

Lesson Three - Times and Actions

A: Miura-san, *kin'yoobi* hima desu ka.

B: Ee, hima desu ga...

A: Isshō ni eega o mimasen ka.

B: Ee, ii desu ne. **Roku-ji** wa doo desu ka.

Vocabulary - numbers

- **Roku-ji** wa doo desu ka. - *How is 6 o'clock?*
- Numbers: 0 - zero; 1 - ichi; 2 - ni; 3 - san; 4 - yo*; 5 - go; 6 - roku; 7 - shichi*; 8 - hachi; 9 - ku*; 10 - juu; 11 (10 + 1) - juuichi; 12 (10 + 2) - juuni...
* there are alternate pronunciations for these numbers (ex. 4 - yo / yon / shi), but these should be good just for this lesson.
- Time: 1 o'clock - ichi-ji; 2 o'clock - ni-ji...12 o'clock - juuni-ji
- gozen - AM; gogo - PM; gogo ni-ji - 2PM

Vocabulary - days of the week

- nichiyooobi - Sunday getsuyooobi - Monday kayooobi - Tuesday
suiyooobi - Wednesday mokuyooobi - Thursday kin'yoobi - Friday
doyooobi - Saturday
- relative: kyoo - today kinoo - yesterday ashita - tomorrow
- *Kin'yoobi hima* desu ka. - Are you **free** on *Friday*?

Vocabulary - basic verbs (modified)

- o mimasu - to watch o tabemasu - to eat o benkyoo shimasu - to study
e ikimasu - to go
- eega o mimasu - to watch a movie kaimono e ikimasu - to go shopping

Language point - invitations

- **Isshō ni eega o mimasen** ka. - Why not see a movie **together**?
- ikimasu -> ikimasu + en = ikimasen
- Yuugohan o tabemasen ka. - Shall we eat dinner?
- (+) Ee, ii desu ne. - Yeah, that's good. Ee, yorokonde. - Yes, of course.
- (-) Sumimasen ga, chotto... - Excuse me, but...
Sumimasen ga, yooji ga arimasu. - Excuse me, but I have an errand.

Language and cultural notes

- The second way to decline an invitation listed above may be too strong. As said in Lesson Two, it is preferable to be indirect and vague when possible; everyone fears rejection! Direct turn-downs can also be expressed, especially if you want the inviter to get a clue in not-so-subtle terms.
- Avoid the instinct to translate from one language to the other! While "free" in English has multiple meanings (i.e. free from work, and then free from tyranny), Japanese has separate words for the two (jyuu - freedom)