Nationalities

* When you’re in a foreign country or talking in a foreign language to a native the conversation of nationality is bound to come up, so let’s
* Now in Japanese, the majority of countries names are katakana version of, without getting too complicated, their English name, such as Spain, America, Australia
* Some names are based on what the people of the respective countries call their country in their language. Such as Germany and Italy
* This is all because Japan didn’t communicate or knew much about other countries around the world aside from the ones immediate to them, due to the shogun’s isolation policy and so they have names that are not Japanese in origin
* Which is why England is usually pronounced as イギリス and not as イングランド, this is because イギリス　comes from Portuguese, who basically introduced England to the Japanese first, although イングランドcan be used too though it’s not used too often
* And, the last group, due to their long shared histories and so forth have names that are uniquely Japanese, such as China and Korea
* And to simply say you speak such and such language you add the character ご, which is written like this in kanji to the end of a country, so Spanish, French, Chinese.
* The same goes if you want to say your nationality. This time you add ひと, which looks like this written in kanji, to the end of country, so American, German, English.
* Easier than how we do it in English if you think about it
* Now knowing this let’s review some related sentence structures
* If you want to say “where are you from” you would say:
* Now this word here means you
* This one is where, come, from
* Note this is the only case I know of where from is said at the end of a sentence
* In response we can now say: “I am from tk”
* So this is basically the same as how our question was structured, just replace the question word ‘where’ with the answer. You’ll find most questions can be answered in this way in Japanese
* To say “I am tk” is simply this
* To say “I can speak tk” is:
* Where this word is speak, can
* Can also use the words a lot and a little to spice up this sentence
* And this is basically an overview of how one can talk about nationalities in Japanese. We’ll be adding more to this in the coming weeks so don’t worry, as your still only have a few words under your belt and are only getting used to the Japanese alphabets right now, I don’t want to overwhelm yous too much. But this should serve as a good jumping off point for now so learn the words and sentence structures in this video and I’ll see you in the next.