



Absolute Beginner S1

Can You Eat This Japanese Meatloaf?

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Kanji

まさと	これはなんですか？
テイラー	それはミートローフです。
かおり	ミートローフ・・・？
テイラー	はい。にくです。 ・・・にくはだいじょうぶですか？
かおり	はい！(munch munch munch)うーん。おいしい！

Kana

まさと	これはなんですか？
テイラー	それはミートローフです。
かおり	ミートローフ・・・？
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かおり	はい！(munch munch munch)うーん。おいしい！

Romanization

Masato	Kore wa nan desu ka?
Teirā	Sore wa mīto rōfu desu.
Kaori	Mīto rōfu...?
Teirā	Hai. Niku desu. ... Niku wa daijōbu desu ka?
Kaori	Hai!(munch munch munch) Uun. Oishii!

English

Masato	What's this?
Taylor	That's meatloaf.
Kaori	Meatloaf...?
Taylor	Yes. It's meat. Is meat okay? (Can you eat meat?)
Kaori	Yes! (munch munch munch) Mmm, it's good!

Vocabulary

Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English
大丈夫	だいじょうぶ	daijōbu	alright, okay
ミートローフ	みーとろーふ	mītorōfu	meat loaf
肉	にく	niku	meat
大丈夫ですか	だいじょうぶですか	daijōbu desu ka	Are you okay? Is it okay?

Vocabulary Sample Sentences

私は大丈夫です。

Watashi wa daijōbu desu.

I'm all right.

ミートローフをください。

Mītorōfu o kudasai.

I'll have meat loaf.

これは肉です。

Kore wa niku desu.

This is meat.

風邪ですか？大丈夫ですか？

Kaze desu ka? Daijōbu desu ka?

Do you have a cold? Are you all right?

Vocabulary Phrase Usage

___ sore (それ)

___ This is the word for "that" in Japanese. Remember that the word for "this" is kore (これ).

___ niku (肉)

This is the word for "meat" in Japanese.

Grammar Points

The Focus of This Lesson Is Asking Whether Something or Someone Is Okay.

Niku wa daij bu desu ka?

肉は大丈夫ですか？

"Is meat okay?" (Can you eat meat?)

One question you will hear a lot in Japanese is: Daij bu desu ka? This phrase literally means "Is it okay?" or "Are you okay?" (depending on the situation), but it is very versatile! Asking whether something "is okay" in Japanese can mean a variety of things. If you are asking whether a certain type of food or drink is okay, it can mean "Can you eat/drink this?" Asking whether a certain time or day is okay means "Is that time/day convenient for you?" Using daij bu desu ka just by itself directly to someone will usually mean "Are you okay?" Let's take a look at how to use this very versatile phrase!

Asking Whether Something or Someone is Okay

Sentence Pattern:

[A] wa daij bu desu ka?	"Is [A] okay?"/"Are you okay with [A]?"
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In this pattern, A = the item you are asking about (asking whether it is okay).

Now, let's make some sentences using this pattern:

A	wa daij bu desu ka?	"English"
Niku ("Meat")	wa daij bu desu ka?	"Is meat okay?" ("Can you eat meat?")
Sakana ("Fish")	wa daij bu desu ka?	"Is fish okay?" ("Can you eat fish?")
Aruk ru ("Alcohol")	wa daij bu desu ka?	"Is alcohol okay?" ("Can you drink alcohol?")
Ky ("Today")	wa daij bu desu ka?	"Is today okay?" (for making plans, etc.)
Ashita ("Tomorrow")	wa daij bu desu ka?	"Is tomorrow okay?" (for making plans, etc.)

To ask whether something is okay, you can use this whole sentence pattern, putting the thing you are talking about in place of [A]. But if you want to ask someone directly whether he or she is okay (for example, "Are you okay?" when someone doesn't look well or hurts himself or herself), you don't need [A] wa; you can simply ask Daij bu desu ka?

For Example:

1. (situation: B trips and falls)

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A: Daij bu desu ka?

大丈夫ですか？

"Are you okay?"

B: Hai. Daij bu desu.

はい。大丈夫です。

"Yes. I'm okay."/"I'm fine."

2. (situation: A's dog barks at B)

A: Inu wa daij bu desu ka?

犬は大丈夫ですか。

"Are dogs okay?" ("Are you not scared of them, allergic, etc.")