu.

I am John Smith.

田中太郎です。よろしくおねがいします。

Tanaka Tar desu. Yoroshiku onegai shimasu.

I'm Taro Tanaka. It's a pleasure to meet you.

Grammar Points

The Focus of This Lesson Is Introducing Yourself in Japanese.

Hajimemashite. Teir desu.

はじめまして。テイラーです。

"Nice to meet you! I'm Taylor."

After greeting someone you've just met for the first time, the next thing you'll want to do is say "nice to meet you" and give your name, right? In this lesson, you'll learn how to do these things.

Introducing Yourself in Japanese

There are three main phrases to remember when introducing yourself in Japanese.

Hajimemashite means "nice to meet you," and you can use it with anyone you are meeting

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for the first time.

Japanese	Romaji	"English"
はじめまして。	Hajimemashite	"Nice to meet you!"

To give your name, simply state your name and follow it with desu. Please see the tip below on how to properly pronounce desu.

Japanese	Romaji	"English"
[name]です。	[name] desu.	"I'm [name]."

When introducing yourself, simply combine the two phrases above!

For Example:

1. A: Hajimemashite, Maki desu.
A: はじめまして、まきです。
A: "Nice to meet you! I'm Maki."
B: Hajimemashite, Merissa desu.
B: はじめまして、メリッサです。
B: "Nice to meet you! I'm Melissa."

Lastly, as a special touch, you can add this phrase:

Japanese	Romaji	English
よろしくおねがいします。	Yoroshiku onegai shimasu.	"Pleased to meet you." (literally, "Please look favorably upon me.")

This phrase has many different uses, but among the most common is when you first meet someone. There is no real English equivalent, but literally, this phrase roughly translates as "Please look favorably upon me." Using this phrase shows respect for the person you're meeting and also indicates that you are looking forward to a good relationship with the person.

For Example:

1. Hajimemashite, Y ki desu. Yoroshiku onegai shimasu.
はじめまして、ゆうきです。よろしくおねがいします。

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"Nice to meet you! I'm Yuki. Pleased to meet you." (literally, "Please look favorably upon me.")

Language Tip: Pronouncing Desu

Note that when we are pronouncing desu, the -u at the end is silent. So the word desu sounds just like [dess].

This rule also applies for verbs in formal speech (which end in masu), which we will go over later on in this series.