#### 常はどうしましょうか What shall we do about the seating arrangements?

The literal meaning of the expression "~はどうしましょうか" is "what shall we do about ~?" and follows a noun. Examples of this expression are "スケジュールはどうしましょうか" ("What shall we do about the schedule?") and "かいぎしつはどうしましょうか" ("What shall we do about a meeting room?").

#### 先方 client

The female speaker in the dialogue refers to her client as "せんぽう". This word is not used when addressing clients directly.

# Drill

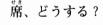
例:蓆 **→** <u>席</u>はどうしましょうか。

- 資料
- ② スケジュール
- 3 会議室

# Formal vs. Informal

席 はどうしましょ<mark>う</mark>か。







# Coffee Break 席順 (せきじゅん)

(Seating order)

In Japan, the seating order is decided based on the relationship between the people present. The factors to take into consideration are the company positions, in-out group relationship, and age. The so-called *jooseki* is reserved for the most senior member or somebody from an outside company. The *jooseki* is the seat placed at the furthermost corner of the room from the door. On the other hand, the seat right next to the door is called the *masseki*. In a car, the seat right behind the driver's is the *jooseki* and reserved for the most senior person. The front passenger seat is the *masseki*. The second-in-line gets the seat right behind the *masseki*; and the third-in-line gets the middle of the backseat.



# ③ いかがいたしましょうか

ヤンさんと上前が話しています。ヤンさんは最初に何をしますか。



#### Dialogue

ヤン:課長、このレポート、いかがいたしましょうか。

か きょう 課長:そうだね。 -p

ヤン:課員に回覧いたしますか。

課長: いや、その前に部長に見せたほうがいいだろう。 -p -f

ヤン:はい。

課長: a、まずコピーをなれずにとっておいて。 -**p** 

#### ヤンさんは最初に何をしますか。

課員に書類を見せる
 部長に書類を見せる

3. 書類のコピーをとる

#### Vocabulary

課長 Section Manager レポート report 課員 section staff 回覧 circulation

部長 Department Director まず before that, first of all

忘れずに don't forget to, remember to

#### **English**

Ms. Yan is talking with her superior.

What will Ms. Yan do first?

Ms. Yan: Sir, what should I do with the report?

Section Manager: Let me see...

Ms. Yan: Shall I circulate it among the section staff?

Section Manager: No, I think it would be better if you showed it to the Department Director before that.

Ms. Yan: Yes (,sir).

Section Manager: Oh, first of all, don't forget to make a copy.

#### What will Ms. Yan do first?

1. show the report to other section staff 2. show the report to Department Director

3. make copies of the report

#### いかがいたしましょうか What should I do with (something) ?

This expression is used when asking for instructions. The meaning of the expression is same as "どうしましょうか", however, "いかがいたしましょうか" is more polite.

### 部長に見せたほうがいいだろう It would be a good idea to show it to the Department Director

The expression " $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{L})$   $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{L})$ " is for giving an advice or making a suggestion, (see scene 39). In the dialogue, the speaker suggests that Ms. Yan shows the document to the Department Manager.

#### コピーをとっておいて Can you make a copy (by a certain time) ?

The expression "ておいて" is the casual version of "ておいてください". This is a request to have a task done by a certain time. In the dialogue, the speaker means that he wants the document to be copied before giving it to the section manager. Another example of the expression is "かいぎまでに、このしりょうをよんでおいて" ("Please read these documents before the next meeting").



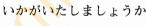
柳:この書類 ➡ この書類、いかがいたしましょうか。

● 会議室

② ホテルの予約

❸ アンケートの集計

# Formal vs. Informal









# Coffee Break 回覧 (かいらん)

[Circulation]

Documents that should be seen by everyone are labelled *kairan* (circulation) and are handed round to everybody in order, so that they may read them. A "circulation" has the members'names written on it. When a person has read it, he/she signs or stamps his/her seal below their name and hands the document to the next person on the list.



# ご相談したいことがあるんですが

ヤンさんが課長に相談しています。 講師の先生は何人になりますか。



#### Dialogue

ヤン:課長、ちょっとご相談したいことがあるんですが、

よろしいでしょうか。

課長:はい。

ヤン:実は、明日のシンポジウムのことなんですが、

講師の林先生が急病だそうです。

課長:え? -p 来られないの? -p

ヤン:はい。どうしましょうか。

課長:今回の講師は2人の予定でしたね。

ヤン:はい。

課長:だったら、今回は1人でいいんじゃないかな。

ヤン:はい、では、そのように進めます。

#### 講師の先生は何人になりますか。

1. j't

#### Vocabulary

課長 Section Manager 相談する consult

講師 lecturer シンポジウム symposium

急病 sudden illness

進める proceed (with arrangement)

#### English

Ms. Yan is consulting with her Section Manager.

How many lecturers will there be?

Ms. Yan: Sir, I have something I'd like to discuss with you. May I have a moment?

Section Manager: Yes.

Ms. Yan: Actually, it's about tomorrow's symposium; <one of the lecturers>,

Mr. Hayashi, has suddenly taken ill.

Section Manager: What? And he cannot make it?

Ms. Yan: No. What shall we do?

Section Manager: We were planning to have two lecturers (at the symposium) this time, weren't we?

Ms. Yan: Yes.

Section Manager: Then, we'll just have one this time.

Ms. Yan: All right, sir. I'll make arrangements accordingly.

How many lecturers will there be?

1. one lecturer

2. two lecturers

3. three lecturers

#### ご相談したいことがあるんですが l'd like to discuss (something with you)

This polite expression is used when seeking advice from seniors or clients. In the dialogue, by saying "ちょっと" before "ごそうだんしたいことがあるんですが". Ms. Yan means "すこしじかんをください" ("please give me a little time").

#### 実は Actually...

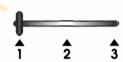
See scene 25.

#### どうしましょうか What shall we do?

See scene 29.

# Formal vs. Informal

ご相談したいことがあるんですが



**相談したいことがあるんだけど** 



## Coffee Break あなた

**Q**: I was told not to say "あなた" when addressing a senior, but I thought "あなた" was the English equivalent of "you".

**A**: "あなた" should not be used to address somebody in business situations. It is recommended that you use titles when talking to your seniors, and family names when talking to your coworkers.

復	習【Review】·······
Yo	u are Ms. Yan of ABC Corporation. You are given the task of making lunch
arr	angement for a meeting to be held the day after tomorrow. You ask your supe-
rio	r, Section Manager, Mr. Watanabe, what you should do. You tell him that the
sho	p that he has in mind "Lunch House" is closed the day after tomorrow.
	か ちょう かい ぎ
	Ms. Yan: 課長、あさっての会議ですが。
	Mr. Watanabe: 「ランチハウス」のお幹当にしよう。
	Ms.Yan:「ランチハウス」は、あさって定休日なんですけど。
	Mr.Watanabe : あ、そう。じゃあ、「うなぎや」にしよう。
	Ms. Yan: はい、。
P A Prince	
Yo	are Mr.Smith of ABC Corporation. You ask Section Manager, Mr.Watanabe
hov	w you should go about how to treat a document. You accept his advice.
	か ちょう ぶんしょ
	Mr.Smith: 課長、この文書、。
	Mr.Watanabe : それは、部長に見せたほうがいいね。
	Mr.Smith: はい。
	Mr.Watanabe:あ、それから、コピー、だれずにとっておいてくださいね。
	Mr.Smith: はい、。

# 計画を求める Asking for Permission

● 32 • 休ませていただき たいんですが

○---33 • 質問してもよろしい でしょうか

> -34●使いたいんですけど よろしいですか



# 32 休ませていただきたいんですが

スミスさんが『ドラと話しています。 スミスさんは来週の金曜日、どうしますか。



#### Dialogue

スミス:あのう、課長、申し訳ないんですが、

課長:どうしたの。 **-p** 

スミス:実は、カナダから知人が来るので、

空港まで迎えに行きたいと思いまして。

課長:そうか。-p -f 来週の金曜はアメリカからの来客があるから、

著にいてほしかったんだけどね。 -p -f

スミス: そうですか……。

からよう 課長: どうしても無理なら、いいよ。 -p -f

スミス:いえ、わかりました。大丈夫です。

#### スミスさんは来週の金曜日、どうしますか。

1. 会社を休む

2. カナダに出張する

**3**. お客さんを空港に迎えに行く **4**. 会社でお客さんに奏う

#### Vocabulary

上司 superior 課長 Section Manager

知人 an acquaintance 来客 visitor

無理 impossible 出張 business trip

#### **English**

Mr.Smith is talking with his superior. What will Mr.Smith do next Friday?

Mr.Smith: Umm...sir, I'm so sorry, but may I have the day off next Friday?

Section Manager: <What is it?>

Mr.Smith: <Well>, an acquaintance of mine is flying in from Canada, and I'd like to meet

him at the airport.

Section Manager: I see. We have a client coming next Friday from the US, and I'd wanted you to

be there.

Mr.Smith: Oh... < really?>

Section Manager: But if you can't, it's all right. Mr.Smith: No, I understand. < I'll be there.>

What will Mr.Smith do next Friday?

1. take the day off

2. go on a business trip to Canada

3. meet some clients at the airport

4. meet with clients at the office

申し訳ないんですが l'm so sorry, but...

"もうしわけないんですが" is a polite version of "すみませんが" (see scene 19). The expression becomes even more polite when "ありませんが" replaces "ないんですが".

#### 休ませていただきたいんですが l'd like to take a day off

"せて/させていただきたいんですが" is used when politely asking permission to do something. For example, "わたしも、おおさかにいかせていただきたいんですが" ("I would like you to let me go to Osaka").

実は Actually... See scene 25.

#### 行きたいと思いまして because I would like to go (somewhe<mark>re</mark>)

In the dialogue, this expression is used to explain why Mr.Smith is requesting leave on Friday. Please note that the ending of the sentence is "おもいまして", which indicates that the sentence is not finished. By leaving the rest of the sentence unsaid, Mr.Smith softens the impact of his language. For example, "にほんごのべんきょうしているんだって" ("I heard that you are studying Japanese"), "はい、こんどにほんごのしけんをうけたいとおもいまして" ("Yes, [I am studying] because I am going to take a Japanese test").

#### いてほしかったんだけど I wanted you to be there

"てほしい" is used when asking somebody to do something. It is not appropriate to use it with seniors. In the dialogue, the section chief uses the past form of "ほしい" because he realizes that Mr.Smith may not be able to fulfill his request.

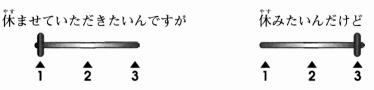
わかりました Junderstand See scene 21.

## Drill

**例:来週の金曜日、休む ➡ 申し訳ないんですが、<u>来週の金曜日、休ませて</u>いただきたいんですが。** 

● 明日、休む ② 今日、早く帰る ③ 会議を欠席する

# Formal vs. Informal





# 33 質問してもよろしいでしょうか

**会議でヤンさんが質問しています。** 契約はいつまとまりますか。



#### Dialogue

ヤン:すみません。質問してもよろしいでしょうか。

同僚:はい、どうぞ。

ヤン:契約は、年内にまとまるんでしょうか。

同僚: 年内は難しいと思います。

年明け、遅くとも今年度ずに、と考えています。

#### 契約はいつまとまりますか。

1. 今年中

2. 今年度中

3. 来年度中

#### Vocabulary

契約 contract 年內 within the year

まとまる settle 年萌け new year

違くとも at latest 年度 fiscal year

#### **English**

Ms. Yan is asking a question at a meeting. When will the contract be concluded?

Ms. Yan: Excuse me. May I ask a question?

Co-worker: Yes, please.

Ms. Yan: Will the contract be concluded within this year?

Co-worker: I think it would be difficult to do so within the year. I think (perhaps) soon after the

new year, or at the latest, within the fiscal year.

When will the contract be concluded?

1. within the current calendar year

2. within the current fiscal year

3. within the next fiscal year

#### 質問してもよろしいでしょうか May lask (you) a question?

This expression is used in business meetings. The expression "てもよろしいでしょうか" following the *te*-form of verb is for asking for permission. For example: "おききしてもよろしいでしょうか" ("May I ask you something?") or "おでんわしてもよろしいでしょうか" ("May I call you?").

#### どうぞ Please

This expression is for prompting a person to do something, and is used, for example, when offering a seat, when serving tea, and when inviting someone in the room. "おね がいします" is also translated as "please" although in this case the usage of "please" is different. See page 130.

#### 年内にまとまるんでしょうか Will it be conclude<mark>d withi</mark>n the year?

The expression, "の/んでしょうか" has a softer tone than "ますか". In the dialogue, Ms. Yan says "まとまるんでしょうか", instead of "まとまりますか". "いつはじめるんでしょうか" ("When will it start?") is less direct than "いつはじまりますか?".

## Drill

例: 質問する → 質問してもよろしいでしょうか。

- 会議を始める
- 2 明白休む
- ② 早退する

## Formal vs. Informal

質問してもよろしいでしょうか



質問してもいい?



# ❸ 使いたいんですけど、よろしいですか

スミスさんが上前と話しています。 スミスさんは何を頼んでいますか。



#### Dialogue

スミス: 2時から会議室を使いたいんですけど、

よろしいですか。

上司: 2時? 部内会議があるんじゃない? **-p** 

スミス:部内会議は、4時に変更になったので、

打ち合わせに使いたいと思いまして。

上司:そうなの。 -p じゃ、いいですよ。

#### スミスさんは何を頼んでいますか。

1. 上司に会議に出てほしい

**2.** 会議室を使いたい

3. 会議の時間を変えてほしい

#### Vocabulary

上司 superior

会議室 conference room

部内 intra-department

かい ぎ 会議 meeting

変更 change

打ち合わせ preliminary meeting

#### **English**

Mr.Smith is talking with his superior.

What is Mr.Smith asking?

Mr.Smith: I'd like to use the conference room from two o'clock, is that all right?

Superior: Two o'clock? Aren't we having a departmental meeting?

Mr.Smith: The departmental meeting was changed to four o'clock, so I'd like to use the room for

a preliminary meeting.

Superior: I see. That's all right, then.

#### What is Mr.Smith asking?

- 1. he wants his superior to attend the meeting
- 2. he wants to use the conference room
- 3. he wants to change the time of the meeting

使いたいんですけど、よろしいですか I'd like to use (something), is that all right?

Please note that in the dialogue Mr. Smith uses the expression for asking permission "L ろしいですか" ("Is that all right?") after explaining what he wants to do. The more formal version of the expression is "つかわせていただきたいんですが、よろしい でしょうか".

使いたいと思いまして because I would like to use (something)

See scene 32.

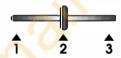
例:会議室を使う ➡ 会議室を使いたいんですけど、よろしいですか。

- 来週休みをとる
- 2 講演を聞きに行く
- ちょっと外出する

## Formal vs. Informal

使いたいんですけど、よろしいですか

使いたいんだけど、いい?





# 根回し(ねまわし)

[Groundwork]

- **Q**: It seems that prior to a meeting where a decision regarding a proposal is to be made, the proposer discusses the content with his/her superiors and those related to the matter. If it has already been decided then I think there is no need to go to the trouble of deciding at the meeting.
- A: The practice of discussing a matter with one's superiors and those related to the matter so as to ensure discussions proceed smoothly, is known as "nemawashi". The prior discussion of a proposal enables the identification of problems and allows for advice to be given. Thus, the meeting proceeds smoothly. This process is favoured by the Japanese. It is not possible to reach a conclusion on a proposal without first doing groundwork.

<b>作33</b>	/ Bawlaw		The London	
假首	(Review)		e and the contract that the co	entroni ora mentengina

You are Mr.Smith of ABC Corporation. You want to return to your home country temporarily because your father has taken ill and has been hospitalized. You ask your superior Section Manager, Mr.Watanabe if you can take 4 or 5 days holiday starting tomorrow.

Mr.Watanabe:どうしたの?

Mr. Watanabe: そうですか。わかりました。

Mr.Smith: ありがとうございます。

Mr. Watanabe: お大事に。

You are Ms. Yan of ABC Corporation. You are now having a department meeting. Ask the following question at the meeting: "When will you begin preparing the report?" Firstly, ask "May I ask a question?" then proceed with your question.

Ms. Yan: すみません。\_\_\_\_\_。

Co-worker:はい、どうぞ。

Ms. Yan: レポートの準備は\_\_\_\_\_。

Co-worker: 来月からと考えています。

# 確認する Confirmation

35 ●確か第3会議室でしたよね?

36 ● というと

37●つまり