In this video we’ll be talking about how we express questions specifically W q’s like… in Japanese. These are important types of questions to be able to ask in any language, from allowing you to go about your day to forming business plans.

All questions in polite language end in desuka. In plain you use a questioning intonation such as in English.

So:

And we response generally just by repeating what questioner said, replacing the question word with our answer as in:

As you might gather, nani or sometimes pronounced nan, means ‘what’

Both these pronunciations mean the same thing, what, however we generally use nan when the following word begins with a t,d, or n

Such as nan-to – with what

nan-no – of what

So the basic construction, specifically with nani is:

何+noun　（ですか）。

And again we can answer just by replacing nani and the noun with our answer:

Stoien

Which is great, meaning we can just replace the question word with our answer, even when we don’t fully understand what is asked.

Here’s a the list of the rest of our question words Japanese counterparts:

Ostnsot

In Japanese we can put the question words in any order in our sentence:

Gogo dare to nani wo shimashtaka

Again this still follows our basic construction

However obviously when forming sentences with multiple q’s it gets…

However often times you’ll understand what is…

Take for example this question:

誰が何をしたいと言いましたか？

Hard to understand what they are asking right?

How about we focus on answering it one question at a time, so…

Resulting in:

私が映画をみたいと言いました。

Which we can easily understand as: I said that I wanted to watch a movie

And so we intrinsically learn what was asked of us, something along the lines of:

I know that someone said he/she wants to do something. Who was it and what was it?

With answering questions in Japanese, if you replace… you can’t go wrong